

## Our Year in Review



**Senior's Center:** The girls will often lead the seniors in stretches and exercises to help them maintain their movement and support their overall health. While this may not be everyone's favorite activity, one lady in particular lights up when this time comes. The girls are always surprised at how exceptional she is with her stretching. Upon further conversation, the lady shared with us how she used to be a dancer! It is so special to hear the stories of the residents and get to know them on a more personal level.

On another occasion, the girls and a team were doing activities with the seniors using balloons. One lady, who we have noticed is always witty and fun, in the middle of the game, hit another resident on the back of the head with her balloon. She burst into laughter and everyone who saw was laughing as well. These small joyful moments are ones to remember and we know the seniors appreciate opportunities to laugh.

**House Build:** Many of you may remember Carmen, who lived with us for about 5 years. Now, years later we are blessed to be able to build a home for her and her family. We love when our relationship with the girls is able to continue outside the walls of The Refuge. Written October 22, 2025:

"Hello, my name is Carmen. I hope you are all well. I am very excited that you will be building my new house. It is a great blessing and a great wish I had, since my daughters will grow up in our little house; our place of peace and tranquility. Thank you for every grain of sand that each one of you contributed. May God bless you greatly."



**Outreach Center:** This summer we were reminded of the boy in the Bible with the 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish, as told in Matthew 14. God always provides. One of our teams, together with the girls, handed out invitations to the community in the area of the outreach center, inviting them to attend a meal and outreach. We were expecting around 60 people and prepared enough food for that number. At the time of the event, the people kept coming and we had between 135-160 people attend!

Randy had to rush out to buy more food, and after buying out two taco stands, picking up some hamburgers and roasted chickens, everyone was able to hear the gospel message with full stomachs! God's plan is always better, and it was wonderful to be able to bless the food establishments as well!. The people also received food hampers to take home (we took names and returned later with more hampers). It was such an amazing time together and an example of the vision we had of the community outreach center being used to bring the light of Jesus to its community.

**Horses:** Anayeli writes: "What I like most about horses is that I can bond with them, and experience seeing and learning how to involve my emotions with them. I also learn how to work with them and let them know they can trust me back. I love being able to teach other people how to treat horses, taking into account their care, their nutrition, and everything that caring for them entails."



**"Praise the Lord, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise  
His Holy name."**

Psalm 103:1





**San Felipe:** A trip to San Felipe with the girls and our friends, Richard and Carmen, has become a bit of a tradition over the last few years. The girls look forward to this retreat each year. It is a time to refresh and renew while enjoying beach days and digging in deeper to God's Word. While there, we are hosted by 99Plus1 Ministry and the girls have the opportunity to lead a community kids outreach sharing God's love through stories, songs, crafts and hugs.



**Safe at Last:** Recently, one of our 12-year-old girls made the wonderful decision to give her heart to the Lord. Although she does not yet know how to read, every single night, she goes to bed hugging her Bible, and sleeps with it the whole night. Finally, she is safe at last, physically and spiritually. It is so encouraging to witness her understanding of the power and the peace that comes with the Word of God.



**Life Skills:** It is always a blessing when the girls have the opportunity to learn skills that will help them later in life. This helps them to be equipped to gain employment and provide for their families. It also allows team members to share their talents. Sewing, pouring cement for house builds, learning about other countries, and cooking are some examples of skills the girls have experienced.



**Raising the Next Generation:** As Randy and one of the younger girls approached the Oxxo, the girl noticed a homeless man sitting outside the door. "Grandpa,," the girl said to Randy, "that man is hungry. Can we buy him some food?" Randy told her that she could, and asked her if she would pray for the man as well. She seemed uncertain at first, but proceeded to purchase some food and brought it to the man. The man shared that he was a Christian and he was very thankful for the food. The girl then proceeded to be bold and pray for him! It was so amazing to see her faith in action, displaying boldness and her kind heart.

**"We will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about His power & His mighty wonders."**

Psalm 78:4



**A Simple Roof:** What started as a small project—"just replacing the roof"—became a "replace the walls project as well as the roof." All the girls, even the smallest ones, pitched in to tear down and rebuild, as well as paint the school library in our community. One day, several passerbys asked why we were doing this for free, to which the girls responded, "Because we love Jesus!"



**"Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong."**

Ephesians 3:16





A HUGE shoutout to ALL of you reading our Christmas letter! Gracias to all who have helped financially or with items such as computers and clothing. Thank you TEAMS, individuals and families for coming to build 6 houses in 2025, working on maintenance at El Refugio base/Girls Home, making a retaining wall, one rock at a time, at the outreach center so the building would not fall off the edge, sharing God's love by cleaning the Seniors home, spending time with the seniors through laughter and games, playing with kids at the migrant camp in the dirt, sharing Bible stories, drimes, feeding the homeless, teaching at kids church and at various schools, hosting youth events, and so much more! Thank you for loving on the girls in our home. Your smiles, energy, and willingness to serve is so appreciated! Thank you to all who are PRAYING and believing God brings about healing and transformation. As you make room for Jesus in your hearts and lives, may you know His joy and peace this Christmas and coming year.



Merry Christmas,  
Randy & Sandra  
Laurisa  
Berenice

### Staff



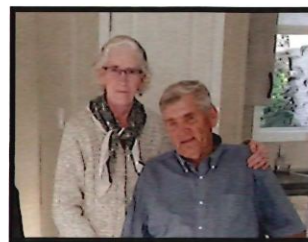
Lupita  
Cooking &  
Housekeeping

The Gonzalez Family  
Office &  
Administration

Isabel  
Administration &  
Caregiver

**Isabel:** Sometimes with our busy lives we rarely think about taking time to spend with Jesus. There are times I need to plan that time, but there are small moments in my day that are dedicated to thanking Him for what He has done and what He continues to do. By taking care of those around me and setting a good example to others, I hope I can make the light of Jesus shine so that others, and especially the girls, can imitate and see Jesus in me. One of my favorite parts of Christmas, apart from celebrating Jesus, is being able to spend time with the family that God has given me.

This year our life road made a big turn. Wilmer is now living in the Gateway Lodge, about 4 blocks from our Canora home in Saskatchewan. The move flowed very smoothly. We are at peace, even though there are challenging days. We know we are God's light in this area and in this lodge at this time.



**Ecclesiastes 3:19**  
"To everything there is a season."

Blessings and Love,  
Wilmer & Myrna

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The Refuge



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Embrace



Dream



Transform

## The Refuge Family Christmas Newsletter

2025

### No Room In the Inn

Written by Grandma (Myrna) Huebert  
Artwork by Ana Gabriela

With study and imagination, I learned some things about Bethlehem. It was an uneventful village, just outside of Jerusalem. It wasn't a sought after place to visit because everyone was eager to see the **BIG** city of Jerusalem. At this time, the Roman Empire was taking names and all those Israelites who descended from KING DAVID were instructed to report to their ancestral hometown. Why would the Roman empire bother with the roll call of a conquered people? One word comes to mind—**money**.

So that is why on this **wonderful** day the road that led to Bethlehem was very busy. The **little** town was overrun with aunts, uncles and cousins many times removed. My imagination is at work— even with makeshift inns springing up over night, there was no way Bethlehem could have the extra beds needed. My imagination goes on— people all over; jammed lanes, roads and alleys. **Colours** and **noise**. The census was a **BOOM** time for innkeepers and food vendors, but also for pickpockets and criminals who could disappear into the crowds. It's interesting to me that the **religious pious** and the ordinary poor brushed shoulders in this small village on this day. All of this was the setting for the coming of our Lord Jesus, as a baby.

I wonder how much **BIGGER** those crowds would have been if the world had known what we know now. Just imagine thousands of people bustling around, all unaware that they were at **ground zero** of a **heavenly** invasion. They thought they had come for something as uninteresting as tax registration. On the world's first **Christmas**, they had come to **give** what was required, not to receive. How many families must have walked by that stable! They must have passed the mother and her newborn child, without a "good morning" or a curious glance, unaware that **God's greatest gift** was right there. Maybe they saw the shepherds kneeling at the new baby, but they just turned away and carried on with what they had come to Bethlehem to do.

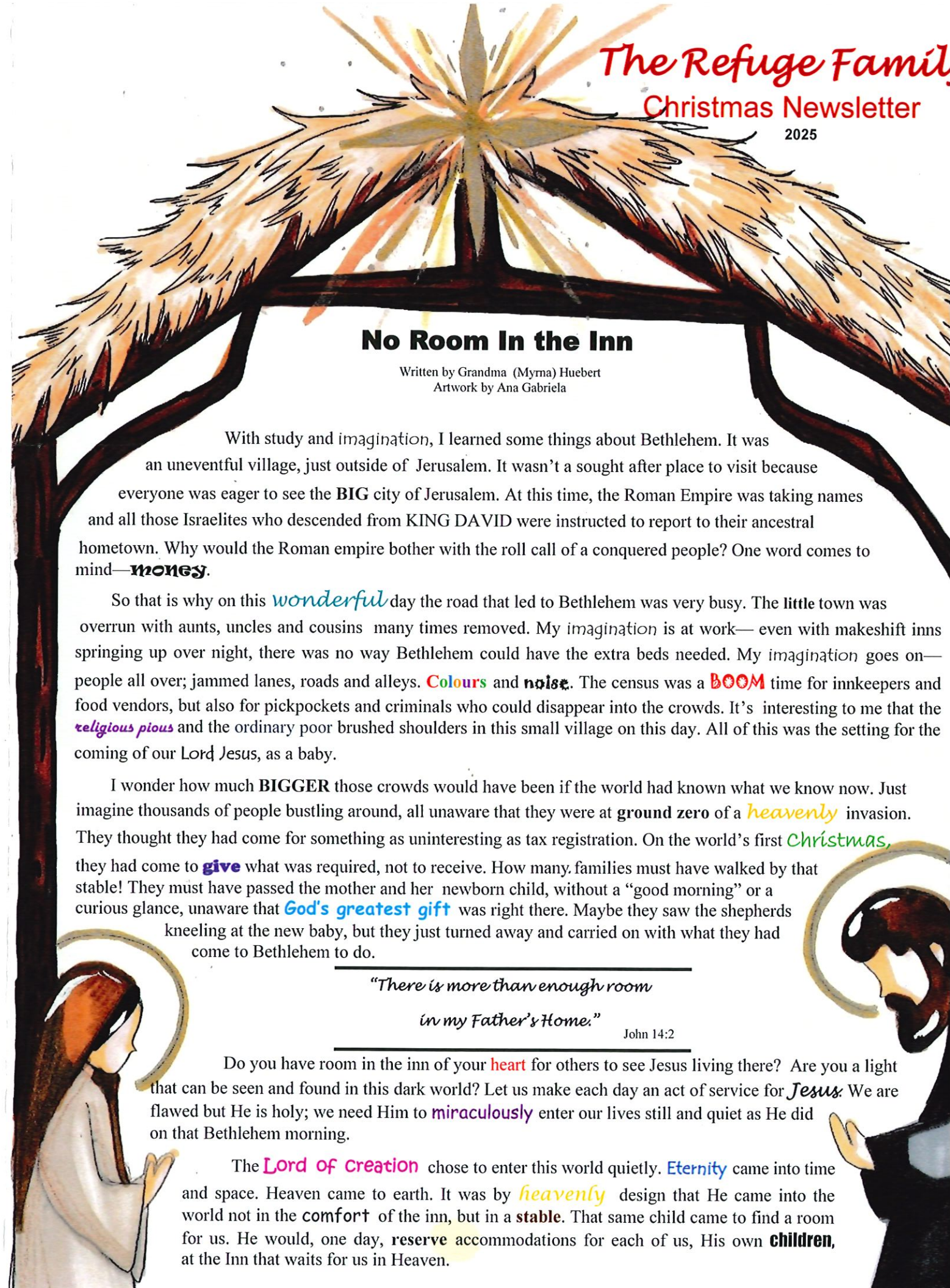
"There is more than enough room

in my Father's Home."

John 14:2

Do you have room in the inn of your **heart** for others to see Jesus living there? Are you a light that can be seen and found in this dark world? Let us make each day an act of service for **Jesus**. We are flawed but He is holy; we need Him to **miraculously** enter our lives still and quiet as He did on that Bethlehem morning.

The **Lord of creation** chose to enter this world quietly. **Eternity** came into time and space. Heaven came to earth. It was by **heavenly** design that He came into the world not in the **comfort** of the inn, but in a **stable**. That same child came to find a room for us. He would, one day, **reserve** accommodations for each of us, His own **children**, at the Inn that waits for us in Heaven.





# Christmas Greetings



**Anayeli:** Dancing and worship is one of my special ways I like to spend with Jesus; I do it all to glorify His name. Showing God's gratefulness to others is a way I try to teach people about God. This time of the year I like to share things with people who do not have much, and I also like to be with my family. It is important to never forget about the birth of Jesus.



**Maria:** I try to take time to myself to spend with Jesus. When I worship Him with all of my heart, I can feel my life warming up and filling with joy. Talking about who God is and reminding others that Jesus came to us as a baby and then died on the cross for us is a way I like to be a light. The birth of our Lord and Savior is what I like the most about Christmas.

**Leslie:** Reading my Bible, singing and praying is something that has been so important to me for most of my life. Lately I haven't been doing this but I know I need to continue. Everyone needs to be treated the same, with respect, just like God has showed us what to do. I love being able to be together as a family to celebrate this special time of the year.

**Karla:** Being in church is where I can find my happy place; praying and singing. I try to always pray because that is what moves the hand of God. I can be an example to others when I show them what is right and what is wrong. Something I love about Christmas is all the food and snacks we get to eat and also celebrating that Jesus came to us as a little baby.

**Hanna:** Prayer is something that is needed all the time even when people say no. We always want to be a testimony for others in everything we do. I think prayer and fasting are very important; it helps me to become more like Jesus and to grow my relationship with Him. I am 13 years old, but I still love time with family at Christmas and seeing what kind of gifts everyone gets. This is a time to show God's love to everyone.

**Ximena:** I do my devotions, pray and I also love to worship God. I am a light of the world to others when I help them. Christmas is a time to share God's word and spend time with loved ones.



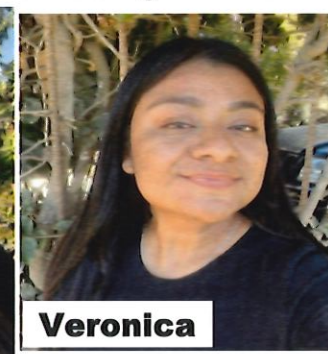
**Camila:** One way I spend time with Jesus is praying and talking with Him. I also try to read the Bible. I try to not do things that are wrong so that I can be an example to others. My favorite time at Christmas is eating all the good food.



**Maritza:** I spend time with Jesus by praying and trusting in Him. I show Jesus to people by saying good things to others and telling them about Jesus. My favorite part about Christmas is spending time as a family and being able to decorate the house and tree.



**Diana:** I think I need to work on my relationship with Jesus; I know what I need to do but I find it is difficult. I love spending time with all the girls at the house; they are my life and my family and I love them very much.



**Rosa:** I spend time with Jesus when I read my Bible, pray, and sing. He does so much for us because He loves us. I try to show the love of God to others when I am different than other people; talking to them about God and who He is. Jesus did so much for us and it is important to teach others about it. We can let our light shine as simply as the way we talk and how we tell people about the good news He has brought to us. My favorite part about Christmas is when we are all together as family and we get to rejoice in the greatness of our Lord and Saviour. I love hearing about how God's love brought hope to so many people. The joy in everyone's face opening up gifts and remembering that Jesus gave us the best gift is my favorite part about Christmas.



**Kenya:** I love hearing Bible stories at bedtime and going to church. I also know most of the books of the Bible. I like everything about Christmas; all the gifts, food and my new family.



**Dalila:** At Christmas I love spending time with others, and you can never forget Santa. It is important to go to church and spend time with God. I try to help people in the best way I can.

**Ana Gabriela:** I like to spend time with Jesus in the morning before the sun comes up; praying and talking with Him as if He is right beside me. I ask Him to guide me in every step of the way. I open my Bible and I read, taking the time to think about what I need to learn and how I can apply it to my life. By this time the sun is up and I start my day and when the sun goes down and it is quiet, I do this again. I need Him more than ever and I want to know everything about Him so He can give me the strength that I need. I believe the light that Jesus gives us will grow more when we grow our relationship with Him. Giving a simple hug or smile to someone can show them how much God loves them. When I was young all I cared about was gifts, but now I love to celebrate baby Jesus and His huge love for us. I want to be able to share it with anyone who comes into my path. I want everyone to know the true meaning of Christmas.

**Sofia:** I talk to Jesus and I love people around me just like Jesus does. I like to open gifts on Christmas.

