



The Smith Connection

Merry Christmas! We trust that you will enjoy your family and friends as we celebrate our Savior's birth and prepare for a New Year. **May all we do and say in 2009 glorify our Great God!**

Family Update – We recently enjoyed some ice skating at the Queretaro state fair (picture above). It was the first time the kids ever went ice skating, but they took to it like fish in water! We thank God for the way **Kendra, Tara, and Ben are growing**. They have enjoyed a good year of school, the girls at home and Ben at a local kindergarten. We also thank God for the opportunity to spend some time with family over the Holidays, both here in Mexico and in Guatemala. All of Lori's family is planning to be together for a special time in Guatemala for Christmas and New Years.

Lori's Health – Lori has had a bit of a rough year with her health, but we thank God that she seems to be ending the year well. She will be having **surgery in the new year**, but the doctor would like her to gain 10 lbs first. She is currently on a treatment to get rid of some little friends (amigos... or is it amebas?). After that, hopefully weight gaining will be a little easier. Many of us wish we could pass her a few pounds! Thanks for your prayers for her.

Church News – This has been a good year in the **New Birth Bible Church**, and we are especially excited about what the new year holds. When we returned from our home assignment in July 2007 we had hoped to begin a new church plant. Due to some set-backs, especially in the leadership of the church, we found it necessary to get involved in the church again. Since then we praise God for raising up a new leader and his wife, Jose Luis & Estrella, and for two more missionary families joining us, the Buhlers and the Downs. The Downs have joined us with the vision of starting a **Community Center** to work alongside of the church (picture below). In their own words: *"we will be using this community center to offer English classes, parenting and family workshops, financial classes, sewing, cooking, you name it!"* **We are praying that this community center will serve as a means of developing relationships with the Mexican people thus resulting in sharing the Gospel so that more will come to know our living savior!** (See more in the "Giving Opportunities" section.)



CAM INTERNATIONAL
8625 La Prada Dr. info@caminternational.org
Dallas TX, 75228 www.caminternational.org
(214) 327-8206

We are also excited to be able to work with six other leaders on the leadership team of the church in 2009. We recently have had some meetings to talk about how this will look, and vision for 2009. We have paired up into teams, missionary with national, and are looking forward to all that God will do in the church. Some of our key focuses will be on evangelism and discipleship through a variety of means. Thanks for your prayers!

Our Mission – Our mission is continuing to be transformed in vision and structure. Our vision is zeroing in on **being & making disciples** and we are moving to a **team based** structure. Bryan will continue to help guide the mission through the structure change in the first part of 2009. Bryan will also be the **team leader** for the three other missionary families on our team. We are looking forward to all that God will do through these changes and we would appreciate your prayers for the transition period.

Bryan's Studies – Bryan was able to take two more classes toward his Masters' degree in Pastoral Leadership, and is looking forward to taking at least three more in 2009.

Giving Opportunities – We would like to ask you to prayerfully consider using the enclosed envelope to give to two special projects:

1. **The Community Center Project:** Interested in partnering with us in this ministry? There are several things to be purchased to adapt our facilities and the ongoing rent and functioning expenses. You can send a check to CAM with project #063599 on the memo line, or contact us on how to give for this project online.

2. **Our Ministry Expenses:** Once again this year we will be doing a good bit of traveling for our ministry – we are especially excited about a trip to North Carolina for a course on **Effective Teams and Team Leaders** at the Center for Intercultural Training. You can send a check to CAM with "Bryan and Lori Smith MEA" on the memo line, or contact us on how to give for this project online.

Thanks for your continued involvement with us for God's glory in Mexico!

Bryan, Lori, Kendra, Tara, & Ben

Bryan & Lori Smith

San Antonio de Triana #122 Vonage: (717) 361-8804
Col. Vista Alegre 3a Secc. Mex: 011-52-442-222-8154
Querétaro, QRO C.P. 76074 bsmith@caminternational.org
MEXICO www.smithconnection.com

~ We send out regular e-mail prayer updates. Please let us know if you would like to be added to our list. ~

*Mailed by Calvary Bible Church ~ 629 Union School Rd., Mount Joy, PA 17552 ~ (717) 653-5857 ~ Sandy@cbcmj.com