

New Hope for Children

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Registered Charity No. 1124015

December 2018



The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all! As I write this newsletter I am sat here in our worksite office, and as I look around I reflect on the many, many reasons to Praise God, as this year we have seen His glory, His grace and His truth in so many, many ways saving and transforming the lives of our almost 200 children. We are a little late this year sending out this special greeting, the reason is that tomorrow I will add a photo to finish this newsletter, that will be of the fresh concrete of the second floor of our new building, poured 21st December 2018, foundations and three floors done, ground, first and second and one to be poured by the end of January!! Praise God.

In the coming months we ask a very special prayer request for Christine our UK Coordinator who suffered a stroke at the end of November. We Praise God for the amazing recovery that she is making, and she anticipates a full recovering over time. Christine informs us that she hopes to continue to fulfil her role with New Hope for Children, with the full support and help of our board of trustees as and when needed. In communicating, it may take a little more time for us to get back to you, and you may be contacted on Christine's behalf by any of our trustees or by David or Pauline Wallace. Christine needs time and rest for recovery, so we would appreciate your prayers and respectfully ask that you would resist the temptation to call/message Christine, unless this is for official New Hope business which Christine will be happy to respond. Christine, we pray that Gods healing hand will continue to be over you in a miraculous way at this time, and once again thank you for your fantastic service to God through New Hope for Children.

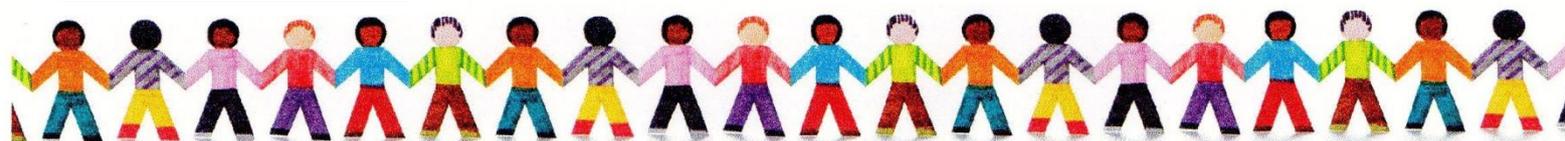
Beginning November, a Navy Captain called us "Please can you come and help? There are needy children who will get no Christmas gifts..." Just a few days later, Jeanene, Ann (Jeanene's Mum) and Henry were in the amazon jungle, as part of a Navy Humanitarian and Medical Aid Team, providing medical help and giving out Christmas presents to children whose lives have been ripped apart by the violence over so many years in Colombia....even the simplest and smallest of gifts brings such overwhelming joy, and the most important gift of all - the word of God. In addition to the gifts and humanitarian aid, the children almost knocked Ann over as they crowded around her as she gave out Bibles, so much did they want to receive them!! Glory to God for His grace in making this special provision for those needy children.

I stayed back in Bogota as we are moving fast and hard with our new building project and continue to advance greatly, the team work very hard and everyone is so tired!! The third floor is now on the building, and by the end of January the whole structural part (columns, concrete floors and the roof) will be finished....Glory to God. God has given the vision for this place, each corner and space....the thousands of lives that will be touched by this place, from this building will come..... Ground floor - joy from the humanitarian aid and hunger relief for thousands, First Floor - thousands of hungry children fed and special times of worship and celebrations, Second Floor - hundreds of children helped yearly through the Technical Team area (Psychologists, Social Workers, Nurses and Nutritionist) and the medical unit, Top floor - thousands of smiles from the bakery and sewing classes, and birthday cakes, and good fun as the children make use of the roof top (enclosed) sports area. Today I can confirm, **Praise God, that our target for the matching grant of £60,000.00 was achieved, please continue to help us raise funds for this fantastic new facility that will truly bring blessings upon blessings for many here in Bogota and far beyond.**

As He did with the school, God continues to do his miracles in all sorts of ways.....and even through chocolate.....we needed to receive a delivery for some building materials that were essential, and the company called to say they couldn't make it due to street protests in Bogota. I told them, "If you get the products to me today by 2.30pm then I will have a plate of



"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" Isaiah 7:14.



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"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). Matthew 1:23

chocolates for the driver and the boss of the company." Sure enough, the driver, with God's favour found a way across the city and we had our materials, and they their chocolates.....God does miracles even through chocolate. Glory to God for the truth in his promise of provision for this important building project, that will bless thousands of lives!

December is always a time for celebrations, such as our school closing ceremony (our academic year finishes in December) and the graduation ceremony for those finishing High School. I remember 15 or so years ago, in a place called Nueva Esperanza, helping Bogota families who were in desperate poverty. A little girl came running to us, giving us wild flowers and asking us "please come and visit our family, we live up there in that shack!!" There we met "B", and her brothers "M" and "Br" it was a divine appointment that changed the destiny of a family, as first "B" and "Br" came to live at Children's Vision and study at the Beginning of Wisdom School, and then a couple of years later "M" arrived after surviving their house being destroyed by a landslide, a complete miracle. "B" and "M" have now graduated and this was "Br's" turn. He brought tears to my eyes as in his words of thanks he glorified Gods name and gave thanks for all that has been invested into his life. We wait with anticipation to see what the next step for his life will be.

Many years ago, a little boy called "J" arrived, a very small, sick and malnourished little baby. Over the years, "J" has grown into a special young man with exceptional artistical talents. When he was 5 years old, he began to suffer from seizures and we were told he had a rare syndrome and would not live into later teenage life. We prayed over that boy and the Lord healed him, the syndrome is gone, and he just graduated from high school. God has also doubly blessed him as in January he will be starting a university scholarship to study graphic arts. We glorify God for his grace in granting his healing power over the life of "J" and bringing him to this victorious life milestone.

Our Christmas day (celebrated last week with the help of a USA team) was, as always, very special.....Firstly and most importantly, we told the story of the birth of Jesus and gave thanks for Jesus our saviour, secondly sang Christmas Carols, and then ate our Christmas lunch (traditionally here that is pork and vegetables from a stuffed pig) and then we counted to three and the children excitedly opened their gifts.....wrapping paper was everywhere, I put hundreds of batteries into toys and we had very, very happy children as they excitedly played, and played.....and played some more. As always it was even more special for the children who are having their first Christmas with us, and especially for a set of brothers that we have just taken in. Please be praying for them, they come from a broken family where violence was the norm, they are four and five years old and if annoyed wouldn't hesitate a second to throw a toddler chair or send out a punch. Please pray that the love of Jesus and our big family will change their hearts and re-programme their minds, that love, patience, respect, forgiveness and good Christian values will transform their lives.

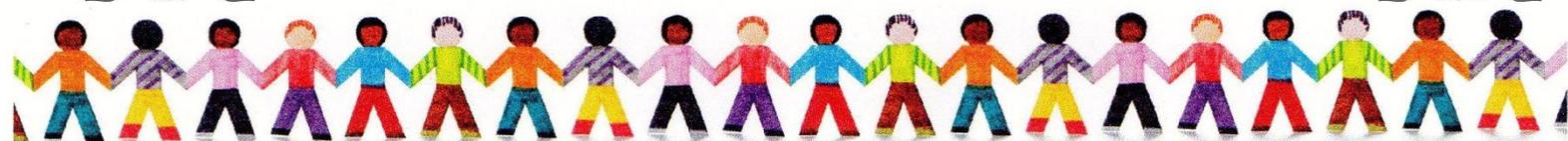
The neighbourhood Bible group is coming along really well and a few weeks ago we had a very special day out as an early Christmas celebration with this group. They have difficult circumstances and we wanted to give them a special outing day to remember. On this day several of the members of the group were baptised, what a fantastic blessing! Glory to God for this special fruit that continues to grow.

In mid-December we celebrated the 25th anniversary of Children's Vision here in Bogota and many of our graduated children came back for a special evening. The tears rolled down Jeanene and my faces as our oldest and graduated children gave testimony to how God has transformed their lives through the foundation. These were "E's" words "I want to say thank you God for family, because from the first moment that I met you, I knew and felt that I could trust you and I had peace in my heart. I knew I would have love, correction, teaching and I give thanks to God for putting you in my life, in a time that I thought I was not going to have a future or an opportunity. Each day I remember you as my parents, the people that guided me with love on the path that I am now on. Thank you for being there and always remember that you are in my heart, in my best memories, in my life and that I will always, always love you and want to be where you are." Our graduates are a huge blessing, and of all the children that have lived here and finished the programme, we can say none of them have returned to the poverty from which they were saved. Praise God!

There was a place in Bogota, which was called the "snake pit", homeless street people, drug addicts and thieves along



"Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you, he is the Messiah, The Lord." Luke 2:11



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with trash, filth, rats and children. A 14-month-old little girl was buried in the rubbish, she raised her tiny hand and began to wave. The street people dug her out and started shouting "don't hurt her.... Take her to the white ladies house!" The police put her on the back of a motorcycle and brought her to Children's Vision. That was 18 years ago, and "X" still today lives at Children's Vision. At 12 years she was diagnosed with scoliosis, and her spine began to grow deformed, her lungs and heart were compressed and she was in pain. It took a battle of many years to get the surgery approved, and there was a 40% chance of dying in the surgery, and 60% of never walking again. The surgery would be in 2 parts the first for 19 hours, then induced into a coma for 7 days and the second surgery would be 12 hours. God had his HAND of healing upon "X"... There was only 1 surgery, 8 hours, she walked immediately it was a complete success.... She was discharged home 3 days later, and **NEVER took pain medication**, she had prayed and fasted and asking God for healing and that she would have no pain and perfect recovery and so **Praise God for the answer to prayer!** She grew 10cm and has recovered completely. Praise God for this amazing miracle.

So, on behalf of the trustees of New Hope for Children, and everyone at Childrens Vision in the USA and here in Colombia, and especially on behalf of all our children here in Bogota, we hope and pray that you have had a very special Christmas and wish you Gods immense blessings for you and your families for 2019. With all of our hearts, we thank you for believing in us, supporting us, praying for us and for loving us, please continue to help us transform more lives in 2019 through the love of Jesus.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, blessings and hugs,
Richard and Jeanene, Henry and our big Bogota family!!



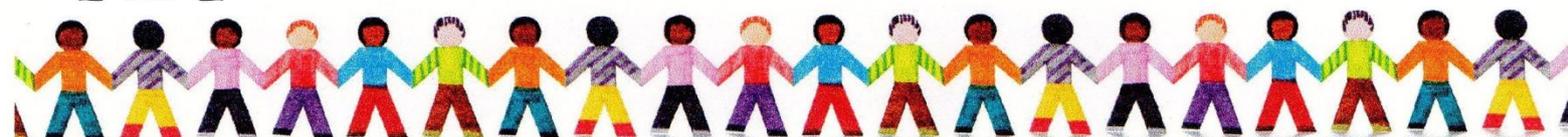
**Outstanding work team.....
just one more floor to go!**

New Building - Ground, 1st & 2nd floor concrete done.....Thank You and Praise God!

Please help our large family to continue forward, helping take care of all our needs: food, staff wages, medical care, gas, water, electric, telephone, transport, maintenance, school supplies, and new buildings to name but just a few! Please join with us in prayer for the expansion of our UK support base, we are very much looking for new opportunities to glorify God in sharing about our work and if you or a contact would like to book a free presentation, for any time of the year, or enquire about bringing a volunteer team to Bogota, then please contact UK Coordinator Christine Hodgson on (0191) 2570313 or 07538 887305. Thank you.



"Thanks to God for His indescribable gift" 2 Corinthians 9:15



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