

Andrea's Ministry Update

May/June 2009

Dear family and friends,

Thanks for your continued prayers on my behalf! Much has happened the past two months that I'd like to share with you.

Visit to the U.S.!

May began in **Pensacola, Florida** for a **Missions Conference**, where we spent a week with other missionaries from all over the world and were ministered to by churches in the area. It was a unique and enriching opportunity to spend time with like-minded people.



Next I had a nice **visit with my sending church, Vineyard of Gainesville**. It was so good to see many of you at the church **dinner Saturday night**. Many thanks to Shana and Todd and everyone who helped organize the event. I was encouraged to have been given the opportunity to share what God has been doing in Los Cedros.

I am glad we were able to **celebrate Mother's Day** together too!

Sad news from the field:



While in the U.S., we received the sad news that **Ministry of Families** had been to our home and **taken Mirian away** to live with an Aunt. Mirian was our first baby at the orphanage and had her 2nd birthday in April. We lift her up in prayer and believe through Faith that this is all part of her Father's plan for her life. We love you and will miss you lots Mirian.

Moving towards permanency:

Well, I finally **finished packing up my house in Gainesville and getting the last of my things out!** Thanks to all of you who helped me. I now have my life of 50 years packed up in about 20 Rubbermaid boxes. Downsizing is so liberating, now I feel free to go wherever The LORD wants me to go and do whatever He wants me to do.



Rosalinda, my friend from the beach:

I also shared with many of you some of the **new opportunities for outreach that are being presented to me**. I did go to the beach to visit with Rosalinda for her birthday, but she was not there.☹ I spoke with her Grandmother who told me that Rosalinda was at home sick with her Mother that day. Now that we are in the rainy season it is not so easy to plan a day at the beach, and so far I have not been able to spend time with Rosalinda and share the gifts I have for her. I know The LORD will find a way☺

Time of transition in Nicaragua:

While in the U.S. in May, I had shared that some **changes were taking place at Los Cedros**. However, at that time I had no idea the magnitude of the change the Lord had in store. The decision had been made in May that no one could live on property full time anymore, and to comply with this new policy, I moved out of orphanage the beginning of June. *It was an honor to have dedicated a season of my life to the children and the pioneering of the orphanage.* Now that the foundations for running the orphanage at Los Cedros have been established, the LORD has made it clear that *He is leading me in a new direction.*

Many Needs and Opportunities:

There are countless opportunities to serve here, many of them are urgent. Many children are living in dangerous, destitute situations: homeless, hungry, and alone; abandoned, abused and neglected. At the same time, it is very encouraging to see God's hand at work in restoring the lives of His precious children. The missionary community is embracing me during this time of change, and they are supporting me in prayer as I seek God's will for the next step in serving Him.

I covet your prayers at this time of transition. I am here to serve The LORD in whatever capacity is needed. I pray for wisdom and discernment to know which choices to make in order to advance His Kingdom.

In the Meantime..

I am currently staying with a friend and serving at a children's ministry until my next visit to the U.S., which is scheduled for August 2nd. I am praying that the Lord confirms what my ministry role will be during this time.

Visit to the U.S.

I'm looking forward to connecting with the "home base" part of my ministry team, as each of you plays such an important part in blessing the nation of Nicaragua! I look

forward to sharing with you all about the new avenues of ministry that the Lord has opened up for me in this country I love so dearly.

Time of reflection:

I am thankful to be in a season of life that enables me to spend more time in prayer and meditation. Please pray that I will continue to be open to the new things God has for me, that I will be able to listen and obey, and that He will give me wisdom and courage to know when to move and when to stand firm.

As always, I thank you all for your continued love, encouragement and support. I could not do this without you!

“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and how long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” Ephesians 3 v 17b-19.

Lifting you all up in the power of prayer,

Blessings and love,

andrea x