



Ysleta Lutheran
Mission Human Care

SPRING/SUMMER 2020

Luz M. Soto, DCE & Communications

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SEVEN BAPTISMS

La Santa Biblia, a mission-church partnering with YLM, is in a unique phase –without any buildings, ministry continues as children and adults, seven total, living in Anapra, Juárez, were baptized in March.

What a blessing to witness children and adults joining the family of God on that windy yet sunny Friday!



Carlos, ten years old, was baptized by Pastor Stephen Heimer

Ashli, nine years old, was baptized by Pastor Javier Lozano



Pastor Stephen (far right) helps Pastor Javier (La Santa Biblia) with baptisms, catechism classes, and Friday services

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY TEAM

Public gatherings, including churches, are not yet allowed in Juárez, so staff from Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care (YLM) and San Pablo Lutheran Church El Paso have been doing at-home ministry visits to help the Mexico mission-churches YLM partners with.

The Missions and Ministry Team shows up on Wednesdays to do Bible study with one family, counseling with another, and to connect for the purpose of relationship building with a third and fourth. On Saturdays, they bring families food boxes filled with produce and other food items, also bringing with them the Word of God in the form of children's books, music, evangelism, and Bible story telling.



Scott reads with Kevin and Javier (San Lucas) a Spanish book on God's creation

Fun fellowship with the kids from a La Santa Biblia family helps Luz build relationships



Pastor Benito uses music to reinforce a Bible lesson on creation

UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS FOR JESÚS



Figuring out how to work the chair was a challenge Jesús was eager to take on

Jesús Alden Martínez Garibaldi hasn't had many reasons to smile since an accident in December left him paralyzed from the waist down. After months of being in the hospital, in pain, waiting for a surgery, he has had to deal with major changes in his life.

After COVID-19 derailed the plans for his own little house near his mother, who is also his caretaker,

he was feeling disheartened. Despite this setback, God has blessed Jesús in a different way –an all-terrain wheelchair, one he could move himself around the sand and rocks making up the streets of Kilometro 30.

Thank you, Peace Lutheran family! God has used your beautiful generosity to show Jesús he is loved beyond belief. The smile on his face was nothing short of a miracle.



Pastor Benito helps by lifting Jesús so his mother can put on his sneakers



Along with Aracely (mother) and Alexis (brother), Jesús sang Renuevame (Renew Me), a favorite song of his



Our Savior with the families (Karina and Gloria) and the Servant Event Coordinators on the first day



Both houses were raised on the first day thanks to multiple people with construction skills

OUR SAVIOR'S BLESSING OVERFLOW

For seven years, Our Savior Lutheran Church from Minot, North Dakota have been making the trip to YLM in February to bless two families in Anapra with little houses.

When asked what brings them to YLM, the answers varied but had the same message: *to share the love of God with people in need.*

Thank you, to all of Our Savior brothers and sisters, for your amazing dedication in sharing God's love through your skills and talents! We look forward to seeing you next year...you're already on the calendar, as requested.

A TEAM OF THREE

The amazing Servant Event team from St. John Lutheran Church in Green Valley, Illinois were a perfect example of what can be accomplished with willing hearts and eager hands, no matter the size of the team.

We thank this amazing team from St. John, for all the hard work they did during their stay at YLM.



Fences were repaired/removed, vents replaced, furnaces checked, and a kitchen floor demolished



This team of three worked at the YLM campus, because not coming to YLM was not an option

SERVANT EVENTS BACK ON

August 1st!

SCHEDULE YOUR MISSION TRIP FOR 2020
FALL AND WINTER.

Prayerfully consider putting together a Servant Event Team within your church, family or friends and neighbors! Contact us at **(915) 858-2588** or **luz.soto@ylm.org** to get information of the different service opportunities available through our Servant Event ministry!

Check out our website for more of these Great Experiences at **www.ylm.org**

YLM RESPONDS TO COVID-19



For many organizations, **COVID-19** was an unexpected upheaval of planned events; Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care (YLM) faced just as many challenges.

"We had to make changes," Rev Dr. Karl Heimer explained as all areas of mercy YLM is known for were quickly prioritized to continue the ministry in the uncertain months to come, "We weren't going to ignore precautions to avoid the spread of COVID-19, but we also couldn't stop what we do—mercy is what we are known for."



Drive-Thru Food Distribution allows for people to keep social distance and still get their generous food boxes

The first area of mercy changed was the Food Pantry Weekends. Thanks to generous donors, such as an LCMS grant and community partnerships with the El Pasoans Fighting Hunger and Quality Fruit and Vegetables Company, close to 200 food boxes filled with produce, dairy, meat, and other food items continue to be distributed by YLM's Drive-Thru Food Pantry every Saturday.



A core volunteer team of ten include five Cubans who remained in El Paso



Equipment purchased for Adelante Ministries helps make online worship possible for San Pablo Lutheran Church

With safety measures in place, volunteering at YLM is still a possibility. "I like coming to help," Daiye shared after a Saturday morning's distribution, "When I came from Cuba four years ago, the people here did everything they could to help us." Along with seven other Cubans still in El Paso, Daiye recognizes the need the El Paso community is experiencing, as these Cuban natives are intimately familiar to what it is like to go hungry for lack of food.

Another area of ministry where changes were made was the San Pablo's worship services. San Pablo Lutheran Church moved into the realm of online worship, thanks to a LWML grant given to YLM's Adelante Ministries. Having the needed equipment to share worship services online was an answer to a need no one was expecting.

The Lutheran Prison Ministry continues to supply detainees with Bibles and Christian Literature, such as the Portals of Prayer, even though they cannot visit. Chaplain Dave Semmens shared in a letter how "it is beautiful to see the men/women receiving communion and teachings that [Lutheran Prison Ministries] has made possible. The detained find a space and begin praying or reading the materials."

LET US NOT FORGET THE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE THE HEART, HANDS, AND FEET OF JESUS TO HURTING COMMUNITIES.



7TH ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL DISTRIBUTION

Despite **COVID-19**, YLM is preparing for the vital and much needed ministry of distributing backpacks for children of El Paso and Juarez. Close to 500 backpacks with supplies and hygiene items are ready to be taken to Juarez in the next few weeks. The challenge is to assemble over 1,000 backpacks with school supplies to serve two school districts in El Paso by July 24. Help us meet this backpack goal by donating to our education program, or by purchasing the following needed items:



- Backpack
- Crayons
- Composition Notebook
- Pens
- Markers

- Colored Pencils
- Spiral Notebook
- Plastic Folder
- Pencil Sharpener
- Kids' Scissors

- Glue or Glue Stick
- Highlighters
- Eraser
- Ruler



- You can mail your donations to: -
 Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care
 c/o Miguel Muñoz, School Distribution
 301 S. Schutz Drive • El Paso, TX 79907

*Thank you for touching a child's life
by providing the tools for a
successful education!*

MUSIC OUTREACH, EDUCATION AND RESOURCES

Thanks to the LWML grant received in February, the Adelante Ministries has risen to the challenge of virtual ministry. They record online services with San Pablo, as well as radio segments, and do weekly practice with individual Mariachi San Pablo members, all made possible by this grant.



Pastor Benito, along with Pastor Stephen and Miguel, work together to record a music tutorial on "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Even more exciting, thanks to this generous grant, a new member has joined the music ministry at YLM. Pastor John Benito Morejón is already working on doing music recordings, with Miguel and Pastor Stephen, assembling a church choir, and sharing God's Word to families in Mexico through music. The music ministry is looking ahead to a bright future in outreach, education, and resource building.



San Pablo's impromptu choir sings for Sunday's online service



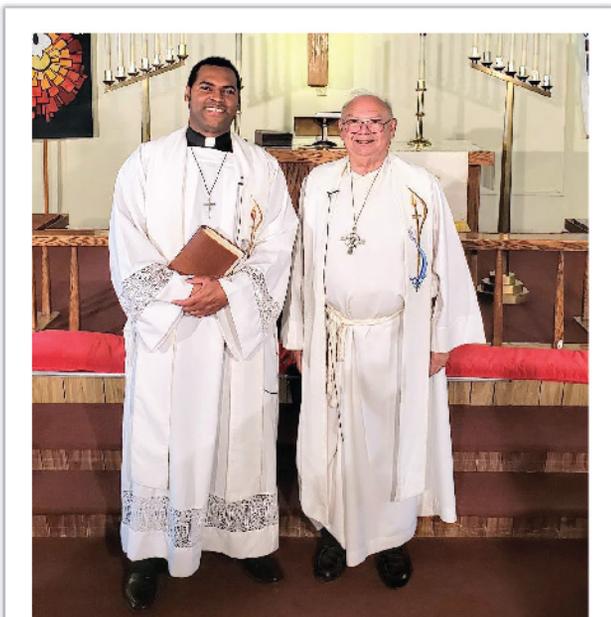
September 2020



RUN WALK FOR *Kindness*

Run or walk as many miles as you want for the month of September to support the acts of kindness taking place at YLM!

Submit your miles to luz.soto@ylm.org at the end of the month!



Welcome!!

WELCOME TO YLM!

Arriving two weeks ago, Pastor John Benito Morejón has jumped right into the rhythm of ministry at YLM –preaching for the Spanish online and in-person services, praying and interacting with people coming to Saturday morning’s Drive-Thru Food Distributions, joining the Missions and Ministry Team in offering spiritual care to families in Juarez, and using his musical abilities to further the Gospel –we are blessed to be doing ministry alongside Pastor Benito as God uses us all to further His Good News.

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9

GET INVOLVED

Host a YLM Mission Sunday Celebrate and teach about missions by sharing about YLM's work on the border! Would you like to have someone from YLM Skype or travel to speak at your event? Contact Luz M. Soto at luz.soto@ylm.org or (915) 858-2588.



Prayerfully consider becoming an "Amigo de Ysleta" by signing up on our website, www.ylm.org, to donate \$10 or more automatically every month.

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



Save the Date!

Our 2020 YLM Gala Event is now our 2021 YLM Gala Event on

April 30th



For all Amazon shoppers –you can choose Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care as your charity of choice! All you have to do is make sure you shop through smile.amazon.com and Amazon will give 0.05% of the price of eligible items to YLM.

Gather food and supplies by organizing a donation drive. We collect donations year-round. For further information on how you can help, contact Miguel Muñoz at miguel.munoz@ylm.org or (915) 858-2588.



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 secondary education. Prayerfully consider donating to our Stay in School Scholarship program to help children pursue a brighter future.

Mark Bibles for Lutheran Prison Ministry using our downloadable Bible Marking guides from our website. You will be helping our Lutheran Prison Ministry provide Bibles to jails, prisons, and detention centers throughout the United States.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @ylmhc

LEARN MORE AND CONTACT US
AT WWW.YLM.ORG





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Featured Story, Pg. 4

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"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him,
who have been called according to His purpose."

Romans 8:28



At times, it is difficult to see the blessings amidst the suffering and anxiety caused by unexpected situations. Within the pages of this Spring/Summer 2020 Newsletter, you will find many blessings God poured out through us onto the people we serve, all because God has declared it so! We continue to serve and love through simple acts of kindness, and we are amazed every day at the way God's love is changing lives through those acts.

Let's continue laboring in love, together, so we can bring God's love, grace and mercy to the Border cities of El Paso and Juárez this 2020!

In Christ's Love for All,
Your Brothers and Sisters at
Ysleta Lutheran Mission/San Pablo Lutheran Church

