



# Nielsen Newsletter

[WWW.NIELSENFAMILY.ORG](http://WWW.NIELSENFAMILY.ORG)

Winter 2014

## It's a NEW Year!

We hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's. We pray that this year will be FULL of HIS blessings for you and your family!

Christmas Break was especially busy for us this year. First of all, we were blessed to be able to have Molly's parents down for a visit and celebrate Christmas together! We enjoyed a few outings together, but they especially enjoyed going to the kids' Christmas Concert at school. Unfortunately, their trip was cut short when Molly's mom got sick and needed some medical attention. We are thankful that she is doing much better, but we



also covet your prayers for continued strength and recovery.

Also during Christmas, we continued with our annual Cookie decorating parties



with all the dorms! It is sweet to watch

the kids who have joined us year after year, now teaching the newer kids how to be creative with their cookies.

Other highlights of our break was spending Christmas Day and New Year's Day at the Home with all the staff and children. Our days were full of activities, games, silly skits, and lots and lots of laughs. The most exciting part was to be able to spend a large part of the day in the new Community Center! It was so nice to

have a warm place to gather to play and enjoy meals together.



Christmas break is now over, but the events and fun have continued! This year, Living Hope has many exciting events going on. Just a couple weeks ago at church, we had a weekend conference, called Es Tiempo (It's Time). We had several guest speakers and a guest worship band. It was an incredible weekend.

In a multi-faceted ministry like Living Hope it isn't easy to share everything that we are a part of here in Mexico. So we encourage you to connect with us on facebook or our website!

### Prayer Requests:

- Prayers for the Inauguration of the Community Center in March
- Pray for consistency in our monthly pledges and support!
- Prayers for health, especially as we finish the winter season

### Contact Information:

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## Construction Update

We are THRILLED to report that the Community Center is now complete! We are already seeing what a blessing this building will be to the children and staff of Esperanza Viva. We are still waiting for some of the kitchen and dining room equipment to arrive, but expect to be able to use the Community Center to its full potential soon!

To celebrate the completion of this building, Living Hope will be having an Inauguration/Dedication of the Community Center the weekend of March 21-24! The weekend will be full of traditional dances, food, fellowship, and more, as we host people from the US and Mexico that will come to celebrate with us. God is GREAT!

On top of finishing up the Community Center, Ryan has also been working on several other projects.



Since January, he has been working hard at getting all the plans finished for the next construction project, which will be announced soon! Stay tuned!

We have also had a couple teams come to help

with some labor. First, a team in January installed two swing sets and some extra sand in the playground area. Then just a couple weeks ago, a cement team came and poured a large slab that doubled the size of the basketball court/ courtyard. All teams that come are a great blessing to the ministry! Let us know if you are interested in bringing a team!

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## Minnesota Trip??

As you may know, we try to make a trip to Minnesota each year. We find it is a really important time for us to connect with our supporters and churches that have sent us out. It is also an especially great time for the kids to connect with their grandparents and cousins!

In 2013, we had several extra expenses including; a second trip to MN, the importation of our truck and immigration expenses. Now, even though we are just a couple months into 2014, we have already had some added unexpected expenses.

At this time, we plan to postpone this year's trip and try to "catch up" a little. We have some debt we would like to take care of, as well as be able to put some money away in savings.

Even though we might not be seeing each other face-to-face this summer, we ask that you continue to keep us in mind and continue to pray for our family and ministry. Also, we want you to know that we think of each of you often and enjoy hearing from you and "keeping up" with each other through facebook and other means. We are blessed by your friendship and support!

### Support Information:

#### Send checks to:

Living Hope International  
P.O. Box 116  
West Bend, WI 53095-0116  
\*with a note for "Ryan and Molly Nielsen"\*\*\*

#### Electronic Donations:

call:  
Living Hope at 651-315-2135  
or visit the Living Hope Website:  
[www.lovehopemercy.org](http://www.lovehopemercy.org)  
click on "Giving", then  
"International Missionary Support"  
then our family picture