



Costa Rica News

Blessings in the midst of crises

The Greens
August, 2020

Empty school rooms continue

As the Costa Rican government continues its sixth month of lockdown, the CECRE Christian school remains empty, and teachers are giving classes on-line. Clearly this form of “teaching” is NOT ideal, and this year has been very difficult for teachers, parents and students. **However**, our teachers have stepped up to the challenge, have worked with parents and students, and are doing the best they can so as not to lose this school year (which ends in November).

Praise for our teachers and families who are making the best of the situation! They have truly been troopers. **God is blessing the efforts!**



The CLIR printing operation has not been affected by COVID, and has continued printing, finishing 6 books in the last couple of months! Actually, since things have been quite “peaceful” all around, the printing operation has been very efficient! We have ink and paper – all you need!



The **biggest crisis** of Costa Rica is not the virus, which has been somewhat moderate, but rather the social and economic collapse which the imposed lock downs have caused. Costa Rica presently has an almost 30% unemployment rate and rising, with entire industries gone bankrupt. The country faces a deep economic depression with an overly indebted government unable to do any bail-outs.

Our Christian school is facing its greatest financial challenge of its entire history. Many parents have lost jobs, unemployment benefits do not exist, and releasing teachers would most likely mean losing them. **CECRE depends on the teacher team we have at present!** We have the best personnel we’ve ever had.

We are asking you to **help the Christian school get over the hump of next school year.** We will need a significant financial boost so as not to close the school – maybe as much as \$10,000 to \$15,000 a month for salaries (our monthly payroll is approximately \$45,000).

No worship services for 6 months!

The government of Costa Rica has specifically prohibited churches from meeting until just a couple of weeks ago, and then again shut down worship services. So our Pacto de Gracia congregation has only been able to meet a couple of times. This is a picture of the brethren from a small service the beginning of August.



The present government of Costa Rica is **not friendly** to Christianity. It has pushed through gay marriage, promotes abortion, and is attempting to use the schools to promote gender ideology. Keeping the churches shut down seems a natural thing. The virus cases are only moderate, not warranting the radical and 'violent' measures.



Attention Deacons and Contributors!

In the midst of the Covid crisis, God has been faithful! And the Gospel continues to be proclaimed, and God's people have new opportunities to show Christ's love and power. **Praise the Lord with us** for the elders and deacons of Pacto de Gracia who have helped many families, and for our CECRE community which has shown incredible mutual support for all involved. **A true testimony to God's grace! Blessings in the midst of crises!!!**

The 2021 school year which begins next February could possibly be the most difficult year the Costa Rica Christian school has ever faced. All indicators point to high unemployment, heavy taxation (already begun), inflation (already begun) and other social and economic crises. **Please consider including in your 2021 budget a special amount for CECRE!** Let's keep CECRE open!

For information on how to donate, please contact:

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