



BUILDING BLOCKS

"...For such a time as this..." Esther 4:14b

January 2022

Thank You for Your Support

We are so thankful for the prayers, encouragement, and financial donations we have received to help us re-construct the 3rd floor multipurpose room, which was destroyed by a fire in November. The cost of rebuilding the structure is \$60,000 and we have already received half that amount. Praise God! We have also had generous donors help by purchasing some of the tables and chairs lost in the fire. We have received 4 tables and 4 chairs, out of the 20 of each we need. We are getting closer, and we'd deeply appreciate continued prayers and any help you can offer.



God's Faithfulness Shown Through Our Neighbors

In our 17 years running the school in Juárez, we have come to know the community around us. Sometimes our neighbors have been receptive to the Gospel, sometimes they have not. Some families love attending

our school with its higher standards and volunteer requirements, some decide our model is not for them. We often don't know exactly how families and other community members view God's ministry here or how they view us. The fire in November provided a truly humbling reminder from our Lord that He has been working in this ministry all these years, that He is with us, and our community cares for us just as we care for them.



It was neighbors who first noticed the smoke coming from our 3rd floor. They rushed to warn us and had the foresight to run to the back of the school and turn off our propane gas tank. Later we found out that falling debris from the fire broke the gas line. If they had not turned off the gas tank, we would have had a disaster.



The outpouring of support we received from the community in the days following the fire has been an encouragement to reflect on. Families whose children graduated from our school many years ago arrived ready to help us with the cleanup. Other community members with whom we've shared the Gospel over the years arrived and also pitched in, though we did not solicit help from anyone. The massive mess left after the fire was cleaned up in just one week, thanks to the help of our community.

Though destruction of the 3rd Floor has been a very challenging loss, and the water damage to the apartment beneath, where Maria and Gilbert live, is extensive, we have seen God's faithfulness. We see how he protected us in the fact that no students were at school that day and that neighbors saw the smoke and took decisive action. We see his love for us in sending community members to care for us in the days after. And even in small mercies, like Maria's beloved Bible bag pictured to the right, we are reminded of God's care. The Bible bag was in the room that was destroyed by fire, though the bag itself is completely intact. Perhaps that is God's reminder that He sees all details, the big and the small, and He is with us in the fire. May you take encouragement from knowing that whatever challenges you face today, God is with you in your fire, too.





Christmas Celebration

It is a joy to share photos with you of our school Christmas celebration each year. This year, due to Covid shutdowns of schools in December, we held our Christmas celebration on January 12. Many thanks, as always, to Calvary Chapel El Paso, whose generous members donate Christmas gifts to our students each year. Our students' smiles and deep gratitude reflect how much these gifts mean to them.



On Christmas Day each year, Maria and Gilbert, along with other volunteers, make and deliver tamales to community members. The remembrance on Christmas of what our Savior has done for us creates joy for us in doing something special for others on that day.

Return to School for the Second Semester-Distance Learning

For the first semester of school, the local government allowed schools to return to in-person learning at 50% capacity and only for four hours per day. We briefly continued seeing the students at the beginning of this semester at 50% capacity, but recently the local government has required schools return to distance learning indefinitely. Please pray for our faculty and students as this is a very challenging requirement. Our students do not own computers and many of their parents have limited educations. Last year we were required to remain at distance learning essentially the entire school year and many of our students stalled in their learning or even lost many important academic skills. Pray for our students to learn the best they can in this situation, and pray we can return to in-person learning soon.

Prayer Requests and Needs

Please support us in prayer and consider tangible ways you can be a part of the following needs:

- Pray for devoted Christian teachers to join our faculty. Juárez in general is facing a major lack of teachers, and our school is no exception.
- Pray that we will receive funds to rebuild the 3rd story as well as donations to purchase replacement tables and chairs. See the note at the bottom of how to give to the fire fund.
- We need additional sponsors to support our students monthly. For more information, contact Maria at mmmeige@gmail.com.
- Pray for the provision of finances, land, and manpower to construct the future junior high building. Pray also for wisdom as we make decisions moving forward.
- Pray for Maria and Gilbert in their ongoing work and pray for fellow workers to come alongside them.
- Pray for the teachers to be encouraged and strong in Christ, to invest in the lives of the students, and to remain teaching at these schools as long as the Lord calls them.
- Contact Maria and Gilbert if you are interested in bringing a team to Juárez for a mission trip.

To donate to help rebuild after the fire:

Here is the link: <http://my.simplegive.com/dl/?uid=anch608134>. It will bring you directly to our page and you should see Colegio James R Ganley at the top.

- 1) Click "Sign in" on the first page
- 2) Now look below the sign in to click on "Don't have a giving account? Create One"
- 3) Fill in the "register for an account" information
- 4) Once you are registered first click on "one time" donation at the top of the page. Then click on "Choose a Fund" and choose "Fire". Fill out the payment information.
- 5) If you want to view or change anything, go to "My Account". It allows you to view your account and to give a pledge and make changes.

If you'd prefer to give by check, please make checks out to Anchor Children's Ministry and mail to:

Anchor Children's Ministry
P.O. Box 220094
El Paso, TX 79913

Thank you, and God bless you!