



November 2012

QUIE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
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(360) 573-0429 • FAX: (360) 573-0491
VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.ForHisKids.org

AN UNEXPECTED CHRISTMAS GIFT!



Meaghan

Meaghan is a student worker here in our ICC U.S. office. Perhaps you have spoken with her when she has called you on the phone to thank you for your donations? Well, if you have, I am sure that you have enjoyed your visit with her as much as we enjoy having her here! Meaghan is a wonderful young lady with an amazing gift from God that she wants to share in order to make this a special Christmas for His kids.

You see, Meaghan has a passion for the children of ICC, and God has given her an extraordinary

gift of drawing that she wants to use to help in this great work. Meaghan has chosen to sketch four different pictures that she has drawn of our children and one sketch of our Congo Project with you. We have turned her drawings into "Special Occasion" cards and also "Thank You" cards so that we can help Meaghan's dream for His kids come true.

The profits from your donation for Meaghan's "Special Occasion Cards" or "Thank You Cards" will go directly to fund a special Christmas meal for the children in ICC's projects this year. The suggested donation for a box of 10 of Meaghan's "Special

Occasion" cards and envelopes is only \$20, and \$15 for the "Thank you" cards. I know that we join with Meaghan in hoping that you enjoy your cards and that you share Meaghan's dream with others in your circle of family and friends. Meaghan has decided to share her talent with you, now you can share it with others for the betterment of His Kids!

Thank you so much for donating for these limited edition cards!

(you can order these limited edition cards by "clicking" on the special link on our website that will take you to the order form, or by simply calling your order into our office)

Prayerful Request

DID YOU KNOW – That nearly 20% of our annual contributions which are used to provide for the children of ICC are given during the month of December. That is an amazing figure! As you can see, year-end donations are vital to our children as contributions in other months of the year too often fall short of the needs of our projects. Our children count on these most important year-end contributions to provide for their needs. So please, pray with us that during November and December our ICC family will answer His call for special giving to provide for His kids as we enter the most important financial months of this year. God bless each one!



Ardent ICC Supporter Passes Away

A few weeks ago I received a very sad phone call from Mrs. Rosa Serrano. It was to inform me about the death of her beloved husband, Pastor Abel Serrano. I have met very few people in my life with the degree of passion and dedication to children that Pastor Serrano had.

I shared with you about the life of this wonderful man and his lovely wife, in an article in the July Que Pasa. I shared with you how Pastor Serrano and his wife had made this ministry for orphaned and abandoned children their cause. The Serranos could not talk to any friend without telling them about "their" children, seventeen of them.

Sometimes the task seems overwhelming, so much need, so many children needing salvation. So many times I received a phone call from Pastor Serrano for no other reason than to encourage us to go on. There are tears in our eyes as we move on and continue the fight without this most valuable warrior for children.

But we are also encouraged by the blessed hope that death is not the final end. I look forward more than ever to that day when there will be no more pain, no more sorrow, no more abandoned and abused children, and no more death. Until then we keep up the fight, inspired and encouraged by the example of those like Pastor Serrano who have given their lives to serve and to save the most vulnerable of all, the needy and abandoned children of the world.

Pastor Serrano lived a very simple life. His main goal was to serve others. The Serrano family would like to continue Pastor Serrano's legacy of service. They would like to honor the memory of their loving husband and father by creating an ICC memorial fund for children.

You can make a donation for any amount just mark your donation "Abel Serrano Memorial Fund for Children" and send it to ICC HQ's P.O. Box 820610, Vancouver, WA. 98662-0013.



Pastor Abel Serrano

Donations made to this fund will be used to provide for the needs of new children coming to any of our children's villages around the world.

Sleep well my friend Pastor Serrano, and be ready to be lovingly hugged by a throng of beautiful children when you wake up, all those you helped save while you traversed this world.

Joel Reyes

Director of Public Relations

ONLINE GIFT CATALOG!

All of us at ICC are excited to announce that we will have an online Gift Catalog that will enable you to make purchases for your favorite ICC Project or family in our ICC world! This is a great idea for a Christmas gift this year that you can purchase to be from you or as a gift you can give to a friend to help someone else.

We are planning on having our online gift catalog available on our website by Thanksgiving so that you can make purchases for our ICC families in need. Around the Thanksgiving time-frame, just go on our website (www.forhiskids.org) and there will be an icon for you to "click" on that says "New Online Gift Catalog."

Please plan to take advantage of our catalog and make those much needed purchases for the items that you have always wanted to send to your favorite ICC project or that will provide for a special family need.



A Personal Note

Dear ICC Family,

Recently a television interview caught my attention. It was with the organization, Water For Life. I was interested as they told how this began when the Bartholomew family adopted a little girl from International Children's Care. This happened when I was in charge of that program in Guatemala. It is amazing how God made everything work together for good!

Our director, Juana, at The Pines Children's Village, called me one day. "We had a surprise yesterday. General Lucas' white helicopter set down on our field. One of the house fathers ran out to see what was happening. The General was already unloading a group of children. He said, 'Tell Mrs. Fleck I brought her some more children!'"

General Lucas was the head of the military base that actually joined our property. We had started our program for homeless children as the result of the massive earthquake in Guatemala. But, now the majority of the children came as the result of the civil war. The guerrillas, fighting to take over the Guatemalan government, were trying to create their bases in the remote villages. As a result, hundreds of village people were losing their lives.

The general told our house father, "We found these children after a fight with the terrorists. Flying over a village after the attack we saw movement down below. It was this little Indian girl, the only sign of life we saw. We went down and picked her up. The rest of these children were all picked up at other villages.

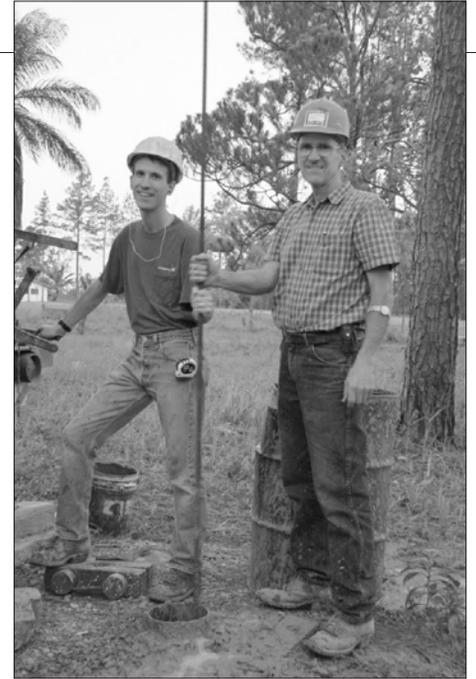
Juana went on to tell me more. "I found places in our homes for all of the children he brought us. The little girl was fearful. We will never know what she went through, finding herself alone after the fight. She was wearing a typical Indian dress from her village. She spoke only a native dialect, but Juana could make out at least her name, which she said was Rosita. Juana took her to one of the homes in our children's village. Among the children that the general was pulling out of the helicopter were several little boys, and Juana also found homes for them in The Pines. One of the boys was Salvador, the boy in my book, *Child of the Crossfire*.

When I wrote about this event in our monthly news letter, we had several responses. Among these was a call from the Bartholomew family in Spokane, Washington. "Could we adopt Rosita?" They asked.

There were legalities for the adoption to be completed, but the day finally came when Rosita's new parents came to get her. It was on this visit to The Pines that they learned about our problem with water. There was a beautiful stream going through our property that was our only source of water, but it was not safe for drinking. It was difficult to keep the children from drinking the water that hadn't been boiled. As a result, there were many intestinal and skin problems and other infections. We had hired a crew of well diggers, trying to get pure water, but when they ran into the hardpan they gave up.

When Gary Bartholomew learned about our water problem, he told us, "You will be surprised to know that I make a living digging wells. I wish I could come down here and dig you a well. With all of these children, as well as the secondary school and all their children, you really need good water."

We all realized that it would be a major undertaking to bring the necessary equipment to do this. But, believe it or not, that is what happened. Through a series of miracles, we now have good pure water in several wells on our property and no one has to drink contaminated water! And that is the beginning of the story about the Water for Life Ministry that I saw on TV the other day.



[Gary Bartholomew and son](#)

Gary is a Christian who believes in miracles. In consulting with others in his organization, they knew they would need special equipment to dig through the hardpan on the land in that area. One problem would be to bring that equipment to Guatemala, and the next thing would be to get it in the country. High import duty is charged at the border. It is amazing to hear the story of how many of their business friends wanted to be part of this ministry and have donated equipment and funds. The day finally came when our children joyfully inaugurated the new wells that Gary and his team provided.

When they learned that none of the surrounding villages had good water. Gary knew they had to do something for them too. Children were dying from the many intestinal infections from the contaminated water they had to drink. Finally, Gary and his group ventured to the nearest village and offered to dig a well for them. Soon, other villages were asking for wells too. Gary realized that those villages needed good water, but they also needed to know about a God in Heaven Who cares for them. Groups of the older children at The Pines Children's Village organized to go to these other villages while the wells were being dug, and they held meetings for them to teach about Jesus and what He had done for them on Calvary. People were happy for the wells, but they were also happy about the meetings for them.

Gary and his team have drilled more than 30 wells, but there are more than 200 villages within forty miles of their base. Most of them do not have good water. I really appreciate what Gary and his organization, Water For Life, are doing in Guatemala. If you would like more information about this, you can contact Gary at 509-939-1941. Their website is at www.H2oForLife.org.

We believe that Gary's project to bring good water to our children's village in Guatemala is another of the miracles that God has provided for the children of International Children's Care. This has not only blessed our children, but hundreds of other children in the surrounding villages in that area of Guatemala, not only the pure water to protect the children from health problems, but the pure Water of Life from Jesus, going to let other villages learn about the God who loves the little children of the world. This project has also been a witness to many volunteers involved in making this all possible.

Now we can look back and see that God, in His infinite wisdom, looked down into that jungle years ago, and His mighty heart went out to little Rosita as she wandered around not knowing where to go. But He also had a bigger plan for Rosita, for International Children's Care and for the Bartholomew family to minister to the people in Guatemala. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'" Jer 29:11 (NIV)



With my love,

Aleyou