



iQue Pasa!

★ FALL 2006



Natalia turned three November 5th. Like many little girl she loves Barbies. Her favorite colors are red, white and pink.

She needs your help

Natalia and the other children at the Orphanage are doing well. Natalia is loved and well cared for. But money is tight, and there is no powdered milk, meat or fresh vegetables that she needs. Can you help her?

Costs in Mexico are spiraling

Inflation in Mexico is steep; on some things inflation is worse than in the United States. For example, propane, necessary for heating and cooking, is expensive. In the past, the large propane tank on the front of the property could be filled for \$100. When it failed, it was replaced with a smaller tank, about a quarter of the original size. It now costs \$200 to fill the small tank.

Presently the Orphanage has \$8,600 of debt, mostly to employee payroll taxes and pharmacy costs - prescriptions, and medicine.

The day after 'pay day'

When the Orphanage receive checks, there are so many bills to pay, the money is quickly gone. The day after 'pay day' there is no more money. They go for days and weeks without any spare money. Nothing to give the older kids for bus fares and lunch money for school, no money to buy meat, dairy and vegetable to supplement the beans, rice and flour, no money to fill the propane tank.

Your help is making a difference

We are glad to say that, thanks to your help, the Orphanage is receiving more support than in past years. But we are still falling behind each month. Please help us to continue raising Natalia and the other children to grow in the stature and nurture of the Lord.

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On a sunny September Sunday, the kids are waiting outside church. Can you imagine how long it takes to get this many children ready for church?



A name for a new baby

On Monday, October 3, Viviana and her husband had their first baby, a little girl. Vivi grew up at the Orphanage, arriving as a toddler. With overflowing joy Vivi and Meño chose a name for their precious little girl that has special significance. They named her Naomi Viviana Solorio Ramirez.

Clay Warren, Associate Pastor at Tacoma Reformed Christian Church and Director for the El Sauzal Foundation, Inc., his wife Naomi, daughter Danielle, and son Chad as a family adopted Viviana into their hearts several years ago as a daughter and sister. Vivi was our only true Orphan and the Warren family became her family. Vivi and Meño, out of their love for the Warrens, chose Naomi's name as their daughter's first name. When the Warrens learned of their grand-daughter's name, they rejoiced because of their love for their family in Mexico.



Your back to school gifts a big blessing

Your response to the back-to-school letter was so encouraging. Almost \$3,500 was given to help with the purchase of school uniforms. It made big dent in the school expenses. (If you have children, you know that the beginning of the school year is only the start of school costs!)

Education for the children gives them a hope for a better future. We are so grateful for your help and generosity.

Thirsty for more Orphanage news?

If you would like to find out what's going on at El Sauzal more frequently, check out www.elsauzal.org/blog. A blog, short for weblog, is a way to post new stories on the web several times each month. (Many of the stories in this newsletter came originally from the blog.)

You can also sign up to receive email updates. Just email patty.meadows@elsauzal.org and let her know you'd like to get email updates.



Seth & Kristin include the Orphanage in their wedding

Kristin Frelin from Tacoma, Washington has been visiting the Orphanage for eight years. In fact, it was on her first mission trip when she was in the ninth grade, that she dedicated her life to the Lord. This coming summer she will be leading a young adult group to the Orphanage. This will be her first trip where she will be the primary leader. She has a strong passion for the children at the Orphanage.

Kristin met Seth Anderson and the two of them fell in love. Seth is a chiropractor in the Tacoma area. He has been very supportive of her ministry to the Orphanage and hopes to join her on her next trip this coming summer. As the two of them were planning their wedding they thought about the money they would spend to purchase party favors for the reception. Rather than spend money on trinkets or memorabilia for their wedding, they decided to send the same amount of money to the El Sauzal Foundation in honor of their guests. This is what they wrote on a small card that was on each table in place of the party favors:

Thank you for sharing in this joyful day with us. In recognition of your love and support, we have made a donation in your name to the children at the El Sauzal Orphanage in San Antonio de Las Minas, Mexico. If you would like to learn more about these wonderful children or become a donor please visit <http://www.elsauzal.org/>. With warm wishes and gratitude, Kristin and Seth



Muchas gracias, Seth and Kristin for your generosity!

Does our web page work on your computer?

To help give you information, we launched our new web page in June. We've included more:

- Kids' stories
- Your stories (See **Hangin' Loose** story on back page)
- Ways to help from home
- Work projects - big and small
- Scrapbooks with lots of fun photos



- Information on visiting - maps, what to bring, exploring Mexico and more
- Other fun tidbits, like the current temperature in Ensenada

We are in the process of improving our web site; it currently does not work correctly on certain browsers, like Firefox and Safari. If it is not

working on your computer, we are sorry. We hope to fix it over the next few months.

If you have any questions or suggestions about the website, please email patty.meadows@elsauzal.org.



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Abandoned toddlers brought to the Orphanage

We have a new little family at the Orphanage. They are the Aragón Ruano family. Dayana Marisol is fifteen months old, Emanuel is four years old, and Germán Alejandro is seven years old.

D.I.F., the Mexican Social Service brought the children to the Orphanage on September 21st. The police found them abandoned in their home and



Lakeasha, nanny Betty and Connie hangin' out

Hawaiian pals hang loose at El Sauzal

In August, friends Lakeasha and Connie traveled from Honolulu to stay at the Orphanage for ten days. You can read more of their thoughts (and others' testimonies) at elsauzal.org/Community. Here is what they said:

Josue, his family, and the staff demonstrate this beauty everyday when they nurture the children. This beauty is reflected in the children, whose immeasurable joy after so much pain humbles and touches me. - Connie

I refuse to have my life remain the same. -Lakeasha

Although abandoned, Emanuel, Dayana Marisol, and Germán Alejandro have adapted well and become part of the Orphanage family.



brought them to D.I.F. The children told the authorities that their mother had left to go to the beach with a friend but she never returned. Both their mom and dad are drug addicts.

I had a neat time with each one of them obtaining their sizes and asking the older kids what they wanted for Christmas. After their having lived at the Orphanage for a little more than a week I could not distinguish any difference between the way this new family acted and conducted themselves as compared to the kids that have lived there for several years. They have settled in and are now a part of a much larger Orphanage a family. I am so grateful that the El Sauzal Orphanage is such a loving place; a sanctuary for hurting kids.

-Roy Ketring, El Sauzal Foundation President



A birthday present for Sergio

On October 28, Sergio turned eight. That same day, Roy Ketring arrived to visit. When Sergio saw him, he excitedly asked if Roy had a present for him from his sponsor at Placentia Presbyterian Church. After removing all of the 'smuggled' items from his truck, he found the present. Sergio happily opened it with many children looking on.



The Orphanage does not currently have enough regular resources to buy birthday presents. We are so grateful to our sponsors who make special moments like this possible.

Sergio has an infectious smile.