

## One God, one family

Fall 2011

*The Warren family from Puyallup, Washington have been visiting the orphanage for twenty years. Clay, youth pastor at Tacoma Christian Reformed Community Church, and his daughter Danielle, also a youth leader, annually bring groups from their church. Here they share how involving the El Sauzal youth with the Tacoma youth deepened everyone's faith.*



*Clay holding Ruffito*

### Sparking a new vision

After years of bringing high school students to serve at the El Sauzal Orphanage, we have formed many wonderful and loving relationships. Yet, we still have a desire for these connections to grow deeper than ever before. This is what sparked a new idea to draw our group closer to the orphanage and all of us nearer to God.

### Spanish + English = a great idea

Last year our group invited the youth from the orphanage and the community to join us each night for devotions. We sent the lessons ahead of time to a wonderful young lady named Yessica. She worked hard translating each devotion into Spanish. Then, while we were there, Yessica came every night and interpreted our discussions. This was such a special opportunity.

Each evening we would begin by singing songs that we knew in English and the Mexicans knew in Spanish. As the room filled with the sound of praises being sung in both languages at the same time, the presence of the Holy Spirit was overwhelming. By the end of our two-week stay, we totaled about thirty people from our group, the community and the orphanage crowded into the little common room in the dorms. After this trip we could not imagine going back to doing our devotions without the teens from the orphanage and community. We decided

the joint devotions would be something we would do for all the years to come.

### Taking it even further

This year we determined to take it even further. We wanted to learn what it means to serve God together as the family of God. In addition to completing work projects around the orphanage, we also focused on serving the community. We assisted the local church, two families, and another orphanage for children who have special needs. For each

of these projects we gathered with our students from the U.S., the orphanage, and many from San Antonio de las Minas. We loaded into every vehicle we could find and went together to lend a hand. This was so special for each of us. We were reminded that no matter where we are from, what background we have, where we live, or what our own hardships are, there is always someone else to whom we can show Christ's love through service.

### Connecting on a deep spiritual level

After our work projects we came together each night for devotions. With Yessica translating, we would discuss "why we serve". Following the devotions, we split up into small groups that were a mix of Mexican and U.S. youth. This provided us with the opportunity to connect on a deep spiritual level.

### A large extended family

It was amazing to watch God work as both cultures shared their common struggles, joys, love and devotion for Christ. We were reminded that there is one God and one Church. There was a deeper sense of awareness that we have family and friends throughout the world that we can count on to pray for us and encourage us in our walk with the Lord. If one person is struggling, they know and trust that their brothers and sisters across the border are praying for them, loving them and supporting them. We are one large extended family; even more so, we are one family in Christ. We see and believe that we serve ONE God and that we serve others together as one Church!



*Serving can be hard work!*

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**El Sauzal Foundation, Inc.**  
 P.O. Box 154  
 Auburn, WA 98071-0154  
[www.elsauzal.org](http://www.elsauzal.org)



*by Clay Warren & Danielle Bergman*

## Muchas gracias for your back to school help!



We are so grateful for your school gifts. Uniforms are very expensive and we were blessed by your assistance.

We wanted to share some fun school donations that we received. One was a gift from Ned and Barb Johnson for three pairs of shoes. Another was from the girls' Sunday School class at Tonasket Bible Church, in Washington. The 5 girls, ages 10 to 17, saved their money and did extra chores to send \$165 for school clothes. The last was a donation for two complete uniforms - for a girl and a boy - from Mitch and Gloria Burrus. Perfect for our kids, like Marcelina and Damian here.

Thanks so much for helping our kids get the education they need!

## Our new address!

It's time to update your contacts! The mailing address of El Sauzal Foundation has changed to:

**PO Box 154  
Auburn, WA 98071-0154**

We continue to keep overhead costs low by avoiding renting office space for the orphanage foundation. Our board members and other volunteers donate their time to keep the foundation running smoothly. Although our board members are spread out along the West Coast, several members (including our Secretary and Treasurer) live in western Washington, making Auburn a central and convenient location for our new mailing address.



## Sponsor a child: Victor

Victor and his brother, Ivan, came to El Sauzal after a tumultuous life. Nothing is known of their life before their aunt took them to the police for care. The police brought them to an orphanage which they ran away from. They were then brought to El Sauzal. They have adjusted well and are very happy living here.



*If you would like to sponsor Victor or another of our children, please see our Sponsorship page — [elsauzal.org/Sponsor](http://elsauzal.org/Sponsor)*



January 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Pre-order your own 2012 El Sauzal calendar today

- High quality, standard sized, full color, 12-month wall calendar.
- Lots of beautiful photos of our children.
- U.S & Mexican holidays included.
- Prayer requests for the children each month.
- Favorite scriptures of the orphanage staff and foundation board members.
- Suggested donation: \$12 each (includes shipping & handling)
- Makes a great gift!!

### To pre-order:

- Mail in the enclosed slip with your payment (see back of slip).
- Go to [elsauzal.org](http://elsauzal.org) and order with Paypal.

*Calendars will be mailed late November/early December.*