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This is What I Have to Give" Carson's Inspiring Story of Giving it All

n Friday, June 12, an ICC office worker opened an envelope sent in by a donor and found a check for \$15.60. Along with the check, the envelope contained the following brief explanation.

"My seven-year-old son, Carson, read your newsletter before I could get to it. He emptied his piggy bank, donated the money he had earned by filling buckets with rocks, and then convinced his three-year old sister, Sophie, to empty her piggy bank, too."

The words, written by Carson's mom, made such an impression on us here at the office that we simply had to share them with you. Upon making a call to his home, we learned that Carson earns money by picking up rocks for his parents. He is also an avid reader. On this one particular day when he picked up the June issue of the Que Pasa and read about how orphans had been rescued from poverty in Guatemala, Dominican Republic and the Congo, D.R. Carson's heart was melted.

He went to his room, got his piggy bank, and dumped its entire contents out on the kitchen table, saying to his mom, "This is what I have to give."

He then looked down the various categories on the donor list,

checked the box that said, "Please use my donation where it's most needed," and then wrote in the amount of his gift in the blank that was provided.

We share this story with you because Carson's donation inspires us on three different levels. The first one being that when Carson read about orphans who had been rescued from poverty, and saw photos of how God's love is being shared with those children, his heart was moved, and he was drawn to play a part of that rescue. In doing so, he was acting out on the natural desire that God has placed in every human heart, namely, that all of us want to live a life of purpose, all of us want to make a difference, and all of us want to be part of a cause that is bigger than ourselves.

that Carson's story brings to us, is

that he was not content to become a donor all by himself. He felt the urge and he acted on that urge, to get others involved. In this case, he went to his three-year old sister, told her the story of the orphans that had been rescued, and she in turn, emptied her piggy bank. (How precious is that?!)

Finally, the financial sacrifice that Carson made causes all of us adults to shudder, in that he, like the widow giving her two mites, gave all that he had. Such a pure act of unselfishness inspires all of us to give serious thought about the level of our own giving.

Sy Rick Bowes



Seven-year-old Carson's selfless act of giving is an inspiration to all. To help orphan children, he emptied his piggy bank savings, money earned picking up rocks for his parents. When you give with all your heart, like Carson, the impact on a child's life is beyond measure.

Updates from YOUR ICC Family!

Continued On Page 3

Pedro's Fight for His Life

Pedro, one of our older boys in Mexico was soon to return to the El Oasis campus from the Adventist school in Linda Vista where he was studying. Suddenly, Pedro started experiencing headaches and pain in his chest. Then he began having fainting episodes.

Pedro was rushed to the hospital. The seizures came more rapidly and with increased intensity. Lidia, the El Oasis Children's Services Director, traveled as

quickly as she could to be with Pedro. Initial tests indicated the probable cause was a form of Encephalitis (inflammation of the brain). We sent out an urgent e-mail appeal for prayer and financial support for his care. Some of you have responded, sending in funds to support him and prayers were offered on his behalf.

Praise the Lord, the prayers made a difference! Lidia reported that during the first night his convulsions seemed to be worse the more she prayed. This appeared to be a spiritual battle and Lidia was a warrior. When Pedro convulsed, she hugged him tightly and prayed. She pleaded with God to take out the deaf and dumb evil spirt of the sickness and free him. In time, his convulsions subsided, and he was able to sleep.

On Sabbath morning around 1:00 the nurses woke him for medication, and he convulsed lightly then went back to sleep. Later that morning he was annointed, and he hasn't had any more convulsions since. One week later, on Friday, July 17, Pedro was released from the hospital! Thank you for your prayers on Pedro's behalf! Continue to pray for a full recovery. If you'd like to help cover the costs of his medical care you can make a gift and designate it as "Pedro's Care." Thank you!

Three ICC Girls Graduate in Romania



Because of you, these three girls (pictured with their instructor) were able to graduate from high school and are now ready to embark on a new chapter of life. You can find more pictures of them from their graduation at ICC's website www.InternationalChildrensCare.org.



ven the current world-wide pandemic can't dampen our excitement for the three young ladies who recently graduated from the Adventist High School in Bucharest Romania at the end of June. Florentina "Flori," Valentina "Teo," and Daniela "Bety" successfully navigated the final year of high school, having to take their last classes online at the ICC Romania children's village.

According to Flori, "The online classes weren't actually as I

expected. It was very difficult to focus and learn.... The teacher advised us to enjoy life and to put God first place in our life."

This past year, both Flori and Bety were baptized. This is a testament to your loving support which helped provide the education and training they first received at the ICC Romania Children's village and that was extended at the Adventist High School.

Regarding their future plans, Teo would like to study nursing. It's something she has wanted to do since she was a child. And she wants to be a good nurse, treating people seriously and with interest. Flori also wants to be a nurse and make a contribution in people's lives by helping them. Bety wants to attend university and study Veterinary Medicine. It's something that has interested her as well since she was a child. Please pray for these young ladies as they embark on a new chapter of life.

Updates from YOUR ICC Family!

Continued From Page 3

First Picking a Huge Success at El Oasis Farm

¬he first picking of peppers has been completed successfully at the El Oasis farm in Mexico and what a harvest it was! There were 108 tons of Tomatillos and 124 tons of three different kinds of chili peppers - jalapeño, Serrano, and Guerito. This is a terrific start to the harvest and reminds us that this crop was specially dedicated early this year soon after the seedlings were planted. This isn't all about peppers. It's a ministry to showcase partnership with God in serving the children.

If all goes well, there will be eight pickings in the total harvest.

Raul Rivera, who was featured in last month's *Que Pasa*, worked hard with his team to get the harvest to market early. And their efforts paid off as they were able to get an excellent price for these vegetables.

Peppers are packed in boxes with the following phrase, "Hope Harvest Vegetables – Harvesting the seed of hope." Our hope is that buyers will show preference to purchase the El Oasis products so the proceeds will bless the children of El Oasis. Please pray for the ongoing harvest – not only of peppers and tomatillos – but also of the children. In the next *Que Pasa*, we'll share such a story of one of the children who was one of the first "seedlings" to arrive at El Oasis back in 1997!

To see the amazing harvest in full swing, check out the video at https://vimeo.com/iccmedia



Thanks to your prayers and support of the El Oasis Farm, this year's harvest will abundantly bless the children. Raul Rivera, Farm Manager at El Oasis, displays freshly picked peppers from the bountiful harvest.

New Sabbath School Classrooms

on a new Sabbath School classroom building at the Los Pinos Children's Village in Guatemala. This is a project funded partially through the children's village church itself and donations from ASI and Versacare.

Joel Carpio, Administrator (pictured on the left in the photo), shared this update: "On Sabbath, July 11, the congregation of Los Pinos met together to inaugurate the construction work on the Sabbath School classroom building. The emotion was evident on the faces of the children knowing that finally they will have their

own rooms with decorations according to the Bible themes from their lessons each week. We prayed, asking God for direction to be able to complete this project and that the needed funds will be able to come, and that this project will soon be a reality."



Can You Help?!

As you may have seen in the special insert, due to spikes in expenses and a decrease in donations, it's increasingly difficult to provide for the needs of the children. Just now, while ICC children are on your mind, can you please send an extra gift or amount? On behalf of the children, thank you very much for helping provide for their needs!



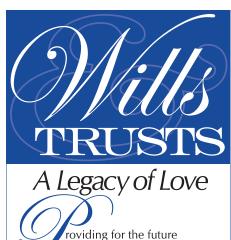
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- In Memory of Hazel Valentine Lillian Wysong
- In Memory of Eleanor Vigil Linda Vigil
- In Remembrance of Hans Wiggers
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- In Memory of Scott Yaw Milton Christensen
- In Honor of Mrs. Gwen Gingrich
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- In Honor of ICC House Fathers Cathy Kimura
- In Honor of Harold & Harriet Johnson Stephen Johnson
- In Honor of Bonnie's Mamma Bonnie Creitz



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