

**Monthly Update (December 2011) from Trujillo, Honduras by Mark and Brenda Young**

Thanks to the many people who have been praying for the *Little Hands* mission in Honduras. We are fortunate that the rainy weather that has affected many other parts of the country have not adversely affected Trujillo. **The rivers are running high and a few homes have been flooded** but nothing like the Choluteca and Copan areas. Also, we are blessed that the highway bridge washed out two years ago was finally finished and reopened in October.

We also want to ask you to continue to **pray for our children and families as we enter the tropical rainy season** which can often yield lots of rain and flooding. Especially pray for our little ones who need surgery – Isabel, Justin, Geymi, William, and José Ricardo. Each of these have recently had medical appointments or have them coming up this month. No surgeries are scheduled at this point. The rainy season always brings many challenges for our families, especially when it means getting them to doctors or hospitals.

A big “thank you” goes out to the *Fundacion* board in Trujillo who worked closely with the local community in carrying out the **2<sup>nd</sup> annual Maraton of Love to benefit the Manos Chicas, Corazones Grandes (LHBH) mission**. Over 24 donation bottles/boxes were placed in businesses around the community during the month of November. When they were collected and the money counted \$3,146.11 had been donated. After expenses were paid, the **total came to \$1,943.58. Praise the Lord!** This is more than a 300% increase over the first *maraton* held last year. We offer our heartfelt thanks to Yefrin and the *Little Hands* staff who worked so hard with the *Fundacion* board to promote this special community endeavor. Many leaders in the community including the mayor, the local television and radio stations, and a local credit union worked together to make this a HUGE success this year. **All of these funds will be used to help local children served by the Little Hands mission address specific medical needs.** From a North American standpoint we can be proud that the local people view the importance of this mission and want to have a stake in helping their own children. Praise God for this partnership!

Some of you are aware that the **Summit View Church elders approved a 10% budget increase for LH and a 4% cost of living increase for the 5 full-time staff members**. After holding steady for 3 years we just couldn’t continue to pay operational costs and serve the children God has brought to us. In faith we stepped out to help our Honduran staff deal with their own increased living costs of almost everything by offering them a small wage increase. In addition, we have the opportunity to hire both Norbertina and Erika as teachers next year, if we can raise the \$425 a month needed to pay them for their time. We ask you to prayerfully consider helping us meet this challenge God has laid before us. If you can commit to a monthly amount, please email Mark or call at (509) 480-1993. The Lord promises to bless the cheerful giver!

In closing, let us thank those who have been **praying for Brenda as she has recently undergone knee replacement surgery**. After 3 days in the hospital, she is now recovering at home. Pray that she has a complete recovery as we continue to make our plans to return to Honduras in the fall of 2012. Also, please pray for our son, Shane, who has been studying this term in Athens, Greece. He plans on returning to the U.S. on December 22 in time for the holidays. Shane will resume classes in Walla Walla at Whitman College in January. May the Lord bless your family as you gather to celebrate the Christmas season!

Blessed to be His ambassadors,  
Mark and Brenda