

# Amigos en Cristo Ministries



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*Julie's Corner*

## A year of blessings for AeC

This year is wrapping up and I am grateful for His transforming work in Juarez and for many answered prayers. We praise Him for a strong, committed staff who love the AeC families day in and day out; the blessing of partnerships with the local schools; the progress on the fine arts center at our garden property; youngsters growing in their faith; the fellowship of Christians on both sides of the border working together; people coming to faith in Christ! I'm glad



David Hampton

to announce that starting in January a long-time prayer request will be fulfilled: Don Tucker has agreed to return to Juarez as Director of Stewardship and David Hampton will serve as Property Maintenance and Vehicle Manager. We also thank you for your generosity and your prayers to keep the resources flowing for this ministry. We wish you a very Happy New Year! Blessings to you!

**- Julie Zara**

## Year end reflection from English teacher Art Caban

While it has been "just another year" for those with whom I serve, it has been an enormously fulfilling experience for me. Wrested from a comfortable if unproductive retirement, I am blessed with continued good

health and a heart full of the contentment only service for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, can provide.

If success can be measured by the laughter of children, then we are successful indeed. Children

are learning, they are fed well, they are cared for, they are protected and they are loved. As with children everywhere, there are times when circumstances lead to annoyance and anger, but

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# “Let the little children come to me...”

*(Continued from front)*

I have yet to see any situation that has progressed beyond a bit of pushing and shoving. There is always one of us adults around to see that nothing escalates beyond that. And every such encounter serves as another opportunity to teach our children to overcome adversity with understanding and love.

The Christmas holiday serves as opportunity to teach the children about the child who grew to make God very real to all mankind and, through his death, to make our relationship right

with Him.

During this time of year especially, our hearts are drawn to these children who thrive on love and heartfelt encouragement. I am overwhelmed at how our students greet each other and their teachers with joy and embraces. It is a reflection of the love Jesus expressed in Matthew 19:14, when He said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” I have come to better realize what Jesus meant by that.

In Heaven, we will all be filled with joy and wonder as we glorify God and enjoy His wondrous blessings without the interference of any evil. And that is exactly what we endeavor to do for our children here. As best we can, we provide a safe environment where children can explore the gifts and talents God has given them. We do our best to prepare them to face an uncertain future with the certain knowledge that as they put their trust in Him, our loving God is there to protect and guide them along life’s often difficult pathway.

**- Art Caban**

## Scenes from Juarez

