

Mission to the Children

News Update

December, 2017

PASTOR'S CORNER

*“And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed...And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn...And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.**”*
(Luke 2: 1, 4-14, KJV)

May the angels' message of peace bless your Christmas celebrations of our Savior's birth. Pastor Tim Patoka

John Kramer's Update:

After arriving at Tucson International Airport John Bolm retrieved me and we began the process of getting the van, pesos, lists and coupons, 15 gallons

of paint for the Altar church and other shopping events. We then caravanned to John's Green Valley home for the night.

The next morning we left at 9:30am for the 11:00am church service at El Cordero de Dios and after spending 15 minutes in customs arrived 5 minutes late in Sasabe.

John Bolm performed the church service and I conducted a children's study on "El Sembrador" (The Parable of the Sower) from Matthew 13.



After paying the store and allowing Monica to distribute food coupons we departed for La Reforma.

In La Reforma, Tubutama and Atil I gave a Bible study on Justification to the adults and El Sembrador to the kids. John helped in many ways including giving the children's study in Atil.

We also delivered a van load of blankets and quilts for the people.



Afterwards we met Alejandro, Victor and Jorge Briones (circuit pastor from

Leon) in Altar for dinner, returning to Atil for the night.

On Monday the Pastor's conference began at noon when the American pastors arrived. Attending were Jon Buchholz, Tim Flunker, Frank Cossio, Tim Patoka, Paul Hartman and former Mexican pastor Carlos Becerra, The subject was "Objective Justification", that Jesus achieved the



forgiveness of the sins for the whole world with his perfect life and atoning death on the cross. This was a response to a former WELS pastor who was suspended from the ministry for starting a controversy on this subject which still has followers in Mexico today.



On the second day the church bell was hung in the tower and in addition to finishing up our conference at about 1:00pm we heard the church bell toll for the first time from its tower. Subsequently it's been heard on Sunday announcing the 11:00am church service.



Pastor Victor painting the front of the church in Altar.



The delivered paint will be used to repaint the interior of the old part of the church building so that when it's cleaned up it'll do nicely for classrooms and has a kitchen to use for potlucks. Also the new church building is officially finished with the water hooked up and the toilets functioning. You'll see from the attached photos that they are taking pride in the new building and it's a sign of a rebirth of ministry efforts in Altar.

We can all be pleased with the part we played in delivering this Church building to the parishioners in Altar!



Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year from the Mission to the Children Board.