



NEWSLETTER November 2022

Jesus Set Me Free

“Jesus set me free” taken from John 8:36, is our theme for the 2023 camps. This theme has been working on my heart ever since 1995 when my wife and I toured a former prison on San Lucas Island on the Pacific side of Costa Rica, close to Puntarenas. The most impacting moment of the trip was when we visited the barracks with a manhole in the center which had no light inside and a rebar-reinforced cover. I can only imagine the horror of being in that hole and this prison in general.

The good news for us is that despite our sins and sinful passions, we have been set free from worse consequences than those of San Lucas Island. Jesus *took our place*, died on the cross, and conquered the darkness of death and rose to life to set us free now and forever.

This is the message of the gospel for us and the children who will come to camp! Even those in a prison cell can say, “The Son set me free, and I am free indeed!”

—Brother Paul

Full Mission House in January

The Mission House for January 2023 is full with groups from churches and also a family group of 11. Praise the Lord!

But, we welcome any and all interested groups or individuals to contact Finneys (markofinney@gmail.com) to look at times for your groups to come in the spring. You might consider helping with a Special Needs or English Camp or participate in a work-camp combined with outreach/mission to the community.



November/December Match

The November/December 2022 Camp Penuel match is on—we invite your support for the 2023 projects. All November and December donations up to \$30,000 will be matched for a potential total of \$60,000 which will be put towards:

- * Backpacks with our theme, **Jesus Set Me Free**. Campers will color these backpacks and we will provide a variety of foodstuffs and treats for them to take home in their backpacks to their families. Since inflation is so high in Costa Rica also, we pray this will help their families. Anticipated expense is \$30,000.
- * Sponsorships to bring more children to camp. This year we anticipate having close to 500 campers in January alone, of which most of them will be first-time campers! Praise the Lord! Sponsorships are \$40/campers so our anticipated expense of \$20,000 will sponsor 500 campers.
- * Farm expansion and education for the children, Anticipated expense is \$10,000.

Your continued prayer and financial support is much appreciated and it keeps the Camp moving forward for the children in Costa Rica. Thank You so much!



Tribute to Walter Haas

Walter Haas passed away on Monday, October 10. He and his wife Kathy served as missionaries with Camp Penuel from 2010-2014. Walt taught us organic gardening with a loving heart. His legacy lives with us as we continue to make organic compost and use it to grow fresh vegetables.

Blessed be his memory!

We also thank Kathy for her leadership role in organizing cell group meetings at their home.



Projects at the Camp in Preparation of January Camps



Paul showing off the “good stand” of Cuba 22 grass.



All the beds from the dormitories needed repair and were then repainted. It was a huge job but well done!

Farm Update

- Our farm provides milk, cheese, fresh fruits and vegetables for the camp, and we also sell beef, so we are very thankful for our farm. It also provides educational opportunities for campers to see where milk comes from, etc.
- Our farm is flourishing now, ready to welcome campers, staff and leaders with these homegrown foods.
- We’re planting more Cuba 22 grass, a high protein crop, which is fodder for our cattle. It saves us money and much more nutritious than sugar cane, a commonly used feed.
- We have recently inserted a high-quality avocado graft into existing avocado trees at Paul’s home, so we hope in the future to have avocados for all.



Roy, Paul’s son, learning how to graft an avocado shoot unto an existing tree so it will produce sooner.

Camper returns as Pastor



We are thankful that a camper from the very beginning of Camp Penuel Costa Rica is now a pastor with a church in Puntarenas. He and his assistant, also a camper from Camp’s early days, will be bringing a group in January.

Thank You, Lord.

Mateo, grandson of Camp Committee member Magdiel Salas, helping with some of the chores on the Camp farm.



To make a tax-deductible contribution, you may use the enclosed envelope or donate through the website - cp-cr.org or mail a check to CPCR, Attn: Luann, 2431 Churchill St., Roseville, MN 55113.

For more information, check out our Facebook and You Tube pages — Camp Penuel Costa Rica.