

# NEWSLETTER

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## TEACHER TESTIMONY

*by Maria Eva Pacheco*



“Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

Mark 10:14

I consider being a teacher a privilege, a responsibility, and an adventure each school year. I remember once hearing this saying: A teacher will influence the lives of her students more than she could ever imagine. This called me to stop and think deeply. What impact am I leaving on my students? Each one has a precious soul. God has put them

in my care, trusting that I will positively influence them. My desire and prayer is that with God’s help I can do my best for His honor and glory. Teaching at Shining Light was a new experience for me in spite the fact that I had ten years of teaching experience. Each of my fourteen active students has a different past, set of struggles, and character. I discovered that this not only requires me to teach them academically, but to also guide them spiritually and emotionally. The first months of teaching were not easy, but the Father showed me that I cannot do it on my own, but rather need to wholly depend on His strength! Spending time with students when they needed to voice frustrations and struggles and take them to God was very precious to me. After taking their troubles to God, they could go to work with a light heart and a happy face. Only in this way could I, by the grace of God, finish the school year. I rejoiced as I saw my students’ potential and intelligence! The friendships strengthened, memories created, and precious moments are now tucked into history. Lord willing, I will be back to teach next term. Please pray for me throughout the school year!

-Maria Eva Pacheco, Teacher of grades 3-6

# LIFEBLOOD

by Mike Yoder, Board Member

# SCHOOL PROGRAM

by teachers Maria Eva and Kiara

Blood is a special fluid in our bodies that supplies essential nutrients to the entire body. It also carries away toxic waste after it dumps its load of fresh supplies. Though blood makes me lightheaded and dizzy when I see it, I cannot live without it. It is an absolute necessity.

The wonderful people who support Shining Light could be considered the blood of the organization. Your care and support are vital nutrients flowing to our staff and the children. Each one of our readers who supports us in even the smallest way is an integral part of our organization.

As we all band together and become this lifeblood, we can help carry away the toxic ugliness in the children's lives. We replace the streets with a warm bed. We replace an abusive or absent parent with a loving caregiver. We replace fear with love. And this moves us to worship our Father who loves these children as much as we do.

In an effort to better serve our financial supporters, we have improved our online giving options. We have secured much better credit card processing rates, making it feasible to take donations online. We also have a new online processing system making it simple and convenient to donate.

You can go to our website and click on the Donate Now button and follow instructions. You now have the option to automate your donations so you do not need to remember to send the money every month. You also have the option of setting up an account with username and password to track your giving. You will automatically receive a tax deductible receipt after every donation. If you do not have internet access, feel free to call us and we can process a donation over the phone.

Thank you again for all your faithful support in whatever form it comes. We will continue to do our best to use these resources to bless the children we serve. God bless each one.

Planning our school program brought excitement! Connecting the academics with a Biblical base challenged us a bit. Could our students successfully play out the drama scene about the solar system and reward our many hours of hard work? We practiced it over and over, trying to do our best. We worked to encourage the children to use loud, clear voices. It was definitely not easy, but the results were a true blessing. All the children performed amazingly!

To all of our students, THANK YOU! -Maria Eva and Kiara

After-program games



Teachers and their gifts



The entire school at program day



Behind the scenes of Maria Eva's drama on the solar system



Sarai



Your hands are the Hands of God quoted by Leland Ulrich in his devotional.

# BUTCHERING DAY



Greiven and Maribel cutting meat

Finally, he arrived with the gun! The children had been waiting to watch the men butcher a bull, so when Urias showed up they eagerly prepared to watch. After they managed to get the bull into the barn, the children backed off and Urias prepared to shoot. Five shots in the forehead—was it a hardheaded bull or not quite perfect aim?—and the bull crumpled to the floor. One more gunshot confirmed his death.

Our friend Dago willingly cut open the bull and started skinning it. Skilled hands soon exposed the guts and blood. The girls watched, horrified and intrigued, while the boys helped and learned. Community built as children and staff observed, prepared to help however they could.

Greiven helped cut huge hunks of meat into smaller chunks so the boys could haul it to the kitchen. In the kitchen Dago's wife or Mari, the head cook, directed all the willing hands. With the girls', moms', and floaters' pitching in, we processed and froze the meat. Satisfied and tired, some enjoyed ice cream, and everyone looks forward to meaty meals!



# TANKER TRUCK TO THE RESCUE!



Water supports life. At SLCH we face this reality the many times we run out of water or the well is low. We've also dealt with the problem of makeshift tanks, trailers, and trucks not cooperating. A fire department in Alabama heard of our need for reliable water hauling equipment. They graciously donated a 1,500-gallon water truck! After hours of paperwork, hours on the road between Alabama and Mexico, and hours completing paperwork to cross the border, the fire truck water tanker arrived! Seriously excited, the children flooded out to see this new blessing that will help solve a lot of problems! Thank you very much to everyone involved in helping this become a reality!

# STAFFING NEEDS

*Shining Light Children's Home is seeking staff for the following positions:*

## IMMEDIATE/URGENT

- A couple for the older boys
- A young man to help with boys

## BEGINNING DECEMBER 2016

- An administrative assistant/photographer/social media manager, all in one.

*Please contact us if you are interested or know of someone who might be.  
Join us in prayer as we seek to fill these staffing needs.*

Leland Ulrich - Board Chairman  
Corey Yoder - Treasurer  
Lorne Hershberger - Secretary  
Herb Miller - Board Member/  
PR Coordinator  
Myron Bontrager - Board Member  
Mike Yoder - Board Member

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## GOODBYE BRADY



Good bye to Brady Martin! Thank you for your service as English school teacher and everything else you helped with!

## WELCOME MELISSA



Melissa Brunk from Elida Ohio our new teacher for the English school this coming year.