



December 2004

QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
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Give the "Gift of Life" this Christmas!

We have heard this phrase so many times in our lives that it almost becomes something that we stop paying attention to, a cliché some might call it.

Those of us at ICC certainly are very aware of what this phrase means to us. It is truly an unselfish gift given by the family of ICC donors and sponsors to the children of ICC around the world. It is a gift that is given unconditionally. It is truly "A gift of love."

The children of ICC are very special young people. Many of them really have no other way of survival if it were not for people who have unselfishly and lovingly chosen to become a

sponsor or donor. These people have chosen to provide for a life on this earth. This is a life that up to that point, has been without hope or love. A life that without help, may cease to exist. That is a hard concept for many of us to even imagine, yet it has been a reality for our children.

Today, there are over 1,100 children that are in the full-time loving care of International Children's Care due to the fact that someone loved them enough to give them that "gift of life." That is exciting to us here at ICC! To play a part in sharing in that relationship that is such a special bond between an orphaned or abandoned child, with the life of someone who has such a great love for

them is one of the ultimate blessings in this life that we hold very dear. What a thrill it is to stand as a witness to this!

This year at Christmas, we would like to invite all of our ICC family, and anyone else, to consider giving this "gift of life." We have decided to do something special to make it possible this year for anyone to give this special gift on a short-term basis. We want to offer you the chance to give a temporary share sponsorship to someone you love this year. If you would like to give this gift to one of your loved ones in lieu of a "normal present," we want to make that possible for you. You can choose to give this gift in any monetary increment

— continued on back —

GIFT OF LIFE

Please use my gift of \$ _____ ☐ One time ☐ Per month

You can also make your gift by phone with your VISA or MasterCard.

Call toll free: (800) 422-7729 or (360) 573-0429.

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Expires /

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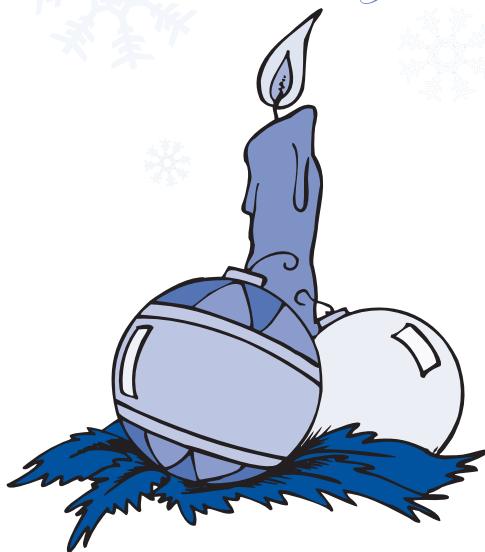
Signature _____ Email _____

Please print your name _____

Donations can also be given at our ICC website: www.forhiskids.org.

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*Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
Holidays*



Gift of Life – continued

you wish. You can choose a “gift of life” for one month at \$25, three months at \$75, 6 months at \$150, or whatever will fit into your plan. It’s really up to you. This is something that is totally separate from our regular sponsorship program. This is only a very short-term gift that can help to provide for a child in need. It’s something that you can give to someone that has such a wonderful meaning.

Once you make your “gift of life” donation to ICC, and you notate that on your check, we will provide you with a Xmas card that you can give to that special person you have chosen that will help them understand just what a special gift this really is that you have given to them, in their name. It will include the name and photo of the

child that they have provided for. In giving this gift in their name, both of you, the giver and receiver of this special gift will be providing that “gift of life” to a child who needs it so desperately. Every dime of this money will go to provide food and shelter to the children. That’s all it takes!

We know of no greater way that you can change the lives of others than you can by giving this “gift of life” temporary share sponsorship. You will change the life of the ICC child without question, and it has been our experience that you can change your life, and the life of the person that you give this special gift to as well.

God bless all of you this Christmas season!

Root Beer Bibles

What’s that you say? Root beer Bibles?! That’s right. The junior high students at Livingstone Adventist Academy in Salem, Oregon used root beer to create Spanish language Bibles. Not literally, of course.

The students of Mrs. Fish’s class decided that as a class project they would like to raise money to purchase Spanish language Bibles for the children at our Los Pinos Children’s Village in Guatemala. They raised \$400 by selling root beer floats on Tuesdays and Thursdays over a two-week period.

A total of 98 Bibles were acquired from Wal-Mart with a combination of the root beer funds and direct donations. Wal-Mart donated a portion of the Bibles and a local Spanish church also donated some of the Bibles. Thanks to all the kids for their invaluable contribution to the children of ICC.

This Article was first published in our online newsletter. To receive the online newsletter go to www.forhiskids.org and click on “Join e-mail Newsletter.”

Wills
TRUSTS

A Legacy of Love

*P*roviding for the future
through planned giving

Contact Doug Congleton at ICC for more information on how you can become part of the “Legacy of Love”

(800) 422-7729
Doug@ForHisKids.org



A Christmas Message

December 2004

Dear friends,

The civil war was raging in Guatemala. At The Pines we were building new cottages as fast as we could find the funding, and the existing homes were filling with more children than they were made for.

Ken and I were more than busy keeping up with the supervision in Guatemala, the Receiving Center in the city for the babies and new children, and the fast growth at the Children's Village, The Pines.

It was just a few days before Christmas and our director from The Pines, Juana, had come to the city to buy presents for the children and supplies for the Christmas festivities in each home. We had just had morning devotions with the staff and breakfast when the phone rang. It was Job, the building and plant director at The Pines.

"We have an emergency," he told me. "A pastor from an isolated village arrived in his pickup with twelve children and their three mothers. The guerrillas came into their village early one morning and killed every man they could find. Apparently, it was in reprisal for the village fathers asking for protection from the army. These mothers fled into the mountain and the pastor found them with a group of other refugees three days later. They had no food or supplies. He brought them to us to see if we would keep the children."

"Oh my!" I answered. "Juana is here and we will have to have a few minutes to talk this over. Can you call us back?"

Ken and Juana were eager to hear the details. We didn't know much, but we did know that every house was already overloaded with children. What could we do?

Juana came up with an idea. "You know that cabin down on the river on the mission school property. It is empty and they have said we can use it. Maybe we can use it in some way."

"I have an idea!" I suggested. "Since we don't have house parents ready for another home, why don't we have Job ask the mothers if they would like to stay and take care of their own children?"

In the next few minutes, we made our plans. Juana would take the next bus back to The Pines. In the meantime, Job would put the children and their mothers in her apartment. Juana was

Homes For The Homeless

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matthew 25:40

good at emergencies. She went back that day and began to equip the cabin with cots, bedding, and some extra furniture. There was an outdoor kitchen and the river was close by where they could wash clothes and take their baths.

It became a Christmas project for our whole family of homes at The Pines. They all cooperated in preparing food to take to the cabin, sharing clothes and bedding when our supply in the warehouse was short. And they even managed to wrap up presents for each one of the new little children. The afternoon of Christmas Eve saw a procession of parents and children bringing everything for their Christmas dinner and celebration.

Even though those mothers and children had suffered irreparable losses in losing husbands, fathers, brothers and grandfathers, that Christmas turned out better than they had imagined. And the children at The Pines learned what it meant to share their blessings with other children who were suffering.

Again this Christmas we will be making a lot of children happy, and more than anything they are learning about the little baby Jesus who grew up to be the One who will take them to their permanent home some day soon.

This year ICC is experiencing a definite shortfall in our budgets, and we are praying that wherever possible, God will impress you and many others to dig a little deeper to share what you have with these children who have suffered so much in this life. Your gift of love will be a tremendous blessing as we work to help "His kids" realize that there is love for them in our world today, and a real hope for a better life in the world to come.



With our love,

Aleyou and Jen

