



▶ COSTA RICA.....1

○ APRIL

○ 2009



▶ MISSION ADVENTURES...2



▶ SAFETY IN MEXICO.....2

# Malcolm's *news*

SERVING WITH YOUTH WITH A MISSION  
IN ENSENADA, MEXICO

## Costa Rica Trip...

An earthquake of 6.2 on the Richter scale occurred in Costa Rica on the 8th of January at 1:21 pm local time. The epicenter was localized at 10 km east of the Poás volcano, at a depth of 6 km, 23 people were reported dead, 91 injured and 7 missing. About 1087 houses, 5 roads and 5 bridges were destroyed spread over an area of 550km<sup>2</sup>. The earthquake caused landslides, mudslides and low water levels in rivers near the epicenter. An estimated total of 2,266 people still remain in shelters. The earthquake was strongly felt across the country. More than 2,000 aftershocks followed and caused further damage. The government issued a number of alerts and the Costa Rican Red Cross had to mobilize more than 159 rescuers to

rescue people injured, trapped or cut-off.

The YWAM ministry in San Jose, has partnered with the local Church to help assist the rebuilding work in the community of Fraijanes. For the last month 65 families, 260 people, have been living in the local community center which overnight had turned into a YWAM San Diego/Baja and the Homes of Hope program has a wealth of experienced staff builders who for ten days pioneered the first YWAM construction team to work in the Fraijanes community. Living in a converted 40' trailer, each day we would go out to serve the local Church. Our first two days were spent assisting the rescue center with cleaning, painting and being willing to help where ever it was needed. This included assembling some prefab concrete houses that will be a new home for some of the many families displaced by the earthquake.



Our main project was to help rebuild the house of Mario, Edith and their six children. Living on the side of a steep hill in a poorly constructed concrete block house the earthquake struck. Mario was at work at the local coffee factory, but the tremors of the earthquake caused the walls to collapse burying some of the family. Thankfully they all escaped without injury, but their home was destroyed. Mario rapidly constructed a shelter out of the tin roof to re-house his family, but had little hope of rebuilding their home.

Over the next week we built a new timber frame over the remains of the concrete block house, reinstalled the windows and started to install the siding over the frame. By the time we left we had given this family hope and a home that they could easily finish. Standing in the circle with the family by the door, we dedicated this home to God and for his protection over this precious family. With the father unable to speak through tears as we prayed and anointed this family as they restart their lives following the devastating earthquake.



# Mission Adventures

Spring Break 2009

Spring Break 2009 brings yet another 450 youth to Ensenada for our week long Mission Adventures program. With a theme of RE:ACT based on Isaiah 61:1-3 we were able to challenge the youth to Re:Think their lives, and Re:Act to bring a new sense of Christian calling within them.

New for this year, our fourth week was held bilingual, inviting 24 local Mexican

youth to also participate in the program. Having the Mexicans with us brought a sense of encouragement and energy to the visiting US and Canadian teams. One visiting participant from the US said, 'the Mexican's really showed us how to worship', referring to the upbeat style of the Mexican songs. Some of the Mexican youth were so encouraged by the program, that many of them returned to help run our kitchen the following week.

Our fifth and last week was our biggest with over 160

youth on our Ensenada campus. With the dorms crammed with extra beds there wasn't a spare mattress to be found. The worship times were alive with the Holy Spirit as the different groups worshiped together.

What was even more remarkable was that a total of nine houses were built that week. Seven of the houses were built with the Mission Adventures teams and a further two panel houses were built with a visiting inner city school team from Chicago.

## SAFETY IN MEXICO

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With the recent news and media coverage of the US/Mexico border region has left many people questioning, 'Is it safe in Mexico?'

YWAM San Diego/Baja has been hosting teams into Mexico since 1988, building over 2,700 homes, serving orphanages and churches, with over 100,000 participants engaged and we have never had an act of violence against a group or individual. We credit God's mercy and grace and the good sound operating principles we have in place as being the key reasons for our longstanding safety record.

Our work sites are well away from the "hot spots" and our group based activities do not present a target to criminals.

The mayors of Tijuana, Rosarito, Tecate and Ensenada are aware of YWAM's work and have often recognized us for our positive contribution to serving the poor of their cities.

Combined with local knowledge, staff participation and reducing our ministry to day light hours enables us to continue serving the poor and needy in Mexico.



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## Praise Items

For the work we able to achieve during our trip to Costa Rica.

For the bilingual Mission Adventures program.

For all the staff who came this Spring to help run Mission Adventures.

## Prayer Requests

For continued safety of the staff and groups in Mexico.

That the Mexican youth who participated in our Spring Mission Adventures program continue to minister with us this summer.

For more teams to book in our Homes of Hope and Mission Adventure programs this summer.

**Support:** As a full time volunteer, I receive no salary for my work. If you wish to help support my work with YWAM and the worldwide Christian community that we are called to serve, please consider supporting YWAM with your prayers and donations.

For non tax payers and for a single gift of up to £30: By Cheque payable to Malcolm Taylor and post to: *Malcolm Taylor, c/o 40Trent Drive, Wareham, Dorset. BH20 4DF.*

### Gift Aid Donation through Stewardship Services:

Your donation to me, by using Gift Aid, can be increased by 28% by reclaiming the tax you have already paid. This can be for any single donation over £30, or for regular sponsorship.

Please contact me and I will forward a Gift Aid form to you.

**Your support to YWAM in prayer and by your donations is gratefully received. Thank you.**