

# NICA TIMES Summer 2011



Slowly summer (actually winter here) is coming to a close. We are enjoying the last weeks of rain which will end in November. As the rainy season comes to a stop, the rains become more frequent and heavy but so far no flooding.

This week we received supplies sent down for us through Amigos for Christ. Once a year they let us send a pallet of donated items via one of their containers. To all of you who sent sewing supplies, school supplies, children's clothes, shoes, hats and craft items, we send you many thanks on behalf of the people who will be gladly receiving them in the next weeks.



George loads truck with supplies sent by container.



Peanut with Kim, the boy next door. The haircut is hers.

## San Diego

In June, St. Luke's UMC continued their relationship with the community of San Diego in the district of Nuevo Segovia. A small group of people from St. Luke's United Methodist Church came to spend time with the residents of San Diego and work alongside them on a variety of projects. Activities included a sports camp featuring lacrosse and soccer, training for the local brigadistas (health promoters), sewing workshops, a youth rally, pastoral training and a marriage seminar. Before the team arrived, the local MEFEL church was able to put up a new roof with funding provided by St. Luke's. Work in the community will continue with the CHE program

(community health evangelism).



Jacob gets his teeth brushed as Yesmanth looks on

Victorino hears about the secrets of longevity from Aracelly's father, 90 something years old



Dr. Kevin offers an arm for IV practice



Jane and Madelin

In July our friends Peggy and Jane came to visit. A highlight of their trip was attending Madelin's quinceanera. Jane had sponsored Madelin for years through an NGO in Nicaragua. With Jane's help, Madelin was able to celebrate her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday with all the traditional trimmings. To top off the evening, Peggy and Jane showed up at the party as a surprise.



Jane and Peggy in Motuce

### Chontales

In August, a small group from Georgia visited Matayagual, a small village in the district of Chontales and home to Maria Elena...her husband, Pedro, is trying to establish a church there. Medical/dental consults were offered as well as crafts for the women and activities for the children but most of all the team and the community enjoyed spending time together.



The medical staff relaxes after a hard day

It was great to have Pastor Rey with us. We were glad we did not hear about this boa constrictor until the last day.



The parking lot at the clinic

### Other News

The youth leadership team is going really well. The youth have maintained their enthusiasm and share with the staff how much they are learning from their classes. Currently all of them are involved in community service projects which include teaching English, helping with neighborhood clean-up projects and tutoring children with their homework.



Nelson teaches guitar to younger children (the guitars were donated to the Pueblo Nuevo school by a private donor & the Books for Life program.

The sewing circles are now meeting as a group once a month. A seamstress comes and teaches the women how to sew with a sewing machine. Guest speakers also come to talk to the



Ana from MEFEL works with Karen from Chacocente

women on different topics such as forming a cooperative, marketing their products, and quality control. The MEFEL circles have reached out to include women from other sewing projects such as Chacocente and Miraluz.

The Youth Leadership and The Sewing Circle projects are funded through donations from churches and individuals. Funding is used for supplies (books, sewing machines) and classes (housing and meals). To help with either of these projects, a donation may be made to Acts 1:8, P.O. Box 23, Cedartown, GA 30125... please designate which program.



Samuelito is studying to be a chef, Svellana is in pharmacy school and Nelson is studying English and computers.

With your help, we have been able to provide more students with scholarships. The scholarships are used by the students to learn English or to obtain a university degree. Many of the students are from rural areas who would otherwise not have had the opportunity to study. To sponsor a student, please contact us at [ronnieangi@gmail.com](mailto:ronnieangi@gmail.com)

We also have a special scholarship fund set up to honor Angi's father... for these scholarships we are actively recruiting students who previously had not even

considered a university education due to lack of resources. Donations to this special scholarship may be made to Acts 1:8 (address above)... please designate Hans-J Priestler Scholarship. Our latest applicant for this scholarship is Sugey, a member of the youth leadership team. She is interested in dental school and will be doing an internship with Dra. Mayra as she explores this career.

**Needs List**  
*Used laptop computers*  
*Hats*  
*T-shirts, any color*  
*Please contact us for information on where to ship these items.*



What have we done for fun?  
Traveling down the Somoto Canyon

As always, we remain thankful to each of you for your part in the ministries in Nicaragua. We enjoy sharing with you what is happening here and enjoy hearing from you.

Blessings,  
*Ronnie and Angi Hopkins*  
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**I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now (Phil 1:3-5)**

Donations to our personal support may be made as a pledge or one-time gift online at [www.themissionsociety.org/people/hopkins](http://www.themissionsociety.org/people/hopkins) or by sending a check to:

Please designate the check - Hopkins Support 287/HG.



**The Mission Society**

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