

June 2010



Dear Friends and Family,

What a full last three months this has been! We have all enjoyed getting to know our new little baby, Anthony. He has turned out to be quite a happy baby...very content to eat, smile, sleep and wake to eat again! And Samantha is one very proud big sister. She adores her little brother and enjoys having someone to play with. My parents were here for three weeks in March/April. It was so fun to have them come visit and meet their new grandson. And while Anthony may not have known who came to visit him, Samantha definitely did. She thoroughly enjoyed playing with Grandma and Grandpa and has been talking about going on a plane to visit them in California ever since. I keep telling her to wait till December; it is hard to teach patience to a two and a half year old!



Raising two kids is a new challenge for me. On many a day I wake up with an idea of the things I would like to get done, knowing full well that all of that could change depending on two little ones. Some days everything goes as planned, and we are able to go into Managua to go grocery shopping, to the bank, and/or pay a scholarship or two. Ideally, we make it home around lunch time, and after lunch they both go down for naps and I can get some other work done. But many a day does not turn out that nice and easy. There are temper tantrums or potty training accidents or a phone call for something that needs more immediate attention than groceries. Who knows what it might be, but my daily plans are always flexible, literally living out the saying, "Write your plans in pencil but give God the eraser."



Last week we said good-bye to one awesome and very hardworking team! They were a group from Maranatha Christian High School from Pasadena, CA. All 20 of them came with hands ready to serve. They dug ditches, painted murals, painted the new library extension, hung out with our youth group and played sports in the afternoons. It was a busy 10 days for them, and we really appreciate all of the work they put into El Salero Sports Center as well as the new friends we gained. Working with a team with two kids proved to be a fun challenge. While I am not able to work as much, Sami tried to fill in for me by painting one day. I came back to find her stripped down to her "undies" painting the new library wall as well as herself! The library extension is now almost finished. In the next couple of months we will lay tile and have bookcases made in order to finish the project.



It has been a rainy, rainy season so far! After the dry season we all look forward to this time of year. Everything is super green, and the corn and beans that were planted on our back property are growing fast. We have enjoyed eating fresh pipian as well as many avocados. From a newborn baby to new friendships to fresh fruits and vegetables – some of the best things in life are the simple ones!



Seeking Him for life,

A tribute to Benz,
our beloved Rottweiler

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