

# The Wakefield Newsletter

"I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong – that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." (Romans 1:11 TNIV)

May, 2008

## News Updates from Cd. Juárez:

Bonefacio (Bony), pastor of Communities of Hope (CdeE), reported encouraging news today:

- April's family life conferences were extremely successful. Average attendance in worship for the month was 98! Thank you to all who prayed for this emphasis and that we would break the 100-barrier. The high attendance for the month was 111! The Sunday School has also grown considerably with several new families attending.



Familias con Esperanza

This logo was created by Bony and IMB Journeyman Rebecca Jagger for the recent family life conference. "Families with Hope" is a spinoff of our church name, "Communities of Hope." We will probably continue to use this logo with slight modifications as we try to reach into schools and the secular world with a word of hope for our disintegrating families.

- This coming Sunday will see Bony and our leadership team emphasizing the cells of the church. Bony understands that we must continue to see more people in the cells than in the worship time. We are seeing a fairly consistent 125 people in cells, but the worship attendance is growing faster than the cell attendance. This is not a good ratio for continued growth. Please pray that those who are not involved in our home-based ministries will sign up for a cell and that new leaders step forward to be trained.
- Life Abundant (a sister cell church begun by Tommy and Beth Lerner, and other members of our Churches Without Borders Team) is also doing extremely well. They are averaging around 70 – 75 in worship and there is no room for growth. What a great problem! Pray for pastor Pablo as he leads this church to grow in spite of space limitations.
- Retired missionary James Williams (El Paso) reports that Ebenezer Baptist Church in Juárez has recently begun ten "prayer cells." These groups are now wanting to reach out to their own communities and are asking to be trained in personal evangelism. We are thankful for James' continuing leadership. (Larry was his field supervisor for his DMin program at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.) Please pray for his health and for the opportunities the Lord gives him to start new groups in our megacity.

## Prayer Requests

- Communities of Hope is experiencing a growth problem. We are running out of space! Please pray that we will be able to keep our focus on the formation of new cells in the various communities, but that we will also be able to reach one of our other goals – establishing a significant cell church as a model for other Baptist churches to follow. The arrival of several young families has produced a baby boom in the church. There are approximately 15 children ages birth through three years, and the church is desperate for a nursery ☺.
- Many of the members and friends of our church in Juárez are losing their jobs because of cutbacks and closings of the "maquilas." The recession in the US is affecting the whole world. Please pray for your faithful brothers

and sisters in Christ in our city who are struggling with the same financial woes that so many American's are facing today.

- Please pray for the five people who are awaiting baptism. The previous baptisms had to be cancelled and are to be rescheduled as soon as possible.
- Please pray for Hermilo and Vicente, two men who are showing strong Christian growth and are being mentored by Hermenegildo. These men, who both live in Paraje de Oriente, are demonstrating changed lives by the power of the Lord. We are thrilled at their progress. Pray that they will be used of the Lord to reach other young men and that their families will become shining examples for Christ in their communities.
- Thank you for your prayers for the growth of our team. We are starting to receive some encouraging "inquiries." Please keep praying that the Lord will send us dedicated and qualified team members to strengthen our team's ministry to our huge city.
- May 13 – a return by one of the Texas medical teams. Bony is planning to take them out of the church building into the world – one goal is to start a new cell in Paraje San Juan.
- We have been greatly blessed to have many faithful prayer and ministry partners from the US. Unfortunately, several of our closest friends and partners are suffering with various medical problems. Many of these are significant members of our non-resident team. Please pray that the Lord will provide improved health to all these wonderful people and that they will be able to do what they believe the Lord has called them to do.

We are feeling very upbeat about the news from Cd. Juárez and want to thank everyone who has had a part in this growth. Whether you share our newsletters with others, pray for us on a regular basis, or have been to minister directly with us, you are part of our team and a significant part of what the Lord is doing in our huge city. Thank you!

#### Family and Personal News

Larry & Peggy have survived mean head colds and are beginning to make plans for our return to Mexico. A praise is that our medical clearance permitting our return to Mexico arrived today!

Mark's ministry in Huehuetenango, Guatemala continues to grow and, to be honest, he is teaching us and giving us ideas for ministries that we should be doing in Cd. Juárez. Please continue to pray for safety for Mark and all of his team: Sheny, Cecy and Henry. Catch Mark at: <http://www.markwwfield.com/> or <http://www.zonajuvenil.org/3.html>. Write him at: [white\\_aztec@hotmail.com](mailto:white_aztec@hotmail.com)

Wendy joined us for a fun picnic on Saturday and saw a Bald Eagle on her first birding trip with us! Tennessee has many beautiful locations for our birding trips (and yard sale excursions). We are going to miss this place when we return to the Chihuahua desert ☺.

Thank you again for your prayers and blessings to all.



Larry and Peggy Wakefield  
703 Treasury Lane  
Lebanon, TN 37087  
US cell phone: (615) 403-8777  
Home phone: (615) 444-4675  
[www.churcheswithoutborders.com](http://www.churcheswithoutborders.com)