

DESTINO CRISTIANO



A SPIRIT-FILLED, BILINGUAL CHURCH IN LA PAZ, MEXICO

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MESSAGE FROM THE PASTORS



Happy Second Anniversary Destino!

On December 1st, we celebrated our two-year anniversary as a church. It's been quite a journey from the be-

ginning, with lots of surprises and challenges along the way. But ultimately, Destino Cristiano was planted, it is growing, and it is here to stay. We love being pastors of this community church and are pleased to say that we have many members living within walking distance, as well as people who travel quite a ways for Sunday services and Bible studies. For us, it's about the people! Fellow Christians who have joined us in our mission to appreciate cultural differences, to grow in God and to spread the Gospel

in La Paz. We have developed very close and special relationships with some really great people, both young and not so young, and have shared meals, stories and laughs as we get to know one another. While our vision for the church is clear and we move forward with focus, we remain open to whatever God wants to do. We have learned that our plans are limited, but God's are not! So, with open arms and enthusiasm for the future, we move ahead into year three. Buckle up! It's sure to be an exciting ride!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PASTORS MESSAGE	1
SHANI JOINS TEAM	1
HARVEST ON THE MALECON & THANKSGIVING	2
ADOPT-A-FAMILY	2
MISSION VISITORS	3
XMAS CANDLE LIGHT	4
XMAS MORNING @ NUEVA CREACION	4

Shani Joins the Translation Team!



Shani Amit Bat Ishmael is the newest member of the Destino team and is serving as a translator in training. Shani is a recent graduate of a university in La Paz and has a gift and love for languages and travel. Shani is currently learning Hebrew and Chinese in addition to honing her English skills while enjoying everyday conversations with the pastors and other English speakers at Destino Cristiano. Shani also brings her expert smile with her wherever she goes. Watch out! It's infectious.

HARVEST TIME ON THE MALECON

Lots of candy was donated for Destino's annual event "Harvest Time on the Malecon." A group from Destino filled about 130 bags with different kinds candy for the annual event that takes place on Halloween night. This year, Melina, Abi, Ismael, Shani, Fernanda, Bernie and Pastors Jerry and Jamee gathered at the Malecon to pass out candy to the children, and hand out invitations to the church.



A FULL HOUSE FOR THANKSGIVING

When the Destino team originally planned our sit-down American (Canadian) Traditional Thanksgiving dinner, we expected between 40 and 50 people. But on November 26th, about 70 of us gathered in the Destino sanctuary for a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings cooked by Bernie. Also, many people gave their testimonies!



ADOPT-A-FAMILY UPDATE

Gerardo Hernandez and his family are now living in their new one-room casita, built by Gerardo and funded by your donations, along with his labor and that of his wife Sofia. While there is still more work to do on the house, including the construction of a bathroom and the completion of the kitchen, the family is comfortable and happy to have a place they can call their own. The family is now preparing for the birth of their 3rd son. (Sadly, grandmother, Marina, passed away before she could move in.)

It was such a blessing to share the Christmas spirit with the Hernandez family (Gerardo, Sofia and their children Angel and Josue). Thanks to the efforts of many people, the kids received many gifts. (A special thanks goes to Rick and Pat Shannon!)



MISSION FIELD VISITORS

Tammie Resurrection

Tammie Resurrection from San Jose, California, represented her home church, Jubilee Christian Fellowship, when she landed in La Paz for a weeklong visit and a heart for missions this summer. While at Destino Cristiano, Tammie spoke to the congregation about the need for unity within the body and spiritual support of their pastors. She also visited Nueva Creacion



orphanage to meet the kids and talk with the directors, Alma and Roberto. While in La Paz, Tammie (with the help of other members of Jubilee) provided financial assistance to Destino's "Adopt-A-Family" ministry. Tammie purchased and delivered groceries to this family of 5 and visited the site in which a one-room home was going to be built. (Since then, the Adopt-A-Family home is housing the family.)



The Sousa Family In late November, the Sousa family (Robert, Christine, Zach, Mariah and Isaiah) from Joy Christian Fellowship in Medford, Oregon, arrived in La Paz to begin their 10-day mission trip, and to visit their family - Pastors Jerry and Jamee. While here, the Sousas served the people of Destino Cristiano during the Traditional Thanksgiving in Mexico annual event. During Sunday service, Robert gave his testimony while Zach and Isaiah joined Jamee for worship. The Sousa family also created an experience for the kids and adults at Nueva Creacion orphanage with their "Heart of God" ministry. (This was their second visit to the orphanage, with the goal to

minister annually.) The Sousas also joined Barbara Spencer of Care For Kids La Paz for her after-school arts and crafts day. And yes, the family enjoyed the beauty of La Paz by swimming in the Sea of Cortez and going horseback riding at Rancho El Cajon, which included galloping (for some) on the beach.

Don Terseiff

Don Terseiff drove his RV from Medford, Oregon to La Paz, Mexico, arriving in early December to serve Destino Cristiano on a 4-month mission. Don brought his construction tools with him to assist Pastors Jerry and Jamee on church improvements and other outreach projects. He



is from Joy Christian Fellowship where he has been serving for 26 years. (We'll have more about Don's mission in our next newsletter.)

Destino Cristiano now has it's first bench seating, thanks to Don Terseiff's skilled hands! And he's now building a sound booth. We're keeping him busy while he's here on the mission field!

CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT!

The second Annual Candlelight Christmas program featured a single prop, the manger, which was also the title of the week’s message. The event started with kids ringing bells to Cascabel, and Pastors Jerry and Jamee shared the stage in telling two different stories with divine connections. (Sermon can be heard on www.destinocristiano.com) While Pastor Jerry spoke of the miracle conception and the life of Jesus (from the cradle to the cross), Pastor Jamee gave her personal testimony of her miracle baby and salvation. Following the candle lighting ceremony, the congregation enjoyed a pastry party and a photo session at the Destino photo booth.



CHRISTMAS MORNING AT NUEVA CREACION!

“Dónde está Santa Claus?” Jamee asked the kids of Nueva Creacion, all seated under the palapa on Christmas morning. Suddenly, the white-haired, white-bearded man in a big red suit appeared with a loud “Ho, ho ho” (Bernie, of course) as the children laughed and clapped with joy. The joy increased as the kids were each handed backpacks or bags full of presents and took a photo with Santa. Finally, all at once, the kids were given the okay to open their gifts. Wrapping paper was everywhere as each delighted child opened one gift after another. It was a very Merry Christmas, (A special thanks to Jillian Mohr of Joy Christian Fellowship who sent boxes and suitcases full of gifts throughout the year, and also Jeri-Anne Nelson and Rick and Pat Shannon who gave generously.)



WE ARE ON THE WEB:
www.destinocristiano.com

Spanish Bible Study On

Saturdays at 10am, Rocio Reyes offers a Spanish Bible Study.

Pastor Jamee offers an English Bible Study Wed. at 10am.



PRAYER REQUESTS & SUPPORT

Thank you all for your continued prayers for the following:

- Worshippers for the Destino Worship Team
- Bilingual Members
- Children’s Church teachers

HOW TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH
 For tax deductible donations, please send donations through Joy Christian Fellowship (541-779-7029).
 You can also use PayPal, or contact us at