

These are four new girls at Hogar Nazareth
 who would love to have sponsors to love and pray for them.
 If you are willing to contribute to their welfare
 please contact Jan Kamp at kampers07@sbcglobal.net



Delia Marina 8 years old



Elba Yaneth 13 years old



Emely Maria 2 years old



Hilari Valeska 9 years old

All God's Children
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 For sponsorship opportunities, the
 history of Hogar de Niños and more
 information about AGC visit our Web site:
www.agcltd.org

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Fall 2014

Comayagua, Honduras

Dear sponsors, friends, benefactors, and AGC Board,

The Hogar Nazareth sends a respectful greeting, wishing that God is blessing you all abundantly.

The girls studying at the Maranatha Bilingual School have already started their new school year. The girls and Miguel Alberto are very happy to have returned to their classes. Today Esteyssi Yanuary Garcia paraded with her school, celebrating the Independence of our country, Honduras. Charlin Osorto and Juana Maria are working hard to get ahead in the School of Arts in Tegucigalpa. The girls studying at the teaching school and graduating this year from high school marched with their fellow students this year. The event took place on the evening of September 8. They marched carrying lanterns of different colors, and it was very impressive and exciting for them.

After two weeks of recess the boys and girls who are in college returned to class. They are very excited to be back at college. We expect them to do well in school. One of the great challenges of Hogar Nazareth is to encourage the college students to graduate and be successful in life. We know the students can graduate and be successful with God's help, with the effort and dedication of each student to follow their dreams, and with the support of the sponsors, benefactors, AGC Board and, the Board Association of Hogar Nazareth.

The children have been very happy because they have had several celebrations on Children's Day, (They have enjoyed piñatas, eating cake, and eating a lot of candy). All the children are very excited about the parades on September 15th, commemorating Independence Day in Honduras. Some of our children studying in middle schools will march on September 14th, and the high school students will parade on September 15th.

All the boys and girls have been very healthy so far. Praise the Lord! Recently the children have had their yearly check-ups and are now taking their vitamins.

About two months ago, we had some problems with Yoyary Belkis Mejia's health. She had some mental issues so we decided to take her out of school and transfer her to Misericordia. At Misericordia she has peace and individual assistance. Currently her health is much better.

We had some difficulties with some boys and girls behavior but we've been talking to them and we hope that things calm down. I ask your prayers for all of our children and youth. Again thank you very much for your unconditional support for the benefit of our children.

God bless you!
 Carmen and the Children

"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me." Mark 9:37

WATER AT THE FARM...”GRANJA” IRRIGATION PROJECT

BY ROBERT DECKINGA

My Promise Keepers Study Bible lists the words “water,” “waters” or “watered” more than 20 times in the Topical index and the Concordance. In my wife’s NIV Study Bible concordance, “water” is noted more than 42 times. Water is mentioned throughout the Bible from the first chapter in the Bible — Genesis to the last chapter in Revelation. Beginning in Genesis 1:6-13 “God said...let there be an expanse between the waters...” to the end in Revelation 22:1 “Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life...”

Although I didn’t check “water” is probably mentioned in one way or another in every book of the Bible. It really makes no difference how many times water is mentioned because water is symbolic of life. Everyone knows that without water we would die and so would all of our food sources. Most everyone would agree that water is the lifeblood of every living thing in this world. As Christians we believe that Jesus is the living water, here on earth and in heaven. Without Jesus there is no life, and without water on earth there is no life.

This brings us to the need for water irrigation at the Granja (farm) in Comayagua. A little more than a year ago, while on a winter serve trip, I was walking out on the farm at Hogar looking at the crops planted behind the wall. The boys at the farm were proudly showing Dan Injerd and myself the work they started. There were several neat rows of papaya trees growing along with yucca, corn (maize) and melon plants. A weathered old Honduran farmer took us by the hand and explained the urgent need for irrigation. He stated during the winter months watering was not crucial but during summer months it is nearly impossible to grow anything. He said that without water in the summer these crops will perish.

A few years earlier, there was some water that was pumped from a small man made pond that watered a few plants. It was an attempt to irrigate some of the crops but it was woefully inadequate. Many of the supply lines were broken because they were installed too close to the surface of the ground. The old system of pumping water from a pond wasn’t working anymore. The solution would be to dig a dedicated well to supply enough water for the crops so that the farm could be productive, and also provide meaningful work for the boys.



Okay a request was made and a need identified. What could we do? A few of us that were on that winter serve project asked the AGC Board to look into the possibility of drilling a well for the farm crops. Several members of our serve team made a commitment to fund a portion of the project if and when it was feasible. In the spring of 2014 a decision was made to seek bids and move forward with the plans for irrigating the farm crops at the granja. The bids for drilling a 6 inch well, 250 feet deep, and installing the pump, electrical hookup and irrigation pipes to the crops came in just under \$20,000.

Barb Weber, a veteran of serve trips to Hogar, and a Christian school secretary at Southwest Chicago Christian Schools in Tinley Park, initiated a fundraising drive by the students this past spring. The students raised \$10,000 for the well project. This was a booming success and AGC is grateful for that generous contribution from the school. Jan Kamp, Paul Lagestee and Allen Herrema accepted the check in June to get the project started.

In July the digging began. I had an opportunity to visit the “well project” when the drilling was taking place. I visited the site several times during the drilling and was there on August 2 when the last pipe casing was placed in the ground. I spoke with Rudolfo Ruiz the contractor and he sent a picture showing the well completed. The well is producing a yield of 60 gallons per minute. That is fantastic! Everyone is very pleased with the results.

One of the our young men, Henry, who attends the university in Tegucigalpa, was at the farm and saw me. He hugged me and said, “Roberto gracias, gracias, this is so good for us. We needed this well so badly.” Henry’s beaming smile and strong embrace made my day!

Water is flowing and the crops, the farmer, and the boys all say gracias, gracias, gracias!



Alan, one of our boys from the granja is pictured in front of the well. He is there along with others every day cutting the weeds and working the farm.

Our Common Language by Kelsie Cavanaugh

Before I left for Honduras, I was really confident in my Spanish speaking ability. I’d taken Spanish since second grade, and I’d been helping my mom learn the Spanish basics. I was looking forward to being able to put what I’d learned into practice.

The day we arrived in Honduras, we went to visit Hogar Nazareth and I was really excited to talk with the kids. When we arrived, kids started running up to the group and talking in very fast Spanish. In all the excitement I panicked and completely blanked out on everything I had ever learned. I couldn’t say more than *Hello how are you?* and *What’s your name?* However, as the afternoon went on, I began to remember more, and I was able to talk with some of the girls.

The next few days, I learned that the kids knew some English, and the kids at the other orphanage, Hogar Amor, frequently used hand motions to help us out.

One of the days when we were at Amor, we started singing with the kids. We sang in English, while they sang in Spanish. We sang songs like “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” and “Father Abraham” (which is silly in both languages). One of the last songs we decided to sing was “Jesus Loves Me”. As we started singing, I was surprised to hear that the kids were singing in English, and they did the motions along with it. It was such a beautiful moment that I started crying.

Later that night, I was thinking about how hard it was to communicate with the kids at times. I mean, we speak two completely different languages. Then I thought about something I’d read in a devotional a few weeks earlier: that even though every church might not speak the same language, or worship the same way, we all speak of our love for Jesus Christ. That is our common language. John 13:35 says, “All people will know that you are my followers if you love one another”.

So even though we speak different languages, we can still speak our love for Jesus through the love that we show to the kids, and through the love that we show to each other.