

The Water Log

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This is the first spring in a many years that has found me in Nicaragua rather than on a tractor seat in Iowa helping plant corn. I must say I miss the farming season, but I also know that the seeds of faith we are planting here are sure to produce a crop more valuable than corn or beans. Every water project we do is an opportunity for the Lord to work through us and there is nothing quite like it. Helping others while sharing our faith is what SWIM is all about.

Here in Nicaragua, the dry season will soon be over and the rains will begin. Our 4-wheel drive will be a necessity on all the trips to rural communities. We are so thankful we were able to upgrade our SWIM truck to a 2005 Toyota in February. I remember the date well because I bought it while Vickie was still in the hospital in Managua recovering from surgery. Its first job was bringing her home to Estelí over 2&1/2 hrs away. She is almost back to normal (although some would argue that we've never been normal) and wants everyone to know how much she appreciates all the prayers. It's been a tough recovery and a real test of faith to use the hospital here, but as always, God is in control. As a side note, while I was in charge of household duties and cooking, we both lost some weight, but the dog ate well and seemed to gain weight. Hmmm.



Vickie & Max at home



Rafael,
Greg, &
SNAKE

We had a few visitors during the winter, but with the warm winter in the US, I think many decided to stay put. We certainly enjoyed the ones that did make it down and we're thankful for supplies they brought and things that were accomplished while they were here. It looks like we might have some folks come and help in the summer months ahead too. We want people to be a part of this ministry, let us know if you are one of them. After all, SWIM is God's ministry, not ours.

As well as completing many of our "normal" CPU water projects, Rafael and I installed another SNAKE automated unit last month. They're producing six gallons of chlorine daily with it (which disinfects water for 7,600 people) and there are currently 2 more locations asking for the same type of set up. We also did some work on our local church we attend and a couple of Christian schools recently. Adding wiring in

classrooms, putting up lights, installing ceiling beams to support sagging rafters, and building dry erase boards have helped fill in any open spots in my work schedule. In case you were worried, it doesn't appear that we are going to run out of things to do anytime soon!

This year we want to place more emphasis on teaching and training the younger generation, so showing more movies and speaking in rural public schools is one of our goals. Reaching out to more unreached areas farther east is another.



Nicaragua's future



CPU in India

India continues to be on my mind and in our prayers. SWIM is seeking ways to either ship over more CPUs or make them there so that our two national workers can keep distributing them and training others in their use. We are getting great reports on the people being reached for Christ by this method. Keep praying.

As always, we never cease to be amazed by your faithfulness in supporting and praying for this ministry. Even though we've endured a few frustrations and trials this winter, we have never doubted God's direction and leading for SWIM. We are thankful Jesus allows us to serve Him and all praise goes to Him alone.

Blessings,

Greg & Vickie

Greg & Vickie Stout



1 Peter 1:24 For all men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.