

CHRIST FOR CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL

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PRAY and EXPECT THE MIRACULOUS

I have heard it said, "No prayer, no power. Little prayer, little power. Much prayer, much power." Throughout this year many of us have been talking about the importance of prayer. We have also begun to realize how powerful prayer is, yet how little we actually pray. Why is that? What causes the laziness, apathy, and lethargy that drains our souls, hearts, and desires to ask the Lord Almighty to do wonders in our midst? When we pray do we simply go through the motions of our daily devotional routine? So many times this year I have asked myself, "Is your God too small?" Regretfully, I must confess that I believe He is. How tragic! Jesus said in John 16:24, "Until now, you have not asked anything in My name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." I am not promoting the infamous "Name it and claim it" type faith nor prayers. However, as I look around my neighborhood and see the tremendous amount of need, pain, disillusionment, fear, sin, deceit, and hopelessness, there is only one thing that I can do . . . PRAY and EXPECT THE MIRACULOUS. Jesus Himself said it, "We do not have because we do not ask." He is the King of the universe and He desires to bring forgiveness and healing. He never promised that we would be pain or problem free, but He did promise victory. I challenge you to take Jesus' words seriously and begin to storm the throne room of heaven with your prayers. The book of Hebrews promises us that we can enter the Father's presence with FULL confidence, knowing that He will answer us. Let us approach Him confidently. He will respond.

-Pastor Doug Jones
Iglesia del Gran Pastor



What a fun day!

At 5:26pm on May 26th, 2001, Christine Lynn Logan and Jonathan David Lightner were officially pronounced man and wife before a crowd of witnesses in the small town of Wilbraham, MA. A great reunion made up of family from afar, fellow Wheaton graduates, and CFCI team members gathered to bless the Lightners on their special day. Following the ceremony, the gang continued on to celebrate with a delicious meal and dancing. A great time was had by all! After seeing what Martha's Vinyard and Cape May, N.J. had to offer, the Lightners have now settled back into life in Fresnillo, Mexico. Stop by their apartment anytime!

Welcome Back, Gretchen!

Gretchen Ruble returned to CFCI after graduating from the Wheaton College Graduate School on May 5th, 2001 with a degree in Evangelism/Spiritual Formation. She enjoyed her time at Wheaton and read many good books that will help her ministry in Fresnillo. Gretchen enjoys working with children and one of the highlights of her year was a Children's Ministry class she was involved in. Some of the topics that were discussed during this class were: child conversion, curriculum, worship, and discipline. There were many classes that were useful in her training as a missionary, and she feels blessed to have had the privilege of studying this past year.



Even the littlest ones, like Joel, welcome Gretchen back to Fresnillo.



As always, the Club team held the annual T-shirt Giveaway at the beginning of July. Tee shirts were awarded to those children who had faithfully attended Kid's Club throughout the year and learned at least 9 of the year's 10 Bible memory verses; approximately 200 children received shirts this year! It is a joy seeing

bright orange shirts walking around the colonia [neighborhood] as children proudly display their new article of clothing. This year's design of a pastor with his sheep was created by David Rodriguez, our Minister of Music and active children's worker, to go with the Bible verse John 10:27: "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." An especially appropriate verse for La Iglesia del Gran Pastor!

Where Are They Now?

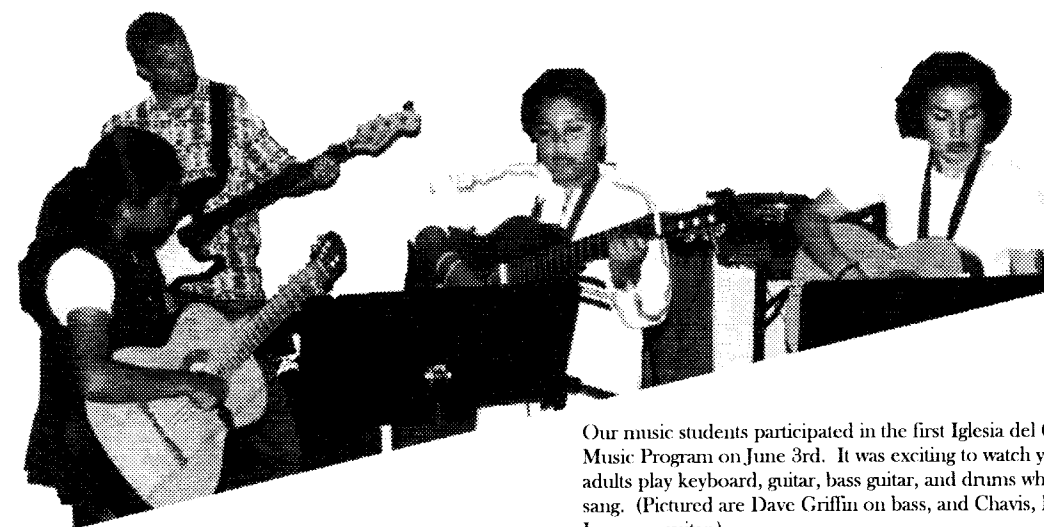
Upon finishing up her fifth year with CFCI, **Kym Cook** is looking forward to spending time with her parents. When she arrived in Fresnillo having just graduated from Wheaton in June of '96, her folks were doing some adjusting of their own. They moved to central Texas after living in the Midwest for over three decades, and have grown much in Christ during these last five years. She is looking forward to the challenge of discovering how to be the adult daughter of her parents and getting to know them on a day-to-day basis this fall as she lives with them in their home for a time. Kym hopes to find ministry-related employment and use this time to gain perspective on her life, future and relationship with the Lord. She is also considering furthering her education (Masters' degree in church planting or missions).

After almost two years spent working with the youth in Patria and Libertad, **Leanne Biehl** (known as "Lili" there) has decided to return home to Santa Barbara, CA, to spend some time with her parents. While there, she will be working part-time with her church as she also looks for a part-time teaching position at the junior high or high

school level. Her time in Mexico has greatly assisted her in better understanding youth and she looks forward to using the knowledge she has gained.

Shelly Stevens has enjoyed her two years ministering to children and their families in Fresnillo. She will be living in Montana for the summer months after leaving CFCI, and there she will be assisting her aunt and uncle in caring for her grandmother. In the fall she will be moving to Minnesota in order to pursue an elementary education teaching position. Her hope is to continue working with children from a Latino descent in a low income setting.

As **Heather Pancake** leaves Fresnillo after one year of service, she looks forward to being at home with her parents in Vermont until the end of August, at which point she will return to Wheaton College. There she has been accepted into the grad school and she will be studying Missions/Intercultural Studies from Fall 2001-Spring 2002. From there she will study at Honey Rock Camp in order to gain her Certificate in Camping Ministry/Leadership with the dream of one day starting or joining a wilderness camp in Latin America.



Our music students participated in the first Iglesia del Gran Pastor Music Program on June 3rd. It was exciting to watch youth and adults play keyboard, guitar, bass guitar, and drums while others sang. (Pictured are Dave Griffin on bass, and Chavis, Efrén, and Leyra on guitar.)

Prayer Requests and Updates:

❖ The paperwork continues to be an issue but we think [hope] we are making progress. So praise God for what has been done and ask for wisdom as we finish it off.

❖ Praise God for Miguelina Aguiar, John Bell and Cam McRoberts - three new workers whose pictures and brief bio will appear in the November newsletter [so be watching for it]. We are grateful that God has answered our prayers and needs and continue to ask for wisdom as each one gets settled and jumps into the day-to-day life.

❖ We are planning all of our fall programming at this time and ask that God will lead, guide and watch over all that we do. We do not want to get ahead of the Lord but rather want to work in His grace and follow His plan.

❖ We still need another pastor but we are trusting God to raise up just the right man in the fullness of His time.

Encourage Your Favorite Missionary

(or the whole team)

Send a letter to:

Missionary name
(or CFCI Team)
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Phone/FAX—001-52-493-2-84-53
Email: cfciprodigy.net.mx

