

# DESTINO CRISTIANO

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

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## A New Year at Destino Cristiano

By Jerry Pineda

This past December, we experienced our first full year of services at Destino Cristiano. As we look back, we see God in all of it, from the location of the church building, to the people who have become members, and in our spiritual growth as pastors.



Last week I told Jamee that we were on the adventure of our lifetime, and that we needed to keep that perspective. Planting a church in Mexico has had its challenges, but we have learned that the Holy Spirit is the ultimate guide. And it has been exciting. Something new happens almost every day, which keeps us on our toes and ready for just about anything.

At the beginning of this great adventure, Jamee and I agreed that we would do as many high-fives as humanly possible. So we have done that a lot! We love our high-fives because every time our hands come together, we feel like we're telling Satan that he's a loser.

Just yesterday, the city workers of La Paz put up street signs on the corner of our building as part of a citywide effort to make it easier for people to get around. When we saw the new signs up against the corner of our building, we realized that the city has made it that much easier for people to find us! Now that's worth a series of high-fives.

Thank you all for your prayers and support. As we enter our second year on the corner of Allende and Ramirez, we are enthusiastic and encouraged!



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## The Christmas Spirit in La Paz - A Multicultural Experience

A bright Christmas tree and sparkling lights filled the room, along with stars of many colors hanging from the ceiling. The stage was set for a morning filled with memories. First, a skit was performed in Spanish by our girls Ruby, Marilyn and Zoe. They told the story of the candy cane, and afterward, they played Jingle Bells with the colored bells that had been donated to the children's ministry. Next, as we listened to the song "Mary did you know," Brisa translated it into Spanish. Of course, Pastor Jerry shared the beautiful message of Christmas. The finale was singing Christmas carols by candlelight, realizing how quickly the light spreads one person at a time.



## Christmas Morning at Nueva Creacion Orphanage



### Touching the Hearts of the Children (by Cindy Crane)

#### PRAYER REQUESTS & SUPPORT

Thank you all for your continued prayers for the following:

- Children's Bilingual Bibles
- Bilingual Members
- Musicians and Singers
- Salvations and Life Transformations

**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 [ChurchInLaPaz@gmail.com](mailto:ChurchInLaPaz@gmail.com)

I honestly didn't think anything could top our candlelight service, but God just kept pouring out his blessings. Spending Christmas in the true spirit of giving was the best ever! Thanks to all the wonderful people who sent donations for gifts for these kids. Pastors Jerry and Jamee spent hours and hours shopping and then wrapping hand chosen gifts. Watching the faces on these kids as their names were called, then watching as they opened more gifts than I believe they have ever received at one time, was truly a joy. These children have become a part of our church family and they bless us as much as we bless them. With your continued help, we look forward to being able to bless the kids for many years to come.

FAREWELL TO OUR FRIENDS



In early January, we said goodbye to a wonderful family: Esperanza and husband Alejandro, and children, Marilyn, Zoe, Alexis and Brisa. They were the first Mexican family to join our church. Esperanza's evangelizing heart brought in other locals and their children. Marilyn and Zoe were a major part of our Sunday school team and our Saturday crafts....Their shoes are going to be difficult to fill. Many tears have been shed, but we trust that God has a plan for this family's future in Guadalajara.

THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving started with our kids and mothers making center pieces of grateful trees and turkeys out of rocks in our craft class. The room looked stunning as we served dinner for more than 40 people. Bernie cooked the turkey, dressing and gravy, while Caroline made mashed potatoes, corn dressing and cookies. We also enjoyed vegetables and salads, and finished the meal off with pumpkin pie! It truly was a time to be grateful, as many shared what they were grateful for. What a testimony and blessing this was to everyone there.

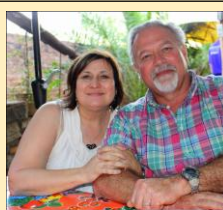


Children's Bible School & Craft Day  
(Every Saturday at Destino)  
With Jamee & Cindy



At Destino, we call this collection of beauty our art wall. It's where examples of craft projects are hung so that the kids who made them and others get to see the results of creativity and fun at our weekly Children's Bible School and Craft Day. Thanks to Cindy Crane for her 'craftiness.' She comes up with the craft and teaches it.

A SPECIAL VISIT FROM OUR HOME CHURCH: PASTORS STEVE AND KIM



The timing of Pastor Steve and Kim's visit was amazing. They were with us to celebrate our year anniversary at Destino Cristiano. We were able to show them around the city and take them on tours to nearby places like El Triunfo and La Ventana, and of course, we stopped at some great taco stands and restaurants. On Sunday, Pastor Kim led us in worship and Pastor Steve preached a powerful message. Afterwards, we all gathered for a Pozole Fiesta. This visit brought our home church home to us! Thanks Pastor Steve and Kim.



Thanks to all of you who have donated to this ministry! The kids absolutely love it!