

# H.I.S. Ministries International

## Serving the People of Mexico

# NEWS & NOTES

### Giving Tree Christmas A Look Ahead Praises & Prayers

Happy New Year! We hope your Christmas was as wonderful as ours! We spent the day with our daughter, Molly, and her family in the San Diego area.

### Giving Tree Christmas

It seems every year the Giving Tree party gets bigger and bigger. It all started many years ago with just 32 kids on the tree—and we were amazed that all of them were taken!

Linda spent months getting ready for the party—taking photos, making ornaments, writing stories, shopping and shopping and shopping for presents.

This year we had over 350 kids on the tree. We bought hundreds of toys, games, coats, makeup, remote control cars, and more. For weeks our home looked like the back room at Toy-R-Us!



The morning of the Giving Tree party dawned bright and sunny, which made it easier to transport all the gift bags to the Children's Center. It was a pleasant change from last year's rain. Our cooks had

spent the entire day before making 500 tamales. The kids had practiced their songs many times over. All was ready.

The party began at 11:30 with the band playing lively Christmas and Christian songs.

We had about 40 people from Journey Community Church come down for the day—the most we've had for this event. Everyone had a great time interacting with the kids, watching them sing their songs and receiving

their presents.

Watching the kids get their presents is always the best part of the day. For most, this was the only present they received. For some, it was their very first Christmas present ever.

Thanks to everyone who took a child from the Giving Tree this year. You are a blessing to us and your sponsored child.



### A Look Ahead

As we enter into the new year, we want to share a few plans. There's always a lot going on down here. Perhaps you may feel led to get involved in some way.

As always, we have tons of projects that need completed. The list is too long to share here, though. There are tons of repairs to buildings that need to be taken care of, too—painting, fixing broken stuff, etc.

Can't fix things? Come play with the kids instead. They love knowing that they are loved!



We will be hosting Journey Community Church as they hold their 6th annual Summer Fun Camp in July. Everyone is looking forward to that.

We continue to be involved in the local church, helping as the Lord provides. There is also a lot of need in the community—people are hungry for both food and God's Word. We use any means we can to share Christ's love to those in need.

If you'd like to come and help out for a day, please let us know. No experience necessary!

### Praises & Prayers

As always, please continue to lift our safety, health, and finances up in prayer.

Thank you for your support this past year. It means more than we know how to put into words. All God's best all in 2018.

