

# SNAP-SHOTS

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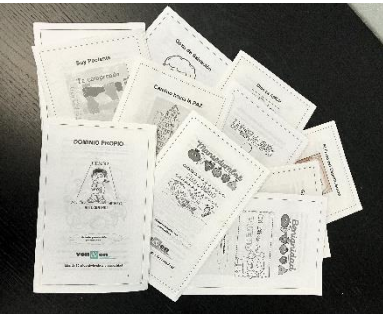
## A SEASON OF THANKS

With November being the month of Thanksgiving, throughout it we often find ourselves reflecting on things we are thankful for. Here at Von & On, another day in November also brings forth similar thoughts...

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, our Founder, Pastor Von, departed this world and entered Heaven. He left a legacy that impacted thousands over his years in ministry, continuing to this day. As we look back over the 7 years since, we're amazed, humbled, and extremely grateful for God's plan, provision, and blessing for this ministry, and many others that were started and/or greatly influenced by Pastor Von's faithful 87 years of life and teaching. We're thankful to be a part of just one of them, along with many of you who've continued to faithfully invest in V&O throughout these last 7 years. We're also thankful for the additional help and support of all those who've joined us in the work of this ministry since!...



...One such person is Adriana Hasser, who has been using her creative talents since last year, to produce Bible activity booklets in Spanish for the kids in our orphanages and barrios. Adriana, (originally from Columbia), and her husband Scott, live in San Diego and travel across the border at times to visit with our MX team and some of the kids we serve. This year Adriana based the books on Galatians 5, "The Fruits of the Spirit." These booklets have been an excellent resource to use with the kids, (and even some adults!), who look forward to receiving them each month.



Left: Putting the booklets together each month is a job the teens that help us are always happy to do.

Others who work behind the scenes to help, especially during the holiday seasons, include people who themselves live in the communities we serve.

During the winter months we distribute hundreds of hoodies, hats, gloves and blankets to kids and



families, most of which have been made by graduates from our sewing classes. This year we've also had a number of women & girls helping to make bags for gift and grocery items that families will receive through our Christmas Operation, for which preparations are now well under way! ...



Give thanks to the Lord for He is good!  
Ps. 107:1

In the next 2 weeks, we plan to start deliveries of our Christmas food packages and gifts to around 300 families, 3 orphanages, a rehab center, and a rest home. All in all, around 750 kids are due to receive a gift along with a Christmas story booklet and candy treats. Each family also receives a Christmas Food Package along with a New Testament Bible and Christmas letter on behalf of us all at Von & On Ministries.



Hortencia & Paty organizing gifts.



Boxes of Maple Syrup & Molé Sauce.



Paty and Estrella stack packets of pancake mix, an unexpected treat for families!



Finished bags & contents... Pancake mix, Syrup, Milk, Rice, Frozen Chicken, Molé Sauce and a bag of candy/chocolates per family.

This year price increases have been noticeable on all items; however Hortencia and the team have done a great job starting early to find good deals on the TJ side, enabling us to provide a generous food package for each family to enjoy a special Christmas meal, costing under \$25.

For the toys/gifts, we're not quite there yet with all the buying, but we plan to continue delivering through until Jan 6, (Three Kings Day in Mexico), so any funds for Christmas sent to us by then, will still be most helpful and appreciated!

Please pray for protection, wisdom and energy for our team over the next 6 weeks as much co-ordination and logistics are involved in making these deliveries. Some places are hard to navigate through, especially in wet weather and unfortunately, some places are not quite as safe as they used to be either. Please also pray that hearts would be open to the gospel message we bring, and that all would realize these gifts are just a very small representation of the great love God has for each one receiving them. **THANK YOU!!**



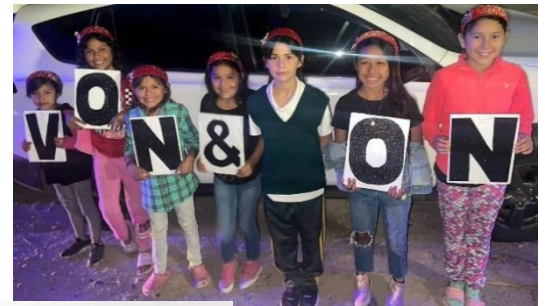
Edgar & Eric helping out, threading cord through bags.

**ON A SADDER NOTE...** This month also brought sadness especially for Hortencia, due to the sudden death of her unofficially adopted son, Roberto Isaias Hidalgo, aged 23. Some of you may remember his story from previous newsletters. Orphaned as a baby, HIV positive, and with no one willing to care for him at the time, Hortencia took him home to her own family, and with the help of another kind lady, (who has since passed away), played a major part in raising him. As Roberto grew older he struggled to accept his condition, sometimes almost to the point of denial, causing him to neglect strict medication requirements. This resulted in him contracting tuberculosis several times. His last bout a few months ago, was just too much for his body to fight any more, and sadly took his life. Despite this however, Roberto was prepared for death, having accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior several years ago. We take great comfort in this and thank God for Roberto's life and the legacy he left through the many connections he made for the ministries of Spectrum and Von & On, resulting in help for countless others.

We look forward to seeing him again in Heaven, and will be reminded of him whenever we read his favorite Psalm; Psalm 1.



Right: Excited kids counting down to Christmas!  
Below: Three Kings preparing for gift delivery.



Entering into another Christmas season, we give thanks once again for the greatest gift of all, God's own Son, who offers hope, peace, and salvation to all!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**  
Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Joyce, Philip & Hortencia, on behalf of the Team!