



# Lubeck Locator

Evangel Bible Translators to the Chortí

April 2024

Dear Precious Partners,

With a lot of our world still experiencing cold and snow, our hot season has marched in with a vengeance. Several days this week were highs of 105+ and so when yesterday was only in the high 80s, it felt like a cold front. We were delighted.

If we were delighted with a mere change in the weather, you can only imagine how the two Marys felt when the angel spoke to them. Delighted, amazed, shocked, blessed, relieved, happy, comforted, assured, encouraged, hopeful beyond meas-



ure, are just a few words which reflect what was going on in their hearts. Listen to these life-changing words from Matthew 28:5-6: *Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid! he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't*

*here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying.*

Praise the Lord we serve the risen Lord. And we too can celebrate just like the two Marys did. Thank you, Jesus.

*Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid! he said. "I know you are looking for*

*Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying.*

*Matthew 28:5 - 6*

## Ladies Bible Study Celebrates Their First Anniversary (Mama Diana)

Frankly, I had not noticed that a year had passed since we had had our first meeting, but my ladies did. They took the bull by the horns and

planned a special dinner and kindly told me that I didn't have to do a thing except to do the Bible teaching which they never want left out, praise God.

There were 18 of us for the sit-down dinner and a beautiful cake. But the frosting on the cake for me was their precious testimonies of what God has

## First Anniversary, continued



done in their lives this last year. I have been teaching on the healing miracles of Jesus and these ladies have been experiencing miracles of healing in their own lives. All praise and glory goes to our Almighty God.

And as our precious daughter Kathy always says when we are in the midst of a storm in our lives, "We are in the middle of a huge testimony." Some of my ladies whom I affectionately call "my daughters" are definitely in the midst of a storm in their lives, but their testimonies are on the way, as they keep their eyes on Jesus, "The Author and Finisher of our faith," (Heb. 12:2).

*We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.*

*Hebrews 12:2*

## Men's Bible Study (Papa John)

Due to many requests from the husbands of ladies who attend Mama Diana's Ladies' Bible Study, I started a Men's Bible Study in Spanish the middle of January this year. We have had an enthusiastic response and

several of the husbands started attending regularly, and a few others have joined as well. The testimonies that we are hearing from others is that there is a great appreciation for the deep things in God's Word that we are

*And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires.*

*2 Peter 1:4*



teaching. That is our desire and we appreciate so much the testimonies going out about our Bible studies. One of the issues we are emphasizing is what the Bible teaches us about God's great and precious promises that He has given us (2 Peter 1:3-4). In our

## Men's Bible Study, continued

experience here in our area, people are not understanding these truths that are so important to living a victorious Christian life. And since many people here are involved in agriculture, using the biblical terminology of sowing and reaping really makes sense to them. We would usually use the terms of the conditions and the benefits when we talk about a particular promise in the Bible. For example in Proverbs 3:5-6 it says: *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understand-*

*ing. Seek his will in all you do,"* [which is the condition or the planting, and the promise or the harvest is that God] *"will show you which path to take."* So we plant by trusting God with all our hearts and looking within our spirits for the leading of the Holy Spirit, and not over thinking it with our minds, and the harvest is that we will be led by God to do the right thing (be on the right path).

And of course, we are never leaving out the first and most important promise from our Father

God, and that is if we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ that we will be saved. And it is important that each person really believes that he or she is saved and has eternal life (cf. Romans 10:9-10).

As happens in any small town, people know everything that is going on in the lives of others, whether it is good or bad, and the word is out on several of the men in the Bible study that they have really stepped up to be a positive testimony for the Lord.

## God's Gift of a New Pickup (Papa John)

As you may know, Mama Diana and I often give premarital counseling classes to couples, and one of the classes is called Love Languages. And one of the assignments we give a couple after we give this class is to list which love language they prefer most and then finish the list in order of their preferences. And Mama Diana and I mention what our preferences are. Mama Diana's favorite is Gift Giving (and receiving), and she often says that it is number five of my preferences. But I usually add, "But if you want to give me a new car, I

would really like that." And I'm sure that I have said that dozens of times over the years. But when it came about that we were really going to be able to acquire a new pickup—this month—I was really excited!

We have mentioned several



times during the last year or so our need to replace our nine-year-old, aging pickup. And several nice offerings had come in which we put in savings against the day when we would have enough to make the purchase. And as of the beginning of the year, we had saved up nearly one quarter of the needed amount, and then I was guessing how much we could sell our old pickup for, and praying that the rest would come in. But I wasn't thinking that it would be very soon.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## New Pickup, continued

*(Continued from page 3)*

Then as I was communicating with our mission president a little while ago, she casually mentioned that a really large check had been received by the mission for us. And to our surprise, it was large enough to cover the rest of the cost of the new pickup! So I called the VW agency in Guatemala City to see what was available and what it would cost, and to my delight they had over 20 pickups left over from 2023 that they were selling at a discounted price. And we had enough money in hand with the

sale of our old pickup to be able to buy it! Praise God! And since I have been looking at these pickups for the last couple of years and had driven them several times, all I had to do was choose the color and put in my order. And believe it or not, since we were so busy with our varied activities and ministries, we never went to see the car until we took delivery! And that happened on March 15<sup>th</sup>. And our correspondences and payments were all done online, doing transfers from our bank to the VW agency's

bank account, and getting receipts online as well. But our Guatemalan bank has limits on how much can be transferred each day, so it took many days to get the car all paid for. So after the next to the last payment, I asked the salesman how much I still owed, and he said \$61.25! So I sent that a few days before delivery and all was ready when our son-in-law Joel flew us in his small plane to the capital to take delivery. What a fun day!



## Exciting Ministries in April (Mama Diana)

We praise the Lord every day for the strength and energy with which he has blessed us. Each new day is a gift from Him.

So when we receive an invitation to share somewhere, we

go to prayer and make sure that it is something that the Lord wants us to do. This has really worked well for us and God gives us an extra dose of strength and creativity to prepare and pull off the ministry.

The month of April has two very exciting events. The first is on April 7<sup>th</sup>, an event clear on the other side of the country, very close to the border of Guatemala and Belize, a six or seven hour drive from our



# Ministries in April, continued

home. It is the fifth anniversary of the Christian television station called "Amigos TV". They want us to share for an hour in each of the morning and evening services. So we have been joyfully preparing for this event for the last few days.

The second event is a wedding in Puerto Cortes, Honduras, on April 13<sup>th</sup>. This couple has truly paid the price to have

premarital counseling with us. The girl's parents have brought her from Honduras five times in the last few months and we have taken the extra time to do two classes each visit so they would have only five trips instead of 10. We will have the honor of participating in their wedding in Honduras.

Then after their wedding we will drive to another city in

Honduras where one of our Guatemalan pastor's daughters and her husband and baby boy live and we will be going to church with them on Sunday where the husband's grandfather is the pastor. Fun times ahead, and we certainly appreciate your prayers.

## Fun Photos



**Ladies Bible Study Christmas Party**



**Mama Diana with little Ale, the daughter of Luisa who is in the Ladies Bible Study**



**Katie's Baby Shower**



**Kathy, Diana, and baby Emma**

**It was cold three days this year, so Teo and John enjoyed the fire for a little while.**





# Evangel Bible Translators

*Giving the World the Word*

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Gifts and donations can be made by sending a check made out to our mission with a note added saying it is for the ministry of John and Diana Lubeck. Additionally, donations may be made using a credit or debit card by calling the mission office and giving them the information. If you wish to help with a certain project, please mention it in your note and we'll be sure to use the funds as you have designated.

## *Praise Reports and Prayer Requests*

1. We thank God for our wonderful new truck
2. We thank God for you all who prayed and gave love offerings to see this miracle happen.
3. We thank God for our Chortí Angel Choir and how they are responding to God's Word and our leadership. Thank you for praying. Keep up the good work.
4. Please pray for the funds to put in extra bathrooms, one for the 30 boys in our choir, and another for the girls, and for extra folks when we have large groups for retreats and conferences here in our conference room. Our one small bathroom is definitely overworked.
5. Please pray for the funds to put in a large garage door for our garage which is inside the gate of our property and is the first thing seen when our guests arrive.
6. Please pray for our upcoming ministries: that we will have strength and joy:
  - A. Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, ministering in two services in Santa Cruz, El Petén for the fifth anniversary of the Christian Television Network, "Amigos TV", and
  - B. Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, participating in a wedding in Puerto Cortez, Honduras.
  - C. Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, ministry in San Pedro Sula, Honduras



*Thank you all for your love, prayers, and support. We love and appreciate you each one. Praise God that we can all say together about Jesus Christ, "He is risen, just like He said." Happy Easter!*

*John & Diana Lubeck*

