

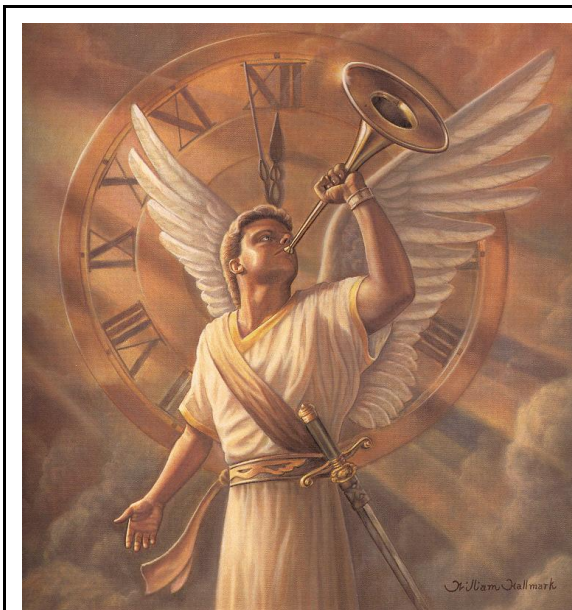


Dear EMM Family:

We face many new challenges during 2009. So much uncertainty – politics...new president... new members of Congress... economy... turmoil in Iraq...Pakistan...Israel... our nation's value system needs an overhaul...and on and on. But one thing is certain – GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL!!! We need to only trust Him and allow Him to control us. I've been blessed in a new way by First and Second Corinthians. I Cor. 8:6, says "But we know that there is only one God, the Father who created everything, and we exist for Him, and there is only one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom God made everything and through whom we have been given life" (NLT). Read I Cor. 6:11: "...but now your sins have been washed away, and you have been SET APART for God. You have been made right with God because of what the Lord Jesus Christ and the **Spirit of our God** have done for you." There are two spirits operating in our world – the **Spirit of our God**, or the **spirit of the evil one**. The spirit we choose to follow determines the choices we make. Galatians 5:19-23 gives us lists of the results when we follow the Devil's desires for us or the Holy Spirit's desire for us. Let us live in the freedom available to us through walking in the Spirit of God. In II Cor. 12:8 we read that the Holy Spirit told Paul, "My gracious favor is all you need. My power works best in your weakness." Let us determine to walk in the power of the Spirit of God in 2009.

## Christmas Report

It's always a great blessing to receive news from the field in Mexico. Field Director Paul Unruh gave a report about several Christmas programs. The churches in Mexico plan special Christmas programs and the members invite their unsaved relatives and friends to attend. As a rule, Mexican families are close knit, and relatives will attend to watch the children perform in the programs. A clear presentation of the Gospel is always given, and in this way members of extended families have received Christ as their personal Savior.



### *“Working Till the Trumpet Sounds!”*

We wish to announce our annual banquet, held in conjunction with our Board of Directors meeting. If you will be in South Texas on Thursday, Feb. 12, we hope you will be able to attend our banquet which will be held on the campus of Rio Grande Bible Institute. Call the EMM office for free tickets if you are able to attend – 956-787-3543.

## Child Evangelism

This year the two lady directors of our child evangelism department, both graduates of our seminary, prepared a Christmas program, and it was held in three of our churches. The Eternal Refuge Church hosted the program in a nearby park with an attendance of about 40 children. A Christmas play was presented, followed by a clear application, and at the invitation several children expressed a desire to accept Christ as Savior. A little girl about five years old from an unchurched home was asked by her aunt on her way home how she liked the program. She said she had really enjoyed it. When asked what she had learned she answered, "That Jesus came into my heart." Her aunt then questioned her how she knew that. The answer was, "Because I felt Him come in." We are thankful for the children from the neighborhood who came and pray that many more who live near the Walter Gomez Evangelical Center will come to know the Lord as their personal Savior.

At another of our churches in Pachuca, about 50 people came to the Christmas program. Normally attendance is around 17 people, and at the Eternal Refuge Church there were between 110 and 120 people present. There were over 20 unsaved people present who heard the message of salvation. Even though no decisions were made, the seed was sown. Among the unsaved was the husband of one of the ladies of the church for whom the congregation has been praying for over a year and also the wife and daughter of a man who does not come very faithfully because of his wife.

### ***BUILDING PROJECT***

It's good when church members help build their own church. We feel the church really becomes their own when they do. It is exciting to see how happy the congregation at the Eternal Refuge Church is to have even an unfinished building for their services.



**Partially completed Eternal Refuge Church**



### **We Reap What We Sow**

In a recent newsletter, Agnes Koop wrote that her granddaughter – Paul and Eunice's daughter Lynette – had to have nose surgery. This was done in Monclova because our missionaries personally know the Christian specialist there. Many years ago, after a Christian film showing, John Koop had the privilege of leading this specialist to the Lord when he was a boy. Isn't it great that John had a part in having a Christian specialist available when his granddaughter needed him? The Lord works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. Aren't you glad we have such a great God to take care of us who puts things in motion long before we need them?

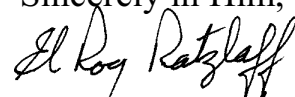
**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROUS YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS TO EMM!** We understand many faith missions are experiencing low receipts during this economic

downturn. But thanks to our faithful supporters, we have received the mandate to keep on keeping on.

When I look over the list of our contributors, I am blessed to realize that all of us who love and serve Him will have eternity to live together with Jesus and with each other. And it blesses me to have so many on our list who contribute to missions so many more will be saved and can also spend eternity with Jesus. I am so thrilled Jesus chose us to be His very own children and, praise God, He calls us His FRIENDS. I like that. Let's you and we keep on giving to missions as He keeps on blessing us, and in this way we can bless others by winning them to the Lord so they can enjoy the peace that passes all understanding here on earth and the greatest of all blessings – ETERNITY IN HEAVEN WITH JESUS!!!

- ◆ Do pray for our Board of Directors as we meet in Pharr Feb. 12 and 13. Many important decisions need to be made.
- ◆ Pray for funds to complete the Eternal Refuge Church on property adjacent to the WGE Center.
- ◆ Pray for the salvation of many children as seminary graduates Eunice and Blanca travel to our churches to develop more effective children's ministry within our churches.

Sincerely in Him,



**El Roy Ratzlaff**

For tax-deductible U.S. receipt:

**EVANGELICAL MISSION MINISTRIES, INC.**

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If you wish to receive a 2008 contribution summary, please contact us.