

APRIL 2003 NEWSLETTER:

MARCH TO THE CAVE BEFORE “WITCH DAY”: The day before “Witches Day”, the first Friday in March, Pat and a team of about 23 area Christians, marched up to the Cave near the Enchanted Lagoon in San Andres Tuxtla. This cave is haven to the local area witches. A group representative of about 9 area churches participated in the annual event. Prayers and Casa de Gloria banners were waved on high as praise and worship music, played by Keith Haydel, filled the air. Upon entering the cave, Pat and a few of the others were surprised when they encountered over a 1,000 candles lighting the interior walls of the cave, exposing the faces of over 60 professed to be witches and/or followers of the cult. Neither of them were expecting to meet each other face to face. The witches were holding their ground and determined not to budge from within the cave until the speakers projecting the praise and worship music were directed inside. It wasn't long before they all began to march out and into “His marvelous light.” Much of the early morning and afternoon were spent praying over those who were inhabiting this cave which is near our new home in San Andres Tuxtla. Many were ready to receive Jesus into their hearts, and actually began to recite the prayer of salvation but could not due to the heavy spiritual forces pressing upon them.

The next day the local newspaper disclosed of a conflict between the Catholics and/or “marijuanas” and the witches claiming that either or both of these groups destroyed their belongings in the cave. The most famous witch in this town, who made these claims, was pictured in this article wearing his warlock garb looking very fearsome. (*Note: Catholicism is interwoven and heavy laden with witchcraft in these parts in addition to their rich traditions of idol worship.) Pray that God will touch and open the eyes of all those who were present and continue to show his love to the lost and dying world.

CLOWN AND FILM MINISTRY: As per the request of the Franklin Graham Evangelistic outreach in Veracruz to be held the 10-12th of April, we will attempt to reach out to the children in our own neighborhood on 19 April here in San Andres Tuxtla.

Samaritan's Purse and the *Billy Graham Evangelistic Association* will provide “shoeboxes of goodies” as mentioned in his book, The Name on page 147, for each child that will participate in the Grand event. We are requested to distribute these one week after the Outreach. Graham asks God to direct and guide these individually packed boxes to fall into the hands of a child and not only to provide joy but also to be a witness of Jesus' love to that child. More than five million shoebox gifts were collected and distributed in 2001. Letters and pictures of those who packed the boxes are also dropped into them in hopes that one day it will lead to building bridges of friendship between children and families around the world. On April 19th, we hope to distribute these “shoebox gifts” to their God given recipients. Casa de Gloria will help provide clothing and toys to the extra gift boxes we need to fill for the neighborhood kids. Please be in prayer that our hands will be guided to give the right box to its final destination, and bring joy and a smile to a child.

Before the distribution of the gift boxes, Casa de Gloria's clown ministry will minister to the neighborhood children as an extension of “Festi- Ninos” or Children's festival in a fun-filled afternoon. It is our desire to extend HIS blessing to those in our neighborhood,

who were unable to attend the event

WHAT A DAY WE HAD!.. We have been hit hard lately materially, but God is in control and our eyes are on HIM...He is so faithful. He may try to steal our goods but he can't touch our joy in the Lord! as Jerry Seville once preached.

On a quiet Saturday night, Karen prepared for Sunday's noon meal to save time. She knew time would be of utmost importance and wanting to feed her guests from La Barra, before their departure meant planning ahead. But unknowingly, she used all the gas to cook the meal. So we awakened to cold showers and off to church we went. After a wonderful service in Casa de Gloria, the Warrens accompanied by four guests, three from La Barra and one visiting from Australia, went home to get a quick bite to eat before their trip to La Barra. With no gas to reheat the meal, Karen decided to use Plan B; warm things up in the microwave. To her surprise, it sparked and sputtered and just refused to cooperate with her plan to feed her guests. So she opted for Plan C; to load things up and warm them at their good friends and neighbor's house. In the process of doing so, Pat told her not to fuss because time was up and they really needed to head out to the fishing villages. Karen then put Plan D into action; bring the already cooked food to the village and warm it up on their wood kindled stoves. So everyone was pleased with this idea and helped her pack things into the ice chest for safe keeping on the way. Everyone loaded in the van and we were finally on our way and on schedule.

On our way to La Barra, loaded with 13 guests, our van died just minutes out of town and left us stranded on the International Hwy. Pat waved down a taxi for Karen, which was headed to San Andres. She ran across the highway and squeezed into the already full taxi. Realizing she would have to make a switch because the taxis have to adhere to their routes which would take her out of her way, she notified the driver. He did some fancy hand signals to a taxi who just happened to be behind them and then pulled over. Karen paid the driver and hopped in the new taxi that awaited her. Off she went to the house to get the Suburban so we could continue the trek to La Barra. Beaux, who had the house keys, was already on route to Casa de Gloria for an afternoon of computer fun. So Karen took her third taxi to Casa de Gloria to find Beaux. She arrived downtown to find the steel curtains of the office building pulled down and the building locked up tight. Paying the taxi driver his fee, Karen then noticed Beaux peering from around the corner of the street having darted into the air conditioned internet cafe for a quick breath of cold air. Both were surprised to see each other. Having gotten the keys from Beaux, Karen fled to the house in her fourth taxi, knowing Pat and the other crew were waiting in the hot sun for her return.

Meanwhile, Pat hailed a taxi and fellow brother in the Lord, to make the necessary arrangements to take our extra passengers to their homes. Once loaded and on their way again, Karen was a bit perplexed to notice the gas gauge was showing that unless they got some gas, they wouldn't make it to their destination that day. Not realizing how low on cash all the taxi's had left them both, Pat and Karen just smiled at each other and enjoyed the ride that their Father in Heaven would provide. They made it to the boat launch, caught a boat to La Barra, dropped our house guests off and gave our newfound Australian friend a quick tour of the peninsula before we headed for home. Yeah!

Karen then helped Pat to tow the van to not one, but two mechanic shops in town. The mechanics took a few days to find that the problem with the van was the coil to the firing system.

Our Suburban was able to complete the traveling required to complete our mission for the day, but was making some strange sounds. By Tuesday, the water pump went out. We heard the noise driving home on Sunday and it seemed to worsened by Monday night when Pat used it to go do a film showing in Cabada, 45 minutes away. He was able to return safely home, Praise God. The mechanic, who had his hands full with the old white jalopy, told us that the shaft was about to break on the water pump which was about to thrust the fan through the radiator. Praise God we caught it in time. The Problem? It's a 3/4 ton, 454 engine and most of the parts here are too small; so we began to pray one in. Like we mentioned in our March newsletter, it's not as simple to walk to your nearest parts store and get the right part for a vehicle, as you would in the states. Sometimes, it takes days or weeks...to find one that *may* work and then it's a rigging.

Karen typed up a quick prayer list and mailed it out. A friend, whom we haven't heard from in years, emailed Karen that very same day and asked if she could pray for her. Karen quickly emailed her the list of prayer requests. Much to her surprise, her two sons work at car part stores and in short, were able to purchase the part using their employee discount, deliver it to Ashley, who was visiting her grandparents in Louisiana, who would bring it down to us. This helped to save over \$200.00 in car repair costs. God is good all the time! His timing is always perfect too!

Ashley had an opportunity to go to Louisiana for a short visit last month. While there, one of our supporters bought us a new VCR for our film ministry. Pat came home after a film showing the other night declaring he had forgotten what it was like to use something that worked well. He was beginning to get accustomed to taking the cover off, cleaning the heads, beating it, and then believe God for it to show a picture worthy to watch. Most of the time, the fuzzy picture would blink off and on while emitting a low screeching sound. No one ever complained about the quality of the picture though, except Pat; he knew what the picture was suppose to look like. We thank you, as do all those who now will see and hear a good clear picture on the mega screen. May the good news be preached to all the earth.

As if there weren't enough things to go wrong, our refrigerator went on the blink. The weather is turning hot and so are the food and drinks stored inside the refrigerator. Ha! ha! Ashley was able to bring in this needed part too.

The Lord told Karen to allow Ashley to go to Louisiana because she was on a mission. Not knowing exactly what that meant at the time, we sent her on her merry way. It would be later that we would discovered the value of her time spent there and the mission she was assigned to accomplish. She not only enjoyed herself with family and friends but the Lord gave her the opportunity to go to a Jr./ Sr. Prom, something a homeschooler doesn't often get a chance to do. He also allowed her to be in the states at just the right time to be able to bring in the much needed parts and ministry tools: VCR, water pump, and refrigerator part. **Mission accomplished.** It was a *Possible Mission*. Well done Ashley!

Amen! It's been quite an adventure these last few days. Karen saw it coming. We've

committed to a stronger walk with the Lord, coming together as a family and church to pray in unity. We have several large evangelistic campaigns that are fast approaching and we are reaching more folks for the Lord. He is giving us and forming in us keen strategies...so when all of the above things happened...it only confirmed that we are right on target! Amen! Everyday has recently become an adventure.

Thank you for your prayers and commitment to lift us up before the Lord. We glorify HIM and give HIM all praise, Honor, and Glory!!!

ALCOHOLIC OUTREACH IN SAN ANDRES TUXTLA: As we went out on Saturday, March 29th, we saw many familiar faces. Relationships are forming based on trust. Two young men received Christ into their hearts this month. Please pray that God will continue to show them the love they need to grow in Him.

NEW MISSION CHURCH IN TECHAPLAN DE ARRIBA:

The three-day Grand Evangelistic Outreach Campaign in the park in Techalpan de Arriba, or locally called, La Loma, San Andres Tuxtla was met with quite a bit of opposition in the beginning but God prevailed as He rules and reigns. Pastor Reyes and Abraham arrived early the day before the campaign to set things in motion. They were met by an angry crowd who were far from friendly and even threatened to stone them. They had to resort to using the gas generator to power the instruments and microphone and speakers. Pastor Reyes just grinned and told Pat that "someone is mad" and never wavered from their plans. By the end of the third night, the locals were more open and receptive to their Charismatic presence, as they allowed them to use their electricity. Relationships are being birthed and the good news is being preached to the ends of the earth! Amen!

BANNER WORKSHOP: More banners and streamers are being designed each week by various local churches. It is Karen's desire to see them exalt the name of the most high, Jesus Christ, in their homes and churches in addition to the upcoming second annual March for Glory, to be held on Saturday, April 26, 2003. It's a march that is based upon many of the same principles as the International March for Jesus, trying to unite the body of Christ in the Tuxtlas!

PRAYER NEEDS:

1. Ministry tools:

A. Over head projector for use in Casa de Gloria's church service, English classes, and banner making. (We can purchase one in Veracruz between \$200-300. US.)

B. Band instruments: drum set, bass guitar with speaker set, & keyboard, etc...for praise and worship service in Casa de Gloria.

C. We are in need of the following:

1. Chick tracts in Spanish of various themes or topics (\$3.25 US per package of 25)
2. Spanish New Testaments (case of 100 for \$150.00 US or 50 for \$37.50 US depending on the version and style)

3. Booklets of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in Spanish (case of 200 for \$30.00-\$45.00 US). Anyone wishing to contribute to this need may either do so by sending their \$\$ to either of our addresses posted in this newsletter or contact Sandy Warren (985) 796-

3140 for more specific information as to where and how to go about ordering them.

D. Spanish Region 1 and/or 4 Christian DVD's or videos (\$20.00-30.00 US each) for our film ministry and lending library.

E. 15 passenger Van to replace the old jalopy who's on it's last leg. **(Praise God it still gets us around where God wants us to go.)**

Specifically we would like to have the following in a van:

burgundy color,

1 ton or 3/4 ton,

heavy suspension,

motor for pulling trailer or climbing mountains

a towing package with brakes,

good or excellent working condition,(so we can give the local mechanics and banks a break)

A/C in good working condition is a plus,

new tires,

CD/cassette player is another added plus.

God wants us to be specific when we pray so we would appreciate it if you would agree with us on the van we need or desire.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Every Sunday, we visit La Barra (beach church) and/or El Real (Bayside Church) after church service in Casa de Gloria at 9:00 am.

Every Monday, Friday, & Saturday night Pat goes on a film evangelism outreach in various areas of San Andres and beyond.

Every Monday and Friday from 4:00pm-8:30pm Karen has English classes in Casa de Gloria where she teaches from the Word of God.

Every Tuesday from 10:00am-2:00pm, Karen opens Casa de Gloria to distribute free clothes/shoes and offers prayer and the gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone who passes through the door. **(Suspended until further notice.)**

Every Wednesday and Thursday night from 8:00pm-9:30pm, The International School of the Bible classes are held on CVD in Casa de Gloria. These classes are also being made available to La Barra on the weekends.

Every last Saturday morning of the month we hold an Alcoholic outreach in San Andres Tuxtla. to try to be a more effective witness to the lost and hurting in our city.

Every Saturday from 10:00am -3:00 pm, Karen holds a streamer/flag/banner workshop in San Andres Tuxtla in Casa de Gloria where she teaches how to make them. Once they are equipped with their "arms" she will teach them how to use them via video and live demonstrations

Schedule of Events:

2nd-6th April -Evangelist **Alberto Mottes** of Argentina will be speaking at the Grand Evangelistic Campaign in Acayucan, Veracruz. Ten cities within a 2 hour radius of Acayucan will be participating in this mega event.

9th-12th April - **Franklin Graham**, son of Rev. Billy Graham will be hosting the 4 day Festival Esperanza (Hope Festival), in Veracruz.

19th of April - An extension of the Franklin Graham Festi-ninos Outreach will be held

to distribute the gift boxes to those who participated in the Franklin Graham event. Casa de Gloria clowns will minister with games and the word of God in a fun-filled day in San Andres.

25th - 27th of April -Three-day outreach in La Palma, a community 30 minutes just this side of the fishing communities of La Barra and El Real.

26th of April - Second Annual March for Glory in San Andres Tuxtla, Veracruz. We will begin the march at 10:00 am. and parade through the streets of our city proclaiming His name. The parade will gather together for the closure of the festivities in central park which is located in front of the tri-city court house or governmental building and next to the monstrous Catholic church. May God be glorified and the love of Jesus be proclaimed to all within earshot of the event.