



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am delighted to write to you as I look back and reflect on the Lord's blessings this past year. I am encouraged by the work the Lord has accomplished in 2023 and I look forward with renewed strength and great expectations for what he will do in 2024.

The last time I wrote to you I was in Bolivia serving alongside Talo and Patty Vergara. I learned a lot during my time there as I witnessed God at work in the people I met in the city of Santa Cruz. In October 2023, I returned to Nicaragua and I found it extremely difficult to say goodbye to all of the beautiful people I met in Bolivia. While leaving them was difficult, it brings me joy to hear from them and stay in touch.

It was exciting to return to Nicaragua and rekindle relationships with the believers there. They are such kind people who love the Lord and desire to know Him more each day. There are many opportunities to serve the Lord in Nicaragua and I immediately plugged back into the Grace Ministries International (GMI) affiliated ministries in the city of Nagarote. I resumed leading the women's ministry there and taught a Bible study on the life of Deborah, highlighting her courage and trust in God.

In December, we organized a Christmas play that shared the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's point of view called, 'The Legacy.' I directed many rehearsals with the youth who participated in the play and enjoyed spending time with them getting to know them better. I also joined the youth in passing out invitations inviting people from the community to come to the play. On the day of the play, the story of Jesus' birth was clearly communicated and one of the youth leaders shared a message. I was encouraged to see how the audience was impacted by the Christmas story. The play concluded with a time of fellowship and cake for everyone who attended. I met people that I had never seen before, including some neighbors.



Christmas Play Cast



Women's Bible Study

As 2024 began we resumed the women's ministry with a study of the book of Acts called 'The Adventures of the Apostles.' I hope that the study will help us get to know Jesus more and more. I also continue to be involved with the senior adult ministry, 'Knowing Him' which is going great. We recently potted plants with them and they loved it! Arraigados Church, the GMI-affiliated church in Nagarote, continues to take physical and spiritual nourishment to

the people who live and work in the garbage dump every week and I enjoy participating in this ministry as well.

I continue to disciple Rosio, a lady I met in Bolivia and I want to continue discipling the Nicaraguan women I was investing in before I went to Bolivia. They are Yajaira, Erika, and Huguette. Please pray for wisdom and spiritual impact as I invest in the lives of these women.

I was planning to move to Mexico in early 2024 to serve with GMI team members Luis and Marcia Coto, working with the women there as well as providing support to the Cotos in this rapidly expanding ministry. Unfortunately, at this time I do not have the necessary financial support to be able to move there. The cost of living is significantly higher in Mexico and my monthly support needs to grow before I can join the ministry there. I was also hoping to come to the US in early 2024 to visit churches and share my ministry in some of the spring missionary conferences. This was also delayed as the earliest appointment I was able to get for my US visa interview was in March 2025.

I was disappointed by the delay in moving to Mexico and the uncertainty of whether I would be granted a visa. These two setbacks radically changed my plans, but I am confident that if the Lord is willing, He will provide an opportunity to travel to the US to share in missionary conferences and serve in Mexico in the very near future. Until the Lord opens those doors, I will continue to serve Him with my GMI teammates in Nicaragua. GMI is also exploring opening a new field in the neighboring country of Honduras and I look forward to being part of that ministry. Over the next several months I hope to participate in survey trips and help identify a target area for this new field.



Garbage Dump Workers



Senior Ministry

I invite you to partner with me through your prayers and financial support as I serve the Lord whether in Nicaragua, Mexico, or Honduras. I also ask you to join me in spreading the word about my needs and invite others to partner with me in ministry. Please join me in thanking God for the women I have been able to disciple and for the role I am able to play in the various ministries here in Nagarote. Pray that I will continue to be obedient to God's call and that I will be unwavering in my faith as I wait on the Lord. In addition, please join me as I pray for my children, for their spiritual lives, for the ministries in which they serve, and for my grandchildren.

I want to thank all of you who have supported and encouraged me over the past year! Thank you for sharing with me in the Lord's work. This New Year, my theme verse is, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). This verse invites me to surrender control of everything to God and reminds me that He is the one in total control of my life. With God in control, I can rest assured that everything that happens is because He wants it to and is part of His plan. I invite you to join me in surrendering your challenges and struggles completely to God this year. God is holding us in His hands and together we can trust that He is in control.

Blessings,

Marta Cordero

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How abundant are the good things that you have stored up for those who fear you, that you bestow in the sight of all, on those who take refuge in you.

Psalm 31:19



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