



Mark 10:16

Since 1991

The Next Generation

Open Arms Foundation

First Quarter Newsletter

March 26, 2023

A Word From Bill Perrow

We hope that everyone has had a blessed beginning to 2023.

This year there have been two big answers to our prayers. As you may recall, there was a prayer request related to the urologist who said he detected a mass on my prostate. I was quite concerned that it could be cancer. After your many prayers, several tests, and many other strong medical opinions, they tell me there is definitely no mass on the prostate! Praise God.

We also want to thank the Lord for intervening, and to thank you for your prayers, for safety during the times of the gang territorial disputes in our neighborhood. The Lord answered your prayers. How? There was an increase in the number of police patrolling the neighborhoods, continually conducting stop and search road blocks. The municipal government also installed some brand new, and extremely bright, LED lights in our area. It looks like daytime every

night on the street below our property. We thank God that the homicides in the neighborhood have stopped and all is calm now.

On the last Saturday night in January of this year there was a horrible rain storm which resulted in a flood of water pouring over the mountainside. As a result, we suffered landslides which have affected about 4,000 square feet of our property. The earth was washed from beneath the foundation of one of the sections of our home. It has been an unsettling experience to say the least. During the weeks that have followed we have slowly begun the work of fixing the problems.

This process is complicated by the neighbors who make agreements on the property boundaries only to change their minds within days. Because of this uncertainty it is impossible to run lines for construction; therefore, we are going to have to seek the municipal government as a neutral mediator. This is going to create even more problems because our neighbors can become quite hostile. They most certainly will not like the threat of being fined by the government because of their



Location of Landslide

sewage which has been filtering down beneath our property for quite some time. At first, the neighbors said it was an underground spring/river flowing under our property. That was hard to believe because, it didn't smell like spring water and the river usually flows on laundry day. We had to bring in experts who have all confirmed it is sewage. On the bright side, we would have never discovered the sewage filtration and erosion problem if it hadn't been for the storm.

Recently, the phrase, "though the earth gives way", continues to come to mind. It is found in Psalm 46: 1-2: God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

What is it that gives us a sense of security and wellbeing in our lives? What are the things that give us emotional and mental support in our personal lives, and substance in our physical existence? What support do we have when our health begins to fail us? What happens when the governments that are supposed to preserve the civil order in society and in our world are in disorder and fail? What happens when the earth gives way beneath us and is suddenly removed? Even though everything that supports us in life is removed God is still our refuge. God is still there to help us in our trouble. Trust God, He is our help in trouble we will not fear.



Renovation of Downtown Center

Please pray the Lord would give us wisdom, endurance and peace as we try to negotiate our way to solutions in our ongoing problem.

Fiscal Plant Report

We have another praise report, Guillermo the builder for the Foundation finished the roof and electrical repairs in the downtown facility in January.

Another praise report is that in spite of a yearlong battle with la Nina (abnormally high amounts of rainfall) high inflation in feed and fertilizer; the dairy farm had a gross income of 37,178. The net gain was low (3,766) because the profit from the dairy went to pay for



New School Clothes!

many FBA expenses, FBA construction, farm taxes and housing maintenance etc.

Please be praying because our current accountant will be leaving soon. Therefore, we are now negotiating with a replacement. Please pray that God will guide us to someone who is honest and will see their duties as a service in the kingdom of God.

The Boys Farm

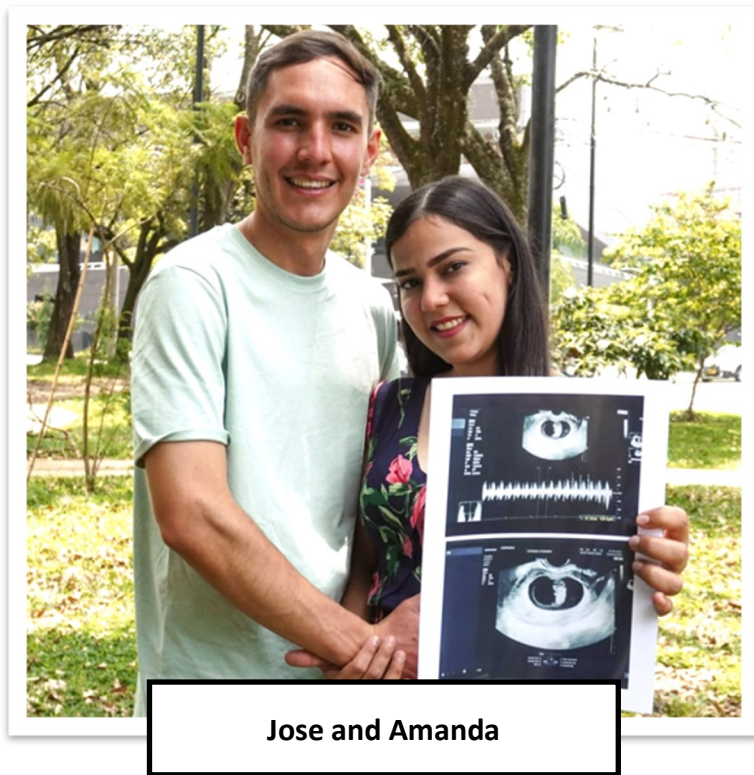
The boys had a cookout and a soccer match with a few of the FBA alums to celebrate return to school for the new school year which started in January. The boys were pleased to use their new soccer shoes which were donated from a gentleman in Florida.

In April we are planning a new addition to the staff at the farm. Samuel, a youth director from a church, will be joining the staff at the farm. We ask you to pray the Lord will use him to make a spiritual impact on the lives of our boys at the farm.

Jose and Amanda ,who both formerly worked with youth, are now our primary house parents at the

farm. We have some exciting news that they are expecting the birth of their first child in April. They have already decided to call her “Lizy”.

The Open Arms Farm is expecting a team this Summer. They will be making some home improvements to the Boys’ Cabin. The plan is to build a few walls, making more rooms , adding some insulation in the ceiling, and replacing the windows with Thermo-acoustic windows. If anyone would like to help out with donations for materials for this project it would be a huge blessing.



We announced in the Christmas newsletter that the boys were going to be attending Clara's sweet fifteen party and that we needed donations in order to obtain their formal outfits. We were able to obtain their formal outfits and able to cover the purchase of their school uniforms seen in the first picture.

Mateo, Johan and Angel are having behavioral problems. They have made many advances but still have severe periodic emotional disturbances. Many of our boys come to the Foundation with deep emotional wounds and trauma. Please pray that God can heal the wounds of all our boys so they can continue on their path to becoming young men.

Dorlan is advancing academically and is being recognized for his good behavior. He likes to participate in the devotionals by telling the stories from the Bible. He has also been growing in his social skills by understanding that sometimes when he makes mistakes relationally with others he can relax and recognize his faults and be free to talk about it. This is important for him to develop and strengthen friendships with the others at the farm and with family.

Ángel has not had much encouragement in his life. Earlier in his life, people have said many negatives things to him to discourage him in the development of his self. He pretty much felt he was a failure. While at the foundation he has turned that kind of thinking around by learning to read. He now is enjoying positive reinforcement from his teachers and the staff. He is also learning to control his emotional outbursts, and we have very slowly begun the work to fix the problems.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter and we greatly appreciate your continuing prayer and support. God Bless!



Cabin Window That Needs Replaced



Boys Formal Outfit



Clara in Her Formal Dress

How can you Pray?

- Please pray that God would give Bill Perrow and the leaders of the Foundation wisdom and clarity to make decisions as they steward this ministry God has entrusted them with.
- Please pray for the land disputes with the neighbors. That God would protect the Perrow family and grant a peaceful and favorable solution for both parties.
- Please pray for provision for the Foundation and all the children under our care.
- Please pray for continued inner healing of our children.
- Please pray for the birth of Jose and Amanda's baby girl.
- Please pray for the pregnancy of Pastor Carlos wife Natalia.

Open Arms Foundation Contact Info.

William E. Perrow—Executive Director
Michael Perrow —USA Office Coordinator

P O Box 7542 , Charleston, WV 25313

Phone: 304-561-7793

Email: Foundationopenarms@gmail.com

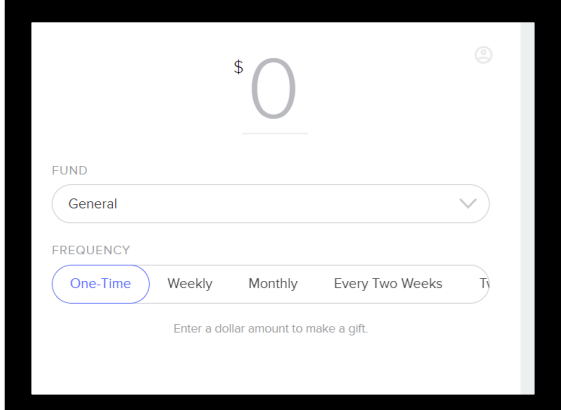
Webpage: www.openarmsfoundation.com

Newsletter Design and Content: Michael Perrow

How to Donate?

Look for the Giving page using our website
PayPal button-

www.openarmsfoundation.com



The screenshot shows a donation form with a large '\$ 0' at the top. Below it, there is a 'FUND' dropdown menu set to 'General'. Underneath is a 'FREQUENCY' section with four radio button options: 'One-Time' (which is selected), 'Weekly', 'Monthly', and 'Every Two Weeks'. At the bottom of the form, there is a text input field with the placeholder text 'Enter a dollar amount to make a gift.'

Look for the Giving Page on

www.openarmsfoundation.com

SubSplash accepts all major credit and debit cards, you can also link your bank account for automatic withdrawals.

You can send a check to our office at

Open Arms Foundation

PO BOX 7542, Cross Lanes, WV 25313

Thank you for your support!



Help us change Colombia one child at a time!

- I would like to pray for OAF.
- I am interested in going to Medellín with a missions team.
- I would like to support Open Arms Foundation in the following area:
 - Child Sponsorship
 - Capital Projects
 - Where Most Needed
- \$30 \$50 \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please make all checks payable to:



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PO BOX 7542
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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