



Middleman Ministries

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2008 In Review



Last year, 2008 was one that I thought would be extremely difficult. Because of the economy, doubt starts to arise in the mind. I was listening to James Dobson on a Christian radio program around November. He was saying that they had to lay off 200 employees and some of the support had fallen. I became quite depressed. I thought if James Dobson is having difficulties, what makes me think that Middleman won't. The Christmas party was approaching and we had only received a check for about \$250. I arrived home from Mexico about 11 p.m. that night. I was trying to open my door when my phone rang, it was my friend **Gail**. Gail normally calls and lets it ring once and I return her call. It kept ringing and ringing, I knew something

had happened. I didn't answer the phone in time because I was trying to open the door. I called her right away, she was so excited. I was told her church raised \$2,700.00 for the Christmas party. When I hung up, I asked the Lord to forgive me for doubting Him.

Amidst the doubt, 2008 was a phenomenal year, especially for my walk with God. The Lord worked so miraculously, especially towards the end of the year. Physically it was the hardest year I've ever had. As some of you may know, I have had severe pain in my leg for some time. I needed a total knee replacement, which was done on Feb. 3, 2009. I should have had the surgery back in the fall of 2008, but knew I had to go on the road. The land payoff in Mexico was due De-

ember 11th for \$6,000, the Christmas party was approaching and I had a group from Concord, St. Louis coming to build three homes in October. The surgery had to wait. I went on the road a bit discouraged and in pain. While in Michigan in August I found that **Hurricane Dolly** had about destroyed my home in San Benito. This only added to my discouragement. In spite of the pain, doubt and discouragement, God made known His power and presence to me. He is such a marvelous God.

March 11th, the doctor released me to walk without a cane and to drive. I have been feeling very well. It seems I get a tired easily, but I am about God's business once again. There is so much to do.

Special points of interest:

- 2008 Recap
- Christmas Party 2008

Christmas Party 2008

Our Christmas party was a wonderful success. We had **1504 people** who attended and **17** of them received Jesus as Lord that day. We had plenty of food for everyone as well as gifts. We gave over 50 door prizes away as well. Members of **Diamond Springs Wesleyan Church, Bur-nips Wesleyan Church and Holland Central**

Wesleyan Church of Michigan once again came and helped. They also worked at my home in San Benito as well. We thank the churches and individuals that gave an offering to make the party a success.



See more pictures at middlemanministries.org

New Homes Built

Concord Church of St. Louis, Missouri came in October and blessed three more families with homes. Two framed and one block home. They have been so faithful every year. They also manned a medical clinic treating 400 people while they were here and also raised about \$4,000 for food for the community. They worked very hard and did an excellent job.

A team of 50 from **Hill Country Fellowship from Burnet, Texas** came again in June and blessed a family with a 20 X 28 home.

They also provided a vacation bible school, medical clinic and prepared a spaghetti dinner for the community. They also painted all our buildings on the outside, painted the church, put drop ceilings in some of our school rooms, totally redid my apartment in Mexico and purchased about 50 truckloads of fill dirt for the property. The week was a blessing and so many people were ministered to.

St. Peter's United Church of Christ from Frankfort, Illinois came in February

and blessed us with a beautiful library. They also took studio portraits of the families in the area and were given as gifts. The area people hardly get to have their pictures taken because of the costs. The portraits were beautiful; the people were so blessed to have a portrait offered to them of their whole family as a free gift. They were taken by professional photographers and owners **Ken & Aylene Hawks of Star Visions Photography in Frankfort, Illinois.**

"Concord Church..manned a medical clinic treating 400 people while they were here and also raised about \$4,000 for food for the community. "

Faithful Winter Texans

We had our faithful Winter Texan friends come and bless us again this year with their services. These men are professional electricians, plumbers and so much more. They have blessed us since Middleman came in existence. I tried to take them and their wives out to dinner to say

thank you and they said "no, we are not here for you to spend money on us, we are here because we want to help and believe in what you are doing." Thank you **Dick & Janette Davis, Dave & Judy St. Louis, and Vic and Diane Provost of Ontario Canada, Burt Borg of Iowa** and oth-

ers that came with you. God will bless you for all you have done for His people in Mexico. I do want to say thank you to their wives for sharing them with us while they were down here.

More of God's Miracles

The Lord touched a believer's heart from **Shiloh United Methodist Church in O'Fallon, Illinois.** An anonymous donation of \$4,000 was given. We used that towards the December land payoff. Thank you whoever you are for listening to the voice of the Lord.

In October I spoke with a man who asked me, "Do

you remember when you came to our church and you spoke about the land payoff of \$6,000?" I told him I did. He said the Lord spoke to him that night and when I arrived home my wife said, "I believe the Lord wants us to give Rosie the \$6,000 for the land." He said that was confirmation and handed me a check for \$6,000. I told him I already

had \$4,000 of that money. He said, "Use it for what you need in Mexico," so I did. We have purchased about 100 more truckloads of dirt, 30 truckloads of white caliches to make a good road on the property and started a back fence made out of block, about 400 feet long. They asked not to reveal who they are. Thank you so much for your obedience to God's voice.

And the Improvements Continue...



We were blessed to have a long-time friend and partner of Middleman, **Janice Fulbright**, come and be with us for the Christmas party. Janice brought a friend of hers, **Ginger Ingram Brown**, a Christian ventriloquist. Ginger did a great job of ministering not only to the children but to the adults, also sharing the good news of Jesus through her little friends. Janice said she wanted to bless the ministry with something that was needed. The front fence on our property is in need of repair, she donated \$5,000 towards the fence we are building made of block and rod iron. It is going to be beautiful and we thank you Janice for your faithfulness to God and to Middleman.

I obtained a \$6000 estimate for the labor and bars for the front iron fence. I spoke to **Doug, Marilyn, Ruth, Sally & Peter** about it and Doug thought we

needed to get more estimates. This quote did not include the block, cement, rebar, gravel, sand, rings, wire and labor to do all the finishing work. The Lord is so amazing. The next day, I received a call from **Larry** at **St. Louis Concord church** stating he would be landing in Harlingen that afternoon and would like to visit me. He arrived, inquiring about my surgery and the ministry work going on. I told him everything I have shared in this letter. We discussed the fence and the estimate we received the day before and he stated "Rosie, why don't you buy the materials and let me build the bars for you." I was in shock! First, I didn't know he knew how to weld and build a fence as this and also because God was obviously at work once again - Larry knows how to do just about anything. I know the fence is going to be beautiful. He

just retired, was called to work part-time by a company and his first assignment just happened to be in Matamoros, Mexico. Coincidence? I think not - this is God at work. Larry said he knew there was another reason he was coming over here besides just work. He believes the fence was part of HIS plan. We looked at several and picked one. Thank you God and thank you Larry.

What can I say about Doug and Marilyn? They have truly taken me under their wing. They are such a big part of Middleman and such a blessing to me and so many others. I see them and how they do everything unto the Lord, they have truly inspired my walk. I Praise God for you!

"The Lord Is So Amazing !!!" He provides the talent needed.

A New Addition to the Fleet

We were blessed with a beautiful 1999 Dodge Ram 15 passenger van presented to me at Diamond Springs Wesleyan Church while I was there. Don't really know who donated it but God does. It has been a tremendous blessing. Thank you!



“There are so many people that are lost because that is all they knew how to do.”

City Dump Closes

The City dump in Mexico finally closed. There are so many people that are lost because that is all they knew how to do. I thank God, however, because the unsanitary conditions they were working in on a daily basis is now gone from their lives. Many of them have found other work while others are still looking. The Lord has opened new doors for us to minister. We have been so blessed with many things we have received from Curves, International and Spirit of Praise Church - T-Shirts, cups, tote bags and so much more. **Woody Stitlner from Romeoville, Illinois** has blessed us with food, toys, jewelry and other wonderful things. We are over-whelmed. We are

now working with seven other churches in the area around us. We are supplying each church with food and whatever items God blesses us with. The day of the child, April 30th each year, is a huge event in Mexico. We will be providing each church with toys, candy and stuffed animals

for this event as well as Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts for each of their members. The churches are coming together in a joint effort once a month by having a church service. Each month it is at one of the eight churches. We are excited about what God is going to do.



Community Outreach

Three months ago we started working with about 40 severely handicapped people. Some of them don't have limbs; some are blind, deaf and mute and have other severe handicaps. We get together with them once a month - cooking for them, giving them clothes and groceries. Our staff was so touched the first time they came. They all had tears running down their faces. They saw the need is great.



Look for the **DONATION** tab on the top of the website to order products or make donations by check or Credit card.

Needs of Middleman

PRAYER NEEDS:

- * Continued prayer and guidance to minister to God's people and continue His Work.
- * Continued financial support for the ministry.

MATERIAL NEEDS:

- * Newer computers and laptops for our computer classroom.
- * A block home in Mexico for the family with girls in the wheelchairs - \$6,500.
- * Our Middleman missionary Juan-\$4,000 trip expenses, housing, food etc. (For one year in Morocco includes his passport and flight.)
- * \$2,400 for changing the property titles to our name - 12 lots at \$200 each.

Ways to Contribute

- * Can't get enough of Rosie? Listen whenever you want. Order a CD today of Rosie's favorite songs. \$10ea. + \$1.25 s/h.
- * Order Pure Vanilla Extract straight from Mexico. \$5ea + \$3s/h.
- * Every one of us shops for gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, special occasions; even for ourselves. sonshinestreasures4u.com is a website you can visit online to purchase some of these items and a percentage of your purchases will be donated to Middleman Ministries.
- * Send a tax deductible donation direct to Middleman Ministries.
- * Sponsor a group of workers in Matamoras, MX., building houses and ministering to the local people.

Look for the **DONATION** tab on the top of the website to order products or make donations by check or Credit card.

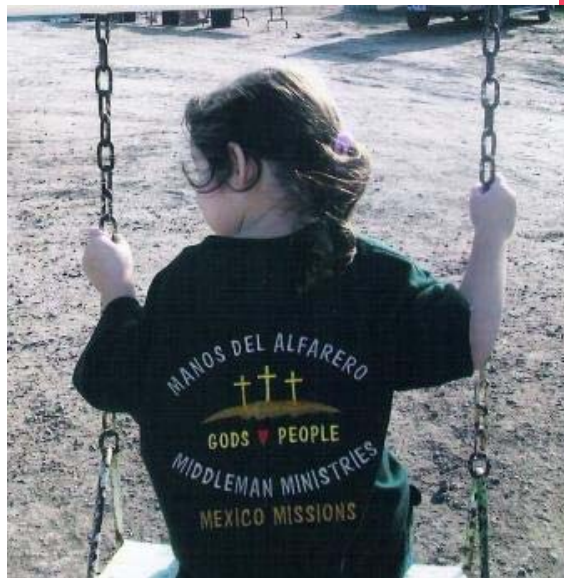
Final Thoughts

There are many ways to minister. All we have to do is ask God to use us. The key is to be available when HE calls. Times are not going to be getting any easier in this world, but we are not of this world. God said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and everything will be added unto you." The greatest thing we can do for God is to love His people. If you know God as Savior, that should come easy. If it doesn't, something is wrong. How are people going to know God if we are not HIS example?

May the Lord Bless each of you. Until next time, you are in my prayers and always in my heart.

In His Service,
Rosie Gonzalez
Middleman Ministries

"The greatest thing we can do for God is to love His people."



Getting Future Newsletters

A member of Christ's Mission Church in Joliet, IL is attempting to keep the web site updated. Hopefully, we will soon be updating you all with a monthly newsletter. I'm beginning my walk with the internet: Pray that God will give me the ability to supply them with what is needed, they are ready and willing. The website was started by **Ron Hebel** of Illinois. Thank you all for your help.

Please note: **All future newsletters will be emailed or faxed unless mail is requested.** Please send your email address or FAX number to: newsletter@sjecomputers.com.