



The Melendez Family on Mission

“Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men...” (2Corinthians 5:11)

Greetings



Juanita



Dear brothers and sisters in the faith:

We send greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, asking God our Father to keep you all well. Thanks to the Lord, my family and I are doing just fine. We truly appreciate your unwavering financial support! And also we thank you for your prayers and encouragement! Please continue to pray for us and for God's work in Palmares, because we cannot ignore the opposition from the enemy. We know that with God's help and your prayers, however, we will come out ahead. We will also continue to pray that God may continue to bless all of you in many ways, physically and spiritually. God Bless!

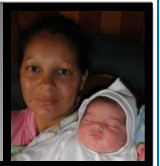
Juanita is a Nicaraguan who is living in Palmares temporarily. She lives next to the area where we have recently celebrated some baptisms and she has witnessed the ceremonies, which is how we met her. One day we were baptizing some disciples and Juanita was present. When the ceremony concluded, she asked us to pray for her due to some personal problems. After the prayer she told us that she felt inner peace. Over the next couple weeks we explained God's way of salvation to her and her husband. On April 8th, she asked to be baptized in order to be forgiven for her sins. We ask you to pray for Juanita so that God may help her walk with Him in her new life.

Traditions



During Easter Week we were invited to a barbecue by a family that was raised in the Catholic tradition. They had never eaten meat before, specially on Good Friday, since Catholic tradition does not allow that. One day we were studying the Bible, and they asked us if the Scriptures prohibited eating red meat on Good Friday. We explained that the Bible mentions no such thing, and that it was purely a Catholic custom. Four of them were among the persons we baptized in March, and they have decided to no longer observe those traditions.

Denia



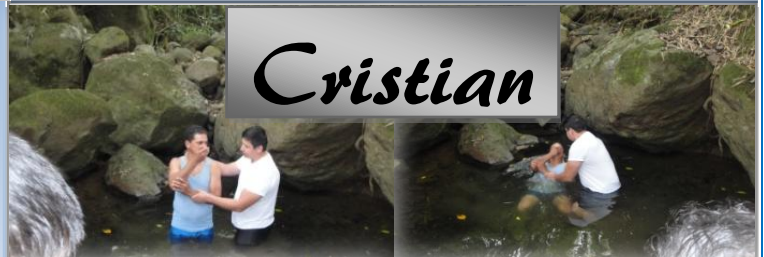
Denia is the wife of Johanny, who we baptized in March. On April 12th, after several weeks of attending Church meetings, Denia asked to be baptized. She said that her husband's example influenced her to become Christian. She was baptized only nine days before giving birth to a lovely baby girl, Paola. There was double reason to rejoice, because Denia was born of water and the Spirit and Paola was born into a Christian home. May the glory be to God! Please pray for Denia too, so that she may grow in God's grace, love, and knowledge.

Benevolence



When there is someone in need among the church members or visitors, we all at church put together food items. And then we give it to those in need. We are very happy to be able to help. Praise God! The picture above shows us delivering the groceries to Denia and her husband.

Cristian



Cristian is Juanita's husband. He says that he was inspired to give himself over to God by his wife's Christian example. We are very pleased to hear such testimony, and we give thanks to God for all He is doing. Cristian was baptized into Christ on May 15th. We ask your prayers for Cristian as well.

Sharing



We have been visiting a home for mentally disabled persons. There are ten residents, most of whom have been abandoned by their families. We share some time with these people in an attempt to bring them some happiness. They love to sing spiritual songs! In an attempt also to involve the Church members in good deeds, we have collected clothing, shoes, and groceries to donate to the group home. This effort has served to motivate the congregation, because they know these are good acts that please God. We do these things for the glory of God only.

The Melendez Family

Apartado Postal 81-4300

Palmares, Alajuela, Costa Rica

Home: (011) (506) 2453-4611

Mobile: (011) (506) 8783-0727

E-mail: <LMelendez@westsidelife.org>

More Pictures



Mayra and the Kids



A Church Member Leading a Prayer



Watching a Movie



Ashley



My first Dr. Pepper in Costa Rica



Ladies' Day



Church on Sunday Morning



Wrestling



Mayra vs. the Grill



Potluck



Taking a Missionary Nap



Checking the Water for a Baptism