

# ¡Que Pasa! ANNUAL REPORT

doctor visits. We rely on God to stay strong with the busyness of the day-to-day care for our large family.

## ... Take heart ...

March 3<sup>rd</sup> was the first day the Ramos children attended their new schools—middle school for the girl and elementary for two of the boys. The youngest one is waiting to get into kindergarten. Previously they only sporadically attended school. One of the boys is struggling adapting to school rules. He is sensitive. We are careful correcting him because he takes discipline hard and cries. We are especially gentle with him.

As we look at our finances, we remember God tells us to take heart. The Message translates Psalm 31:24 as "Be brave. Be strong. Don't give up. Expect God to get here soon." We are grateful that our financial support has gone up over the last two years. Thank you for your faithful giving!

Not surprisingly, with global inflation "high and getting higher,"<sup>1</sup> our expenses have gone up also. One example of this is the rising price of corn tortillas in Mexico. (See page 5.)

***"Food price inflation, especially for tortillas, is straining household budgets in Mexico with the poor bearing the brunt because it eats up a bigger slice of their income."***<sup>2</sup>

Unfortunately, inflation is causing our debt to grow. Another factor affecting our debt were two mandatory minimum wage raises in 2022 and 2023. (See page 5.) These hikes not only affect the salary we pay our staff, but also increase the government's employee taxes. In our 56 years, we have not dealt with a financial challenge quite like this. We are actively seeking God's direction as we grapple with the increase in debt.

## ... All you who hope in the Lord

The Ramos kids are happy and well-adjusted. Several of our children are picky and won't eat if they don't like what is served. Not the Ramos siblings. They like to eat, and eat a lot. Before each meal, three times a day, they pray with the other children for their food and recite a Bible verse. They have also attended church several times since arriving.

There is a lot that we are hopeful for. We thank God for the blessing of every child He brings to us. We are joyful to see the expectant look on a child's face as they learn Scripture or their curiosity grows as they hear about God. These things are precious to experience.

We are also grateful for the intriguing and creative ways God provided last year. On page 6, see how the Valle restaurant fundraiser contributed almost \$10,000. You can also read how you, our creative donors, got matching gifts from your workplaces, bringing in an impressive 10% of our year's giving!

**1. Pray** **2. Visit**  
**3. Give**

Will you continue to join us as we wait on God? There are three vital ways that you can participate—pray, visit, and give.



**Bryana and Eduardo** enjoy playing a memory game on a sunny afternoon.