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SUMMER MEANS Mission/Work Teams and TWO JULY New Kids Camps:

Having work teams come is another part of the Vida Joven concept of BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS, and by coming back repeatedly, staying in homes of our leaders and working with them in their clubs or at the farm/camp has definitely built solid and lasting, Christ-centered relationships. The first team this summer was from Greenwood, S.C., where Sarah was in high school. One of her classmates of 1955 was on the trip!!! Talk about a reunion neither of us imagined back then.

Jeff & Marilyn Greenway, who have been with us two years in Matagalpa, have had their hands full this summer with work teams, but have been helped by two fine summer staff: Paul Hardy from Chesapeake, Va., and Jake Hawbaker from Tucson, Ariz. The Greenways are moving to Managua by the end of the summer so their daughter, Olivia, can attend the Nicaraguan Christian Academy.

PIÑATA AT NEW KIDS CAMP: Paul is the big guy on the left.



GOOD NEWS FROM CHINANDEGA MANUEL 7/08:

July is time for New Kids camps and each area can bring a quota to fill 80 spaces in the two camps. Chinandega brought their quota of five guys and five girls; Manuel tells the following about the guys: The people in their towns were asking me, "Why are you taking these kids?" as if they were not very good prospects for having something good happen in their lives. Maybe they were looking at the past of these kids' lives: all had been in jail for at least four months. All were thieves; one was cocaine and crack addict in rehab, and was left with an anxiety disorder. Two were

marijuana addicts. One was not into drugs, but was an accomplished professional thief, recently stealing 16,000 cordobas. The strange thing to onlookers is the confidence that Manuel has gained with these "losers."



ACTION SHOT AT NEW KIDS CAMP

"They tell me everything," he said, "and at camp followed me everywhere." He is surprised at the difference it has meant in camp to be with kids who he knows so well. At home he visits them four days a week, and plays soccer with them. Other than this relationship, they have no work, nothing to do, and only recently have three of them received scholarships to study from Amigos for Christ. One learned to make bracelets in jail and is selling these, another is learning carpentry. So Manuel answers those questioning him, "It is for these kids that we are here."

GOOD NEWS FROM LEON SERGIO 7/08:

For several years I have had the opportunity to know E.D. in Leon. He is very intelligent and applies himself to his work. He is successful in a professional way, but has many doubts and questions about spiritual things. He believes that God exists and has somewhat respect for God, but he is attracted to theories that question belief in God. These erroneous concepts influence him and have formed a wall between the truth of God and himself. But now there is in him a restlessness to know more about God. We meet together once a week and share a time of teaching with testimony from my life. He is in the process that God has responded to many of his petitions. We plan to be in the July camp and I am sure that God already is acting in the life of E.D. Please pray for his family and work.

Every Kid, Everywhere, For Eternity.

GOD IS BUILDING A TEAM FOR THE FUTURE:

MORE CHANGES in the ministry: Jim and Sarah officially "retire" in Matagalpa, Nicaragua, Dec. 31, 2008. Youngest son, Matt, marries Nohelia Talavera early August and will live with us in the second floor apartment of our home, newly designed by Matt. As volunteers, Jim and Sarah will assist with the National VJ Committee and in training a new fund-raising team during part of 2009. They will also be available for counseling and discipling needs.

Kevin Suywen, North American Young Life staff with much experience in Costa Rica Young Life, is assigned to work with our coordinators to smooth the process of transition. Kevin is doing an excellent job, getting to know all our staff and areas of work, and training our coordinators for more responsibility. He will continue as long as necessary.

North American staff in place in Managua: **Nate and Amy Dalke**, who do Young Life in the Nicaragua-American School, just had a great experience taking eight Nicaraguan students to Windy Gap, our old stompin' grounds. This will give them a new impetus in communicating the love of Jesus to the "up and out" kids in Managua.

Pratt and Ashley Butler, in language school, have a true gift of communication and we are excited about their plans to come be on the team here, moving to Managua this fall.

Danny and Ann Sharpe, who will join their team from Mount Holly, N.J., in August, move to Managua that same month. They already have their housing and school for their girls planned. Morgan has chosen to go to the school where Nate has VJ! So God has and is providing for the future of this ministry to be strong and continue to grow, though obviously it is going to take on new, and better, directions.



JIM AND SARAH with GOOD FRIEND AND PRAYER PARTNER, NUTIE MELROSE, missionary to Miskito Indians on the Rio Coco.

GOOD NEWS FROM EL CALVARIO, ESTELI:

MARIO DAVILA tells of a young man from Esteli: 7/08

During this month I have begun getting close to a young man, V.H., who lives near my house. He likes soccer, but our relationship started when he realized that I do exercises in my house. So now he is coming over almost every day with the pretext of doing exercise. At first we talked about many things, but then we began touching more intimate themes, like about family. Later we touched on the theme of God, and I was surprised when he showed acceptance and interest, and a lot of desire to know God. His mother abandoned him when he was little, and because of this he had the need to love and be loved. I do not know if he has received Christ in his heart, but he is experiencing changes, he continues having interest in God, and desires to one day go to camp. These are proof that God is doing things in the life of this youth.



KARLA LAZÓ, from JINOTEGA, LEADS A CAMP GAME

GOOD NEWS FROM JINOTEGA:

HENRY MCONELL tells about contact with a youth in Jinotega:

The young man from Jinotega told Henry, "My experience with God has changed my life. I have put everything in God's hands - my goals, and my problems. My home was destroyed, but I now look to Christ and want to serve Him. I am helping my mother more at home now, and in my studies I have very positive goals."

Henry says, "This young man I have known for three months and we are now having a weekly time to share in the Bible, share our goals. The above is part of his testimony. I am committed to be with him and with the others I am discipling, to always be there for them, helping them, and listening to all their ideas. I know that Christ has done a lot for him and He will keep on doing this. We give thanks that Christ has come into our lives."



SABONY (on left) with MANAGUA GUYS

GOOD NEWS FROM GREAT BRIDGE, CHESAPEAKE, Va.

JIM BAGBY writing to Jeff Greenway and Jim:

Thanks for having the 44 of us from Great Bridge Presbyterian Church the other week. It was truly an eye-opening experience for many of us first timers and I am very glad that I got to experience the trip. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting and spending time with Juan, Holman and Lenin. Paul and Jake really make the trip as well by serving as bridges with the language barrier and of course excellence in music! You and Jim do a great job of making people feel welcome and we can't wait to come back next year.

... there is an awesome opportunity that you guys have for expanding the Vida Joven ministries with the great team that you have ... It sounds like there is a continuing need for more money as well to build out existing things and expand into new things.

This is true, Jim Bagby and we appreciate your efforts and those of others in building the future stability of this ministry.



URIEL (on right) with ESTELI GUYS AT CAMP

GOOD NEWS FROM ESTELI, NICARAGUA:

HOLLMAN MENDOZA — The first weekend of March we planned a fast together with the leaders of Esteli at the farm of the twins, Manuel and Mario Martinez. This day as we were praying for one another and sharing about God's Word, a young guy we did not know came up to us. He had a dangerous look about him.

Since we were in prayer, I thought the 'enemy' was using this rough teenager to distract the group, so mentally I began to rebuke whatever spirit and told it to leave this place. (All this was going on in my mind, nothing more.) Several minutes later, a tenderness entered into my heart, and I felt that God was telling me that this youth also needed Him. I invited him to pray with us and asked him his name. Miguel Angel he was called. After a time of being in prayer, I asked him if he would like to accept Jesus as his Savior. His answer was affirmative.

My heart that had been so disturbed was filled with joy this day. I felt that he had been a very wounded person since his childhood and that God was having mercy on him in this moment.

He is a youth who lives in the community of "La Hoyasen" which has one of the highest levels of poverty. I learned that God loves us with an intensity that we cannot begin to understand, and that his love endures to the end.



MANUEL & MARIO, the twins from ESTELI (in left background), KARLA MENDOZA (in front center)



PUN AT CAMP

GOOD NEWS FROM COSTA RICA:

VJ MARTHA TINOCO:

The 25th of June my son Mauricio and I visited San Jose, Costa Rica. We stayed in the house of Roman and his wife, Priscilla, leaders of VJ there. They were very friendly and attentive, remembering the camps that we had experienced together both in Nicaragua and in Costa Rica. The following day they took me to the office of Vida Joven, and seven others, including Magalys Mendoza, the director of VJ in Costa Rica, joined us for lunch. Magalys shared with me that she wants to send young leaders to Nicaragua for the training week, because the ministry there has grown and received many blessings from God. We felt together the love of God and were able to see and share the wonderful things that God is doing in the ministry of both.

Magalys mentioned that *there are 1 1/2 million Nicaraguans in Costa Rica, and that there are many Nicaraguan youth there who have never been touched by the VJ ministry in Costa Rica.* This is definitely an area for prayer and an exciting opportunity. She says that there are in their clubs in Costa Rica a minority of Nicaraguans, and to have some Nicaraguans on staff there would be a great addition.

JUAN RAMON, coordinator of SOLINGALPA CLUB tells about a 21-year-old young man who comes to club:

During this month I have been working in contact with E.M. and bringing him into the knowledge of the truth who is Jesus Christ. This guy is the type who does not believe in religions, because he says that they are just trying to get money out of fools. However, he has felt the desire to establish a relationship with God.

I want him to experience the Vida Joven New Kids camp in order to have the opportunity to make a decision to change. Although he believes he can change on his own, and does not need to be in a place to change is personal life, now he wants to go to camp to see for himself what we are talking about — this personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

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CAN YOU HELP?

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Support for Jim and Sarah Horasby is in the new category of X398. Support for the General Budget, Capital Fund and Nicaraguan economic support or Multicultural Fund is all under X306.

Yes, you can help! Here's how:

We want to use your gift according to your intent. The memo portion of your check is the best way to alert us to your intent. By writing "Nicaragua Capital Fund/Farm" on the memo line, your gift will be used for the development of the farm. By labeling your gift "Special Multicultural Program," you designate your gift to the emergency aid of our volunteers or for other unique ministry needs. All other gifts will provide for the ministry of Jim and Sarah Horasby.

- I will pray regularly for the Hornshys and our Nicaraguan friends.
- I am contributing to the development of the farm/camp. On the memo line of your check, write X306 Capital Fund/Farm.
\$ _____ as a monthly commitment; \$ _____ as a one-time contribution
- I am contributing to the Multicultural Fund for special projects. On the memo line of your check, write X306 Multicultural Program.
\$ _____ as a monthly commitment; \$ _____ as a one-time contribution
- I am contributing to the personal support of Jim and Sarah Horasby. On the memo line of your check, write X306.
\$ _____ as a monthly commitment; \$ _____ as a one-time contribution

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Checks payable to Young Life are tax deductible. Mail to: Young Life, P.O. Box 520, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.
If you are interested in receiving this newsletter via e-mail, please send us your e-mail address and we'll add you to our list.

Every Kid, Everywhere, For Eternity.



NARCISO (on right) and BELLO AMANECEER WINNERS

GOOD NEWS FROM BELLO AMANECEER, MANAGUA

NARCISO 7/08 tells about a 27-year-old young man from Bello Amanecer Neighborhood in Managua:

This guy was my enemy when I was in a gang; he belonged to the rival gang called the "NENA." In November 2007 I went to his house one day because my Mama asked me to accompany her in visiting her friend. When we got there I was surprised to see him because when we knew each other in the gangs, I had almost killed him twice!

We talked, I asked his forgiveness, and began to talk to him about God with small biblical reflections and told him my testimony. I was surprised that on March 5, 2008, Christ touched his heart. He prayed with me. Now he wants to help in club and come to the July camp.



ARACELLY (on right) in LINE TO EAT AT CAMP

GOOD NEWS FROM LA INDEPENDENCIA, ESTELI

ARACELY QUINTERO 7/08 — I have known this young woman for about two years in the University. In all this time it has been rare to see her smile, but only now

have I found out why that was. In the process, I have learned that the suffering reflected in her face is because her heart has been wounded more than once by the same person. L.M. is a young woman who feels belittled by the presence of others. Her own words are: "I feel tiny, just a small thing, and I feel like I have no worth." For me to walk in her shoes is difficult, because I have not had to live those things that she has experienced. She hates her childhood and it is something she wants to forget. She has practically no friends for fear that they will hurt her.

To talk to her about God is hard. Why? How can you explain to someone that God loves her, that He is her refuge and protector when she has been so hurt? It is difficult, but not impossible to demonstrate with actions that YES, TRUE LOVE EXISTS, and that Love is GOD.

We go out to our favorite place, a bakery, which is very peaceful, and the best that I have done for her is to listen to her, and make her feel that I am there for her, that she is important for me, and to let her know what is a miracle of God. We pray once a week together in her house or in mine and we share a Bible text, saying what it means for my life and how to put it into practice.

May 22 we went together to the mass where we heard about being part of Christ's Body. She told me that for someone who had never known what it meant to be intimate with God, that she felt her heart jumping from joy that she could not explain. At the end of the mass she gave thanks to God for her hands, for her mouth, and for her life. It was incredible!

God has let me feel and know that everything has its time, and that He can change sadness into joy. And that we are only His instruments for His great Love and Mercy. At last I can see the smile of L.M. and my commitment is to keep on spending time with her, praying and being there. I know that God will give her a brand new heart that now is not wounded, and that behind all this pain there are many good things coming forth.



GRANADA TEAM READY FOR RAIN with YENNER (left)

THANK YOU TO DONORS!!!!

We are especially grateful to all those who have made commitments in the New Year to support our Vida Joven staff, which continues to grow despite our best efforts to calm down the explosion of leaders and excitement and willingness to sacrifice and serve! **THANK YOU SO MUCH, DONORS,** who also have caught the vision and see supporting our staff as one way you can help make a difference here in Nicaragua.

MISSION TEAMS & EVENTS 2008

- July 11-14 Vida Joven Camp (Esteli, Leon, Jinotega)
- July 17-20 Vida Joven Camp (Managua, Matagalpa)
- July 19-27 Bruce Hedgapeh, First Pres, Deland Fla., Team "A" at camp, with clinic.
- July 19-27 El Redentor, Deland Fla., at La Finca, with Bruce.
- July 26-Aug 3 Bruce Hedgapeh First Pres, Deland Fla., Team "B" Esteli
- July 25-Aug 2 Jim Wood, First Pres, Norfolk, VA, La Finca. (35) Clinic, VBS, Normal work.
- Aug. 1-9 Mark Boyd La Finca
- Aug. 15-23 Sheryl Markley, First Pres, Mt. Holly, N.J. La Finca.
- October New Life Pres, Fruitland Park, Fla., Jerry & Carol, Susan & Carter Bolton and Mary Ellen Kinney

In Exciting Christian Partnership
Jim and Sarah Hornsby

**WE GIVE THANKS TO HIM WHO CAN DO MORE
THAN WE CAN ASK OR THINK!!!**

GOOD NEWS FROM GRANADA:

A new VJ city/area is being opened as I write: *Yenner and his wife, Oneyda,* are moving soon to begin ministry there, *Arnoldo and Sabony have laid much of the groundwork.* Excellent committee work is being done by interested adults in Granada, and **TWO NEW CLUBS** will be formed in 2008. There were six youth from Granada at the first New Kids July camp!!! God is on the move!!!



DR. ANIBAL (center) from San Dionisio getting in on the action at camp