

SERVING WITH GMI



MARTA
CORDERO



AUGUST 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am delighted to write to you and share what the Lord has been doing in Nicaragua since my last letter. It has been a busy six months with many changes, and I thank the Lord for all He is accomplishing here. Since January we have been focused on our goals for 2025 which include: training leaders in each area of ministry we are involved in, growing Arraigados, the Grace Ministries International (GMI)-affiliated church in the city of Nagarote both spiritually and numerically, and taking survey trips to Honduras to identify a location to establish a GMI-affiliated ministry there.

Ministry:

We have a women's group in Nagarote called **Las del Camino** (Women of the Path), basing our name on Psalm 32:8 which says, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you." This year, we are studying the Book of Acts. We enjoy food, fellowship, sharing, and learning about Jesus at our biweekly meetings. I have also been supporting the senior adult ministry **Conociéndole** (Knowing Him), where I help with transportation, snacks, and leading exercises.

In addition to being involved in these two ministries, I became the leader of the college-aged youth group **Fe Hierro** (Iron Faith) in April. I took over the group from my teammates Emiliano and Raquel Seravalli who moved to the town of Carazo earlier this year to plant a church there. It is a nice group of young people who are at a challenging time in life where there are many distractions that could pull them away from God. Because this is such a critical time in their lives, I find it extremely important to work with this age group and encourage them to grow in their faith.

In July, we had the joy of hosting **KidsGames**, a sports and experiential learning outreach attended by 175 children who heard about Jesus and His redemptive work each day. Through games, crafts, and worship we had an opportunity to build relationships and share the gospel with these children. Every morning I greeted them at the gate with a warm smile, distributed their name badges, and welcomed them. It was such a joy to see their enthusiastic faces each day. I also participated in the small group time where we told them who Jesus is and what He came to do for us. In my small group, each one of the children placed their trust in Christ.

At Arraigados Church, we find it incredibly important to celebrate together and we recently celebrated three very important events in the Church: Mother's Day, Father's Day, and the seventh anniversary of the founding of our church. We always celebrate with a cake, some activities prepared by the children, and with special songs from the adults.



Trips:

In March, we held a fundraising dinner at Arraigados Church to help fund a short-term mission trip to Honduras. In April I traveled to Honduras with a couple from the church, Hamilton and Sharon, who are interested in becoming missionaries in Honduras. On our trip, we met a lot of people and we visited a town called El Paraiso where a Christian family welcomed us into their home. They showed us around the town, helping us get to know the area and familiarize ourselves with local prices for food, rent, and utilities. El Paraiso seemed like a good place to live, but we want to continue exploring other options before making a final decision.



Visits:

At the beginning of February, I had a lovely visit from my mother, who is eighty years old. She wanted to visit the various ministries of our church and experience what I do as a missionary. I thank God for this pleasant surprise! I was also thankful that the Lord allowed me to visit my oldest granddaughter and attend her wedding in Costa Rica at the end of May. In June, one of my sons also visited me and joined us for Sunday worship with his family. It was very encouraging to know my family is interested in me and my ministry in Nicaragua.



In March we received a visit from GMI Operations Director Dwayne Huff, who came to support and encourage the GMI team in Nicaragua. We had a good time together as he visited our ministries and we enjoyed great fellowship together. We also received visits from a church in Texas and another from a church in Minnesota in early August. The church from Texas helped us with KidsGames, while the church from Minnesota helped us build a driveway on the church grounds. Both churches provided great support to our ministries and we look forward to many more visits like this.



I thank God for the work He is doing here in Nagarote and for all the support, love, and prayers I continually receive from so many of you. Please join me as I pray:

- For our ministry leaders to love what they do and that Jesus will shine through them.
- For the ministry in Carazo and the opening of a new field in Honduras.
- For more opportunities to reach people for Christ through Arraigados Church.

Thank you for your prayers and financial gifts that enable me to serve the Lord in Nicaragua! I am dependent on faithful ministry partners like you for my support which has been falling short of my monthly expenses over the past year. Would you please consider becoming a financial partner with me as I continue in the Lord's work? I greatly appreciate all of you who regularly contribute to my needs and I am trusting the Lord to provide more partners who will join with me in the Lord's work here in Nicaragua.



May the Lord bless you and keep you in His care! A big hug to you all!

Marta Cordero

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