

# CHRIST FOR CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL

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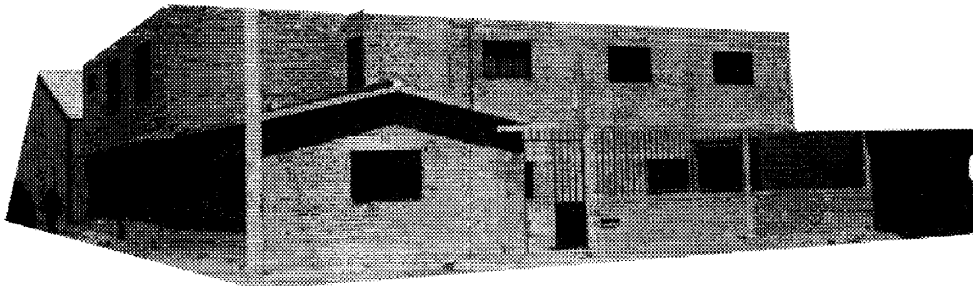
Volume 6 #1

## **Introducing . . .**

This past November, CFCI took on a new identity when the Religious Association known as *Iglesias del Gran Pastor* [Churches of the Great Shepherd] became a reality in a ceremony in Mexico City. Two plus years of paper work and patience were amply rewarded when three men from our congregation in Patria y Libertad received the documents containing our official registration number. As our little church continues to grow, so does a desire by our members for formal training. Many of the men, women and older youth who attend our church dream of the day when they can lead their own Bible studies for friends, neighbors and family. Our new identify provides the first step to making their dreams a reality.

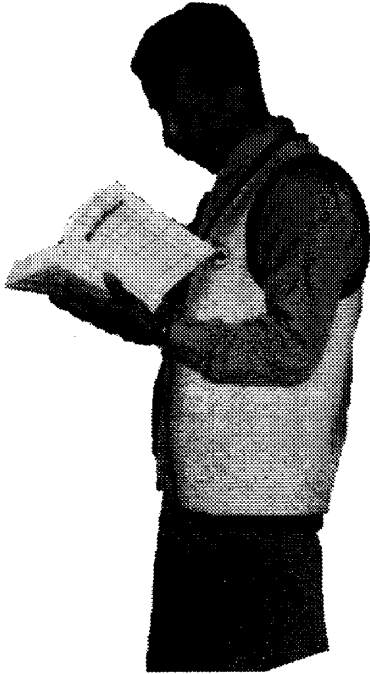
Less than three months later, in early February, we had the privilege and joy of dedicating a new building in Patria. Located next to our multi-purpose bodega, this two story, brick edifice is currently home to our five single men, as well as providing much needed meeting, classroom and storage space. Officially named "La Escuela" [all CFCI buildings and homes are blessed with names], we pray that one day it will become the training center for nationals who desire to learn more about ministry. As some of you may remember from the last newsletter, we had

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"La Escuela" - Our new building

## Flavio reading Scripture at the dedication



hoped to move into the building by the end of November, but a long list of frustrations and setbacks kept delaying the long anticipated day.

La Escuela would not be standing today if were not for the efforts and talents of many men in our congregation, especially Fermin who supervised the construction, as well being the brick mason, installer of floor and wall tile, and showing us an astonishing array of talents and abilities.

Gerardo, our master at gesso [plaster], oversaw the completion of the walls and even lent a hand with some of the painting

chores. Juan and David, skilled at metal work, helped with the windows and other needs.

The building showcases the talents of the team as well. Concha made all the curtains for the public areas. Doug kept track of all the workers, needs, expenses and receipts! And everybody helped with cleaning and moving.

At the dedication, we prayed for God to bless, fill, and use this structure to further His Kingdom and bring glory to Himself by raising up men and women from Fresnillo who will spend their lives in service to Him.

### What's your favorite Mexican food?

1. tamales
2. pozole [a great soup]
3. tacos
4. mole
5. chile rellenos
6. queso fundido [Mexican fondue with tortillas and salsa]
7. carne asada with corn tortillas, frijoles, limon for squeezing, lettuce and a fresca
8. gorditas

\_\_\_\_\_ Jim

\_\_\_\_\_ Jenny, Kym & Trent

\_\_\_\_\_ Scott

\_\_\_\_\_ Meredith

\_\_\_\_\_ Pastor Doug & Christy

\_\_\_\_\_ Concha

\_\_\_\_\_ Christine Logan, Christine Yoder, Gretchen, Jonathan, Kerrie, Leanne, & Shelly

\_\_\_\_\_ Andy, Dave

1. tamales [Doug] 2. pozole [Christine Logan, Christine Yoder, Gretchen, Jonathan, Kerrie, Leanne, & Shelly] 3. tacos [Andy, Dave] 4. mole [Jenny, Kym & Trent] 5. chile rellenos [Concha] 6. queso fundido [Scott] 7. carne asada with corn tortillas, frijoles, limon for squeezing, lettuce and a fresca [let's be specific Jim] 8. gorditas [Mere]

## Mix and Match Missionaries

It's hard to pray for folk who seem distant and remote. Not wanting any of our missionaries to fall into this dreaded category, we are providing you with an opportunity to "Mix and Match" your friends south of the border.

Just in case you need a reminder . . . Our team members are: Leanne Biehl, Kym Cook, Jim Dahlin, Concha Griffin, David Griffin, Andy Janssen, Christy Hudson Jones, Doug Jones, Trent Korstange, Jonathan Lightner, Scott Linhart, Christine Logan, Kerrie Maas, Meredith Omland, Gretchen Ruble, Jenny Schroeder, Shelly Stevens, Christine Yoder



Children waiting for Saturday "Feeding" to begin

### What do you like to do in your free time on Monday? (our day off)

1. biking / outdoor exercise
2. reading and sitting in the sun
3. visiting with friends
4. hang out on the beaches in Oaxaca
5. hang out with husband or wife

\_\_\_\_\_ Christine Logan, Jenny, Jonathan

\_\_\_\_\_ Andy, Jim, Leanne, Mere, Shelly, Kym [but they are just dreaming]

\_\_\_\_\_ Leanne, Scott, Shelly and Trent [a more realistic but second choice for some in this group]

\_\_\_\_\_ Concha & Dave, Christy & Doug [but one couple could easily have used another answer]

\_\_\_\_\_ Gretchen, Kerrie, Kym, Mere, Christine Yoder

### What is your favorite part of the week?

1. Clubs [kids 2 - 10]
2. Jovénes [kids 11-18]
3. church [including Children's church and nursery]
4. one-on-one visiting [Includes tutoring & music lessons]
5. Market and feeding

\_\_\_\_\_ Doug, Kerrie, 1/2 of Christy

\_\_\_\_\_ Concha, Dave, Jonathan, Leanne, 1/2 of Christy

\_\_\_\_\_ Shelly

\_\_\_\_\_ Christine Logan., Gretchen, Jim, Kerrie, Mere, Scott, Trent

\_\_\_\_\_ Andy, Jenny, Kym, Christine Yoder

1. biking / outdoor exercise [Leanne, Scott, Shelly, Trent] 2. reading and sitting in the sun [Gretchen, Kerrie, Kym, Mere, Christine Yoder] 3. visiting with friends [Christine Logan, Jenny, Jonathan] 4. hang out on the beaches in Oaxaca [Andy, Jim, Leanne, Mere, Shelly, Kym - but Doug & Christy spent their honeymoon there; and so did Dave & Concha] 5. hang out with husband or wife [if you had trouble with this one, consult the list at the beginning and match last names]

1. Club [Christine Logan., Gretchen, Jim, Kerrie, Mere, Scott, Trent] 2. Jovénes [Concha, Dave, Jonathan, Leanne, 1/2 of Christy] 3. Church [Doug, Kerrie, who is the Children's church and nursery wonder, 1/2 of Christy] 4. one-on-one visiting [Andy, Jenny, Kym, Christine Yoder] 5. Market and feeding [Shelly]

## **Prayer Request and Updates:**

Thank you so much for praying for us. This is the season of the year when we have a transition in our team. As always, we need good workers, but especially men, to give themselves to the service of Christ through CFCI.

- ❖ The Reverend and Mrs. Douglas Jones happily honeymooned in Oaxaca and are living in the apartment in the old bodega while the house they are building in Patricia is completed.
- ❖ So many of the men in our church face the constant threat or reality of unemployment. With no savings account or social security to serve as a safety net, many of our families are only a few weeks away from an empty pantry. This fear is demoralizing, discouraging and demeaning for our men who struggle to be good providers for their wives and little ones. We have been looking for ways to help in this area but our resources are extremely limited. Please pray for God to lead, guide and help each of these men as they struggle to lean on His plan for their families.
- ❖ As we come to mind, please pray that our visas and other official documents would be quickly and easily granted. We have been waiting since May 1999 for the official renewal of many of our visas.

# **Encourage Your Favorite Missionary**

(or the whole team)

Send a letter to:

Missionary name  
(or CFCI Team)

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