Verbo Bluefields News. September 2022.

Greetings dear family and friends!

We are delighted to start this letter with the news that Andrew and Karen now have a baby boy, Caleb. What a joy it is for us to have another grandchild. Very soon Josh and Flavia will have their daughter – not the son which the first scan predicted!

We have had an exciting 6 months since last we wrote, seeing many changes in the church, the school, the community and in people's lives.

The celebrations for Verbo's 35th anniversary were amazing. To see a church overflowing with members and friends from near and far and to watch on screen personal messages sent, was indeed very moving.







The planning and work continues in San Sebastian as we establish our presence there. We are raising funds for a new church building. We've been donated the land and the well and hope soon to make a start on the building.







September until the end of the year is always a busy time for us with the school marches for Independence Day, promotions and graduation services.

We were proud when we heard one of our 6th grade boys, Adler Vanegas had been awarded the best primary student in all of Bluefields.

Five of our students have been working with the police, learning road traffic skills. There was a competition of all the schools and Verbo took first place in Bluefields and also the region. They then went on to represent the school in Managua. Sadly they didn't win, but it was a great achievement to get as far as they did.



We appreciate the time that Youth With A Mission is spending in the school with our older students. They give Bible teaching 'with a difference' each week. Some of the students didn't even realise that it was their R.E. lesson as it gets presented in such a different style.



It is good to see Julissa, who was once a student at the school, now working with YWAM and giving these classes.

We are so happy to have re-opened our weekly adult feeding programme in its new premises and have named it the Mercy House. We are serving lunches to about 60 people, most of them living in real difficult situations and sleeping rough. Some are showing a real sign of wanting change in their lives and we are working with them. It's great to see how these folk now turn up early to help lift out the tables and chairs and it is all hands on deck at the end with them helping to clear away.





The children's feeding programme is still going strong and meeting such a need. There has been a changeover in staff in the kitchen and



Yasmina, Frances and Ashley work so well together and produce some real nutritious meals. It's wonderful to see the



older children serving the younger ones before they eat their own food. Sergio oversees the programme and shares the Word before the food is served. The number varies from 100 - 150 of the amount of children fed.



Our latest project is serving coffee and bread one day a week at 6am. We fill our thermos flasks and go down town ministering to those who are up early looking for work and to



those who have slept rough. It's a great opportunity to just sit on a step with a coffee and chat with some of these people who feel unloved and wonder what their purpose is in life.

Our men's and women's group still meet each week and we are seeing growth in both of these meetings. As well as the weekly teaching, they meet once a month respectively for breakfast and the Word at 6am.

The women paid a visit to the maternity home for Mother's Day, taking gifts for both mother and baby, as well as refreshments, clothes and sharing a in a short devotion. These pregnant women really appreciated the visit, being so far away from their homes and families on such an occasion helped to cheer them up. The nurse asked if there was possibility that we could donate a fetal heart doppler – an instrument to listen to the unborn baby's heartbeat. A donor was found quite quickly, much to the delight of Nurse Carla.







We still make visits to the rock quarry and on our latest trip we took hammers, clothes and refreshments. It often looks a tiresome task sitting so many hours on the ground breaking rocks for such a small amount of money, but it puts food on the table. The hammers were well received and everyone who queued up for clothes received a fair share.

The young adults from the church hold a very active meeting each week. They have a varied programme which includes serious biblical discussions as well as the opportunity to play table games and various sports. Recently they went on a short boat trip to swim in the Caribbean and one of the members gave her life to Christ and was baptised.



As always, we appreciate your support, whether it be through prayer or financial giving and also your friendship. We pray the Lord will keep you safe and well and give you His abundant blessings.

We love you!

Ed & Ligia