

THE GOOD NEWS

CASA mission report



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WINTER [INVIERNO] 2020

Vaughn Graham

In Loving Memory...



**I would like to start this mission
report by paying tribute to a dear
brother who we lost in November.**

Vaughn Graham was a special and unique man known by all for his kindness, sweet disposition and love for all. Vaughn was an intensely dedicated student of God's Word, and God's Word served as a guiding beacon throughout his life. As director of Casa de la Esperanza, I had the special privilege of working closely with Vaughn over the last 20 years while he served as the Southwest Church of Christ Elder overseeing the ministry. Vaughn was the driving force behind the establishment of Casa de la Esperanza, and we worked alongside one another toward the goal of making Casa the premier children's home in Mexico to the glory of our Lord. Casa is considered to be the best childcare facility in the state of Chihuahua and perhaps in all of Mexico by the government and elected officials we work with on a regular basis. Casa has served 768 children to date, many of whom have gone on to live successful Christian lives. Vaughn was faithful in every aspect possible as he made this goal a reality, while never failing to be a Godly encouragement.

I will always consider my experience of serving with Vaughn as a time of great privilege and I am blessed to have countless memories of a man who was undoubtedly the greatest example of a godly man that I have ever encountered. We will be naming the large wing at Casa, which is currently under reconstruction, the Vaughn Graham Learning Center in honor of his memory. A small tribute to a devoted husband and father, a great Elder, a man of deep devotion to God's Word, and my dearest friend. His example and influence was unsurpassed and he will be deeply and profoundly missed by those family and friends he touched during his 90 years on this earth.

Christmas and New Years 2019

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We are now past the Christmas and the New Year season, but we have fond memories of that time. Christmas toys and clothing, meals and fiestas were provided for the Children by the West Houston Church of Christ, the Westside Church of Christ in El Paso, and the Bright Angel Church of Christ in Las Vegas. The kids also got new hoodies through the generous hearts of the congregation at Southwest Church of Christ in Pueblo. We had two church groups from Colorado visit Casa within days after Christmas and they came bearing gifts and food for the poor. Much fun was had by all. There was an "After Christmas" party with gifts sent by the Harbor Church congregation – there were new pajamas for everyone! The kids enjoyed a hot chocolate bar, a pizza party, courtesy of the Lakewood Church of Christ, and lots of activities with the missionaries who visited. There was also a New Years Eve board game night with the kids.

The visiting teams also provided some New Years cheer for the unfortunate in the nearby town of Anahuac. Approximately 250 bags of food – approximately 1.5 tons of beans, rice, potatoes and onions – were distributed to our needy neighbors along with many coats and toys. The weather had been bone-chillingly cold, and the coats were received with deep appreciation by the townspeople.

*A generous man will himself be blessed,
for he shares his food with the poor.*

Proverbs 22:9



Casa's NEW WEB SITE

The new Casa de la Esperanza web site is now online! As before, the web address is ahouseofhope.com. Please take a moment and visit our new web site. We will be continuing to work on the development and expansion of the web site and on providing additional content. We now have a link for you to be able to give to Casa electronically. Soon we hope to have information on the web site regarding online vehicle registration, as well as links to the Mexican registration site. This would also include information on obtaining the visa for your visit online. We also hope to add information regarding summer team visits and much more!



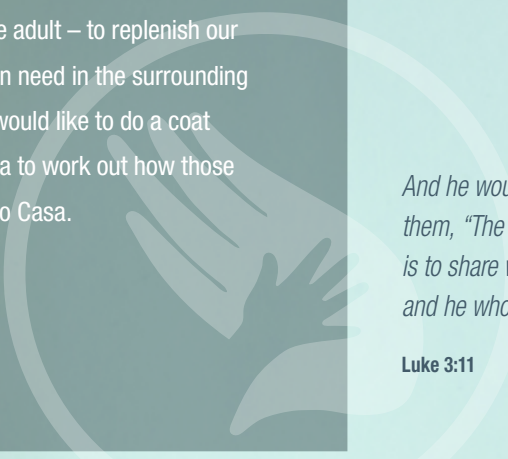


Coats...



they need coats

Speaking of coats, we need to replenish our supply of gently-used coats for distribution to our less fortunate neighbors. During the New Year's Day food distribution our supply of coats was exhausted. Many of the poor in the surrounding area don't have coats, despite the fact that the temperatures can hover in the 30s and 40s for much of the winter. We need gently-used coats of all sizes – from infant to large adult – to replenish our supply of coats to distribute to those in need in the surrounding areas. If your church or organization would like to do a coat collection, contact Gil Sanchez at Casa to work out how those coats can be transported or shipped to Casa.



And he would answer and say to them, "The man who has two tunics is to share with him who has none; and he who has food is to do likewise."

Luke 3:11

MEDICAL MISSION



Coming up soon, at the end of February, we will be hosting our first medical mission of 2020 at the church building in Anahuac. We are excited to have six doctors, including one doctor from Mexico, as well as two dentists participating in this medical mission. We have arranged with a local pharmacy to fill any prescriptions needed. We will be distributing notices announcing the medical mission, targeting the very poor in Anahuac and the surrounding area. I expect this mission to be a great blessing to the underserved poor who are our neighbors.



FEBRUARY 2020

WELCOME

*Can a mother forget the baby
at her breast and have no
compassion on the child she
has borne? Though she may
forget, I will not forget you!
See, I have engraved you on
the palms of my hands; your
walls are ever before me.*

Isaiah 49:15-16



Alma



Andres



Brianda



Carolina



Cristi



Edgar



Erika



Esteban



Jose Andres



Jose Daniel



Karla



Petra



Rogelio



Sergio



Wendy



Progress on our Building Projects

The remodel of the west wing of Casa – formerly know as the Home Depot – continues. Floors were leveled during December and the walls have been marked out. Great progress on the construction should be made this summer with the influx of missionary volunteers. As I have said, we will be adding additional school rooms in that wing, as well as medical infirmary/exam/isolation rooms. Once complete, this will allow us to have space available for medical exams of our children, rooms to isolate sick children from the general population to minimize transmission of illnesses, as well as available space for medical missions to the surrounding community.

While progress is being made on the church building, we have been restricted by funding. Casa does not have a building budget and relies solely on the generosity of churches and individuals who support the mission at Casa for construction project funding. Without additional funds, the work on the church has been stalled. With summer team visits on the horizon, we hope to have additional construction funds to continue to move forward with the completion of the church/community center.

Contact Information

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Web Site:

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Overseeing Congregation:

Southwest Church of Christ

Needs List

As work progresses on the Anáhuac Church of Christ and Community Center and the three duplex units, furnishing the housing units still remains a priority. Thank you for generous donations that have been made by our supporters. If you are able to donate any larger items, please contact us as soon as possible so pick up or delivery can be arranged, as moving certain items through the border crossing process can be quite time consuming.

Current needs:

- Coats
- Tires for our school bus
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Toothpaste/tooth brushes
- Boys underwear ages 3–16

Ongoing needs include:

- Twin-size fitted sheets-10
- Rice
- Sugar
- #10 size cans of vegetables and fruit



As always,
I am overwhelmed
by God's provision and
your faithful support
of the mission at
Casa de la Esperanza.

Wanting to Visit Us?



If you plan to visit Casa, this is a friendly reminder that we operate on a first come first serve basis. If you are not certain of your exact arrival and departure date, we will schedule you on a tentative basis reserving your spot. As in previous years, we will provide assistance with border crossing and travel from El Paso to Casa and back again if necessary. Unless you plan on traveling to Casa on a chartered bus, we are using the Santa Teresa border crossing located on the far west end of El Paso avoiding travel through Juarez all together.

Hope to see you this spring or summer.

*Come and see what God has done,
how awesome his works in man's behalf.*

Psalm 66:5