

GLOBAL MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

"You are the light of the world--like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden."



spotlight on: Emmanuel Ministries

In July of 2007, New Covenant took a team of 19 youth and adults to a little "city" on a hill in Ciudad Juarez Mexico. The destination was Emmanuel Ministries which includes Emmanuel Children's Home, Emmanuel Medical and Dental Clinic, Isaac Newton Academy, Emmanuel Ballet Academy, Emmanuel Christian Church, Let His People Dance and Cor Ignis Contemporary Dance Company. Our mission was to work at the children's home and school on various projects and to minister the love of Jesus to the children. Since 1962, Emmanuel has been caring for the children on the streets of Juarez. Emmanuel is now home to about 100 children. These children come from extreme poverty or broken homes where there is only one parent caring for them; others come from neglectful situations, physical and emotional abuse, and some from total abandonment.



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The Lord called us back again to Emmanuel in the summer of 2008, this time with a team of 29. The work was different but the mission was the same – love the people of Emmanuel. These were amazing life changing trips for us and probably everyone would love to go back some day.

Emmanuel is currently in a difficult season, but God is still in control and the mission remains the same. CEO Betel Lopez says, "it is God who is in charge and it is He who runs the ministry and He has made it clear that His heart has not changed. I have learned that as long as He desires this ministry will stand for the purpose of caring for those most vulnerable, for those young hearts and souls." Summer mission trips have declined due to groups deciding not to visit at this time. But the children still look forward to when the "Americanos" come to spend time with them. Thanks to faithful supporters, the needs of Emmanuel are being met.

The city of Juarez, Mexico is located just across the Rio Grande from El Paso, Texas, where unemployment and poverty are severe, travel to border towns in hopes of finding a better life or perhaps passage to the US. Juarez has many factories but the workers labor long hours for little pay. Unable to provide good housing they live in the slums of Juarez sometimes with only cardboard for homes. In single parent homes the children are often left locked in the home the entire day while Mom or Dad go to work. Juarez has a population of over 2 million. Unfortunately, it has become a war zone and is now recognized as the murder capital of the world. In 2006 the Mexican government declared war on the drug cartels who are fighting back. They are also in the midst of a war between two large powerful rival drug cartels. In 2009 there were over 2,600 murders in Juarez accounting for over one third of Mexico's drug war related murders.



here's how you can pray for Emmanuel this month:

- Pray for the president and all the people of Mexico
- Pray for peace in the city of Juarez
- Pray for continued financial support of Emmanuel
- Pray for God's sovereign protection on the children and staff of Emmanuel