

Luz M. Soto, DCE & Communications



Winter 2022





# BRINGING WARMTH TO JUAREZ

These last two winters have been uncommonly cold in West Texas and Northern Mexico. For people living in **Juarez**, harsh winter days



## FEEDING THOUSANDS

As food pantries throughout El Paso start opening up, the San Pablo/YLM Food Pantry Drive-Thru tirelessly continues to serve its community every Saturday morning.

**Hundreds of pounds of food donated** through organizations such as Orphan Grain Train and companies like **Quality Fruits and Vegetables**, have gone across the border to feed thousands of families in Juarez-Anapra, Chihuahua, little villages out in the mountains, and many other places. Many indigenous towns are experiencing severe need for food, so **YLM** is partnering with mission-churches, and a non-profit organization named **Juarez Mio**, to identify the most vulnerable, and thanks to the many supporters of the **Emergency Food Ministry** taking place through YLM, these emergency needs are being met.

are especially life-threatening, as there is no central heating in many of the residences. In houses built out of pallets, tarps, and cardboard boxes, space heaters have caused house fires. YLM focused their distribution of **blankets for families and jackets for children** to the most vulnerable in Juarez. Over 2,000 blankets were distributed throughout Juarez, and up into the Chihuahua missions, where outreach is done among the Tarahumara Indians. Jackets for children of eighteen months to 14 years were received the first week of January and distributed through the mission-churches to orphanages, preschools, and daycares where the need was greatest.







# SERVING THROUGH CHALLENGES

Eleven of the fifteen **MOST Water Clinic and Construction team** had their flight cancelled. Coming in a day later than planned, the team of fifteen worked hard to successfully **distribute 120 water filters** in Anapra and Kilometer 30, as well as **build a house** for a young mother and her three children in four days.

**Peace Lutheran Church** (New Berlin, WI) has been planning to build a house since March of 2020. Though COVID cancelled their plans, they finally came November 2021. Their small team of six were helped by a Haitian refugee to **build a two-room house** for Nancy and her four-year-old son.

**Our Father Lutheran Church** (Centennial, CO) served over a thousand **Thanksgiving meals**. They have served the communities of Lower Valley El Paso, Anapra, and Kilometer 30 for 26 years.

**Mayer Lutheran High School** (Mayer, MN) has been serving Anapra through YLM for 16 years. A team of 36, most of them high school students, set out to **build three houses**. Wet, cold weather made for slow days, yet these wonderful adults and teenagers handed over keys to three little houses.

Our **Savior Lutheran Church** (Minot, ND) has served in Anapra and Kilometer 30 for close to fourteen years. A team of eight came prepared to **complete two houses**, and with the help of several Haitian refugees, this small but mighty team completed both houses by the end of their last day.

**Trinity** (Madison, NE) and **Faith** (Branson, MO) Lutheran Churches **completed their house in the nick of time**. Miguel and Susana, with their two children, were able to move in right away, as they were asked to vacate the house they were renting by the end of that same week.



**THERE'S STILL TIME TO SCHEDULE YOUR 2022 SERVANT EVENT MISSION TRIP!**

Prayerfully consider putting together a **Servant Event Team!** Contact us at **(915)858-2588** or **luz.soto@ylm.org** for information on different service opportunities available through our Servant Event ministry!





# THE POSADAS TRADITION

**Mariachi San Pablo** accompanied churches during the Advent and Christmas season to celebrate with posadas. Children dressed up as angels, shepherds, wise men, Mary and Joseph led the congregation in search of shelter for the birth of baby Jesus. This **tradition of posadas** was a great launch for Mariachi San Pablo's plans to get back into recording, tours, performances, and music classes.

### Upcoming Mariachi San Pablo performances:

The Multiethnic Symposium in St. Louis Concordia Seminary, May 3-4

The LWML Rocky Mountain District Gathering in Albuquerque, NM, June 4-5

Make sure to seek them out and say **¡Hola!**



# NEW TOYS FOR CHILDREN

For ten years, **YLM** has been working with multiple churches and individuals to collect and **distribute toys for children in El Paso and Juarez for Christmas**. Over 2,000 brand new toys were distributed through several of the mission-churches YLM partners with, and more than 1,500 of those toys were taken across the border into Mexico. The six partnering mission-churches gave out toys to children from 18 months to 12 years throughout the impoverished communities they have served for many years.



# CHIHUAHUA MISSIONS

The heaven-gain of Pastor Martin Tovar, and his wife Blanquita, in 2020, impacted the Chihuahua mission churches. Their son, Rev. Misael Tovar, has stepped in to work with the Chihuahua missions where his parents served for many years. Partnering with indigenous locals, he is prayerfully making plans to go back into the Sicachique mountains, where his parents served the Tarahumara Indians until 2009. To make this possible, **Pastor Misael needs a 4-wheel drive JEEP to navigate the rough mountain roads.**

**For more information on how you can help make this possible, reach out to us at (915) 858-2588.**





# REFUGEES GIVE BACK

It's been over a year since Iglesia Luterana San Lucas opened its doors to refugees. Partnering with other Juarez mission-churches and YLM, they've been able to provide safe refuge, food, clothing, and transportation to over twenty men, women, and children from different parts of South America, and recently, from Haiti.



In the last six months, several of these **Haitians have stepped in to help where needed**. Mayco, with English being one of the four languages he could speak, helped translate for two of the MOST teams who held clinics in Anapra and Kilometer 30. He was also a great help, along with another Haitian named Higgins, to several of the smaller Servant Event construction teams for the fall of 2021.

In February of this new year, several Haitians helped the eight-member team of Our Savior Lutheran Church (Minot, ND) **build two houses**. Among them was Stanley, a hard-working young man with a two-month pregnant wife. Their five-year-old daughter is still in Haiti with family members and it is their hope to enter the United States in search of a better future for their growing family. He and his wife have been in Juarez for 3 months, and they have called San Lucas home for the last month.

**With your help, YLM will be able to continue providing needed resources to help these refugees.** Unexpected sewage repairs, and an increase of refugees seeking shelter at San Lucas while awaiting the immigration process, has increased the need for financial funds to help continue ministry for Refugee Care.

*Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.*

Hebrews 13:1-2





# THANK YOU! ¡GRACIAS!



**Tom and Joan Walker** provided a **labor of love** by painting, organizing, cleaning, repairing, expanding, refurbishing, and **many other projects** throughout the campus for two weeks in October. They provided funds to help repair the water system out by the RV pads, serving in March for two weeks with plans to return in the fall.

**Trinity Lutheran Church in Stamford, CT** has been an amazing supporter of YLM and its campus needs. Their support allowed for a **new concrete pad** to be poured in beside San Pablo Lutheran Church, replacement of their swamp coolers with HVAC, and the re-roofing of the Music Building.



**Trinity Lutheran Church in Madison, NE** provided funds, with **Jon and Christine Drieling** designing and ensuring the installation of a **new** and improved marquee sign announcing the home of San Pablo Lutheran Church and Ysleta Lutheran Mission.



**Jim and Dawn Racine**, after spending a week serving through MOST at YLM, provided funds to do needed **maintenance and replacements** for the Chevy van lovingly referred to as the "**Green Machine**" by Servant Event teams who do daily travel to serve in Mexico.



## Host a YLM ZOOM Mission Sunday!

Celebrate and teach about missions by sharing about YLM's work on the border! Schedule a ZOOM presentation or in-person visit for a YLM Speaker to join your event! Contact **Luz M. Soto** at [luz.soto@ylm.org](mailto:luz.soto@ylm.org) or (915) 858-2588.

**Volunteering at YLM** can be a rewarding experience for you! Whether it's for a few hours, days, weeks, or months, there's always something to do at YLM to positively impact others, as well as yourself. For further information on volunteering, contact us at [ylm@ylm.org](mailto:ylm@ylm.org) or (915) 858-2588.

## Stay in School Scholarship

**Education** is a fundamental necessity for a successful future. Many children in Mexico have to give up school by the time they're 11 due to the expense of continuing middle and high school education. Prayerfully consider **sponsoring** a **Stay in School Scholarship** (\$700/year) to help children pursue a brighter future.

We collect donations year-round. Gather food, toys, blankets, backpacks, and/or school supplies by **sponsoring a YLM Donation Drive**. For further information on how you can help, contact **Maritza Muñoz** at [maritza.munoz@ylm.org](mailto:maritza.munoz@ylm.org) or (915) 858-2588.

# — GET INVOLVED —





"Each one should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." ~1 Peter 4:10

When you become an Amigo and donate monthly, you help feed multiple families, increase resources for missional work in El Paso and across the border in Juarez, bringing God's Word & Love to thousands throughout Mexico and the United States.

*Join Amigos to ensure God's ministry continues taking place through YLM!*

Yes! I want to become an Amigo with a monthly gift of: ...  \$10 ...  \$25 ...  \$50 ...  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Options:**

Checking Account .....  Savings Account

Automatic Bank Draft on .....  1<sup>st</sup> .....  15<sup>th</sup> of every month

Routing Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my:

VISA .....  MasterCard .....  AMEX .....  Discover ..... On the  1<sup>st</sup> .....  15<sup>th</sup> of every month

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**OR please have a YLM representative call for credit card/bank draft information**

Scan to go to YLM website to donate monthly and become an Amigo de Ysleta!  
**WWW.YLM.ORG**



Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SHOP FOR YOU AND HELP YLM!

Did you know you can donate to YLM while shopping on Amazon for you and your family? When you **shop at AmazonSmile**, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile **will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to YLM**. Simply go to smile.amazon.com and register **Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care** as your charity of choice and set this website as your place to order from. Enjoy your shopping and let the donating begin!



You can also set your **AMAZON APP** with amazonsmile. Scan the barcode for a tutorial on how to set up your **amazonsmile app** on your phone to **support YLM** when you shop on the go!







## Ysleta Lutheran Mission

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# WINTER 2022

*"Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure."*

**Philippians 2:12-13**

Our 2022 has started off with so many great blessings! Despite the continued struggles and challenges, we cannot help but praise the LORD because He continues to use our hands, feet, and hearts to bring His Love and Gospel to the people of the Border cities of El Paso and Juarez, even as far as the Chihuahua mountains. Thanks to your continued encouragement and support, the good works our LORD prepared for us in advance to do are taking place every day. As we faithfully labor in love together, we continue to step forward in faith, knowing God's provision will open hearts and doors for His Gospel to go forth into the areas where He has called us to serve.

Thank you for being part of our Ysleta *familia* where God comes to meet us, working in and through us. Together, we are loving and serving God and people.



*May the God of Everlasting Love bless the rest of your 2022 a hundred-fold, for this is how you have blessed us!*

*Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ at YLM*