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We send out a regular ministry update about work and life to those who are interested. Through the updates we hope to give a better picture of everyday life in the mission field. Many of those who receive our updates have committed to praying for us and to supporting us financially. You can receive the updates by e-mail (subscribe here) or by regular mail (send us an [e-mail](#)) . [From this link](#) you can read some of our updates from early 2006.

Costa Rica update Feb07

Subject:

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Send date:

2007-02-12 22:51:05

Issue #:

4

Content:

UPDATE FROM COSTA RICA:

“ I, even I, will be with your mouth... and I will teach you what you are to do.“ Ex 4:15

Our son Nic Markus was born November 28th, with a caesarean section, just as planned. Since his birth he has been a big baby, at least compared to the normal sized Costa Rican babies. He is calm and happy, even though he has had colic pains since birth. A new baby has brought extra joy to the whole family, Troy and Julia have been very proud and helpful!

In mid-December Diego left for an unexpected trip to the States. A friend asked Diego to help him to drive down from the States with a load of supplies through Mexico and Central America. Diego went and they also helped us buy a new family car, which we had actively been praying for since September, because the fixing of our old cars has taken pretty much all of our monthly support. Now we have a 2004 Chevrolet Astro Van, which has been a blessing already! Please pray with us that we could soon sell our pick-up to be able to pay this one off. God protected Diego and our friend on the road, both of them driving a car with a trailer full of supplies. The goal was to make it back for Christmas, but it didn't work out. We went to meet Diego at the boarder with Nicaragua on the 28th of December. Our part-time worker Jessica and friends from the Heredia base stayed with Salla and the kids while Diego was on the trip.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS:

Children's Christmas Party for 50 poor children in December with games, gifts, food and Gospel presentation.

Distribution of 'Boxes of Hope', Christmas shoeboxes sent down by Bridges of Hope-ministry. With these gifts we reached out to handicapped children and those who probably wouldn't get any other Christmas gift.

English Class: Jessica has continued teaching English to a group of youth and adults on Saturdays. The learning process is very slow, but we believe we are helping to build a foundation for future opportunities in these people's lives.

Youth: Have not been meeting every week due to the baby and Diego's trips. They still continue coming, even during the week. They love to hang out with Diego, play basketball and eat!

Children's Camp: January 17-19 we did a camp for 15 local children here at our home/base. The children were so excited to come, really receptive and all of them accepted Jesus in their hearts. The teaching was about Jesus; first day Jesus as a friend, second day Jesus on earth and third day Jesus as saviour. Besides teaching we did games, crafts, slept in tents, watched the kids Jesus movie and a dance. It was a great camp, we are very thankful to God's last minute provision for all the food and material costs and 4 volunteers who helped us during the camp!

School Uniforms: We are administrating a donation to support the education of local children. Together with local schools and teachers we put together a list of 107 students from 10 different communities that really needed help to be able to go to school this year. We drove around, visiting them in their homes, then went to San Jose and bought supplies to be donated. Beginning of February we did a distribution event together with the Discipleship Training School from Heredia, where each student got their uniform, shoes and supplies and heard the Gospel. We participated several local people as volunteers in the project. Altogether it was a success and we believe it will really make a difference in the student's lives. It did take lot of work; it took weeks only to have the list together with each name, shirt, pants and shoe size, 7 days to purchase all the items, 3 days to prepare each student's bag and one day to distribute it.

Diego in Mexico: Diego has been in Mexico this week in a Mission Adventures conference, where he met other ywamers who work with teams and also bring teams down to Costa Rica. We hope to establish partnerships with

other bases to receive teams in Guanacaste. Teams are a blessing, they multiply our work forces and with them we get much more done for God's Kingdom.

Maternity Home: We are moving ahead to start a Maternity Home for pregnant teenagers hopefully next year. We are applying for a fund from the Finnish Government together with YWAM Finland to fund part of the first 3 years of the project. Next week there are two persons coming from Finland to plan the project and to meet with local health, social care and education authorities here in Costa Rica. Please pray for all the meetings and planning, that God would reveal His heart and plans to us as well as all the partners and authorities! Pray for staff for this home, it would be a home for 10 pregnant girls to live during and some time after the pregnancy.

March 3rd we are teaching at a **youth camp** in Tilaran.

Preparation for teams and summer: We have teams coming this year that need more facilities than we currently have. We are starting to build two more bedrooms and putting on a ceiling. We will also build a cabin for teams, staff and families. God is calling people to join us as summer staff and we are really excited about the upcoming months of extra help and support not only with the workload, but spiritually also. We believe it will be a great time! Please pray for the next few months as we get the place ready for all the people God is sending this way.

We want to thank you for your continuous support by prayers and financially! Please pray with us for more people to commit to monthly financial support. Please check our website www.pampa.fi for family and ministry blogs (new stuff every week or two) and pictures (new pictures every month). There are pictures of the kids camp and uniform distribution.

Diego, Salla,

Troy, Julia and Nic Markus Silva

Ps. We are still looking for 2 more summer staff. Do you know anyone who might be interested?

e-mail: silvads@racsa.co.cr

web page: www.pampa.fi (also for online donations)

address: PO Box 195 - 5200, Costa Rica

for sending financial support:

Send a check written out to YWAM to: YWAM El Paso, 4444 Edgar Park Ave, El Paso, TX 79904, USA.

On a separate paper write: for the support of Diego Silva

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