

# *Cristo Vive International*

*Celebrating the Past and Anticipating the Future!*

## WHAT GREAT FRIENDS YOU ARE!

Here we are at the close of 2017 and what a blessed year it has been, and such hope lies ahead of us. I am so thankful that we have a God we can claim as our own. He is so splendid and personal, yet holds on to promises He has made for us forever. I am so thankful that He never gives up on us and keeps us in the palm of His hand. Though we may not know what future challenges and difficulties await us in the coming year, we are certain of one thing—No matter what it looks like here on earth, He walks through it with us, to carry us through to the other side. No matter what your season may feel like to you at this juncture; I appeal to you to rest in His Spirit, which He has so beautifully given to you, and let Him give you the assurance that it will all be okay.

*Highlights from 2017:* The year

began with a great start with the first camp in Conroe, Texas led by Rachel Closson. Rachel has been so awesome to develop a team and a solid outreach there that includes camp, other children events, a parent support group, and much more. Also in the Rio Grande Valley, Texas 2 camps through the year have been held as well as other events reaching out to the kids of their communities. In Alaska we hosted a couple of evening events as well as some community awareness events in our community as well. In Ecuador, several camps and evening events and weekend special events for children and youth with disabilities have been held which continues to reach out to families. Once again, the awesome team in Idaho, kept by a mighty loving hand of God, making a great impact on the grange as they hosted a camp in Harpster as



families. Once again, the awesome team in Idaho, kept by a mighty loving hand of God, making a great impact on the grange as they hosted a camp in Harpster as well as through the continual visual actions during the many community activities during the year there. God has kept and brought together an awesome blend of His people through all the areas and we are witnessing His glory and fulfillment for families and children. He is so amazing and effective!

## Founders:

*Gene & Jordana*

*Engebretsen*

*Where does Cristo Vive  
International operate?*

*Conroe, TX*

*RGV, TX*

*Harpster, ID*

*Soldotna, AK*

*Cuenca, Guayquil, and Quito,  
Ecuador*

*Coming in June 2018*

*Iquitos, Peru!*

## WONDERFUL PEOPLE & OPPORTUNITIES IN PERU!

We have wrapped up the final outreach opportunities for this year. As you may recall from our previous letter, we spent Nov 30 to Dec 7 traveling to and from Peru to make coordination for an outreach yet ahead in Jun/Jul 2018. What a great time we had there. Amazon Outreach, the ministry we connected with in Iquitos, Peru, was truly inspiring to us. We enjoyed our stay on their facility there and what an amazing amount of love they poured upon us: with great food, an amazing room and friends that made this trip awesome. We visited other facilities as well to consider all options for the summer outreaches ahead and in doing so we met even more openness and awesome people to make this plan appear to be so hopeful. We got to visit a local family as well while we were there. They have a young girl, 11-year-old Carlita, who is blind and needing to learn ways to deal with her blindness and find a way to become educated to have future independence. The family is burdened a lot by insufficient finances and the lack of services available to them in their area. Through all that, Carlita and her family have found a special love in Jesus as they take on their challenges of dealing with issues Carlita has begun to deal with. It was a special opportunity for us just to meet this lovely

*Continued:*

family with big hearts and warm generosity and be able to keep her in our prayers and purposes for this coming year. We will be leading a trip there in Jun/Jul this coming year and would sure love to take you along. If you can join our team, please do not hesitate to connect and get started in the process to get there. Additionally, we are truly in need of raising funds for this trip in the tune of \$10,000 so we appeal to you for help to meet that objective.

### *Mission of CVI*

To provide children and youth with disabilities and their families an opportunity to experience the love of God and faith in Christ through a fun and engaging camp experience.



Cristo Vive International  
www.cristovive.net

*... Building Dreams*

*... Changing Lives*

### *Vision of CVI*

To create opportunities which will inspire participants to respond to the message of God's love and delight in them and lead them to a genuine experience with Jesus as Lord and Savior

#### Email Addresses:

Office: [cvi@cristovive.net](mailto:cvi@cristovive.net)

Gene: [gene@cristovive.net](mailto:gene@cristovive.net)

Jordana: [jordana@cristovive.net](mailto:jordana@cristovive.net)

#### Mailing Address:

P O Box 1515

Soldotna, AK 99669

#### Office Phone:

(907) 953-6325

## FEELING BLESSED

Our family remains blessed by all accounts. Benjamin is doing well in school; swimming, learning, singing, and piano. What an amazing young boy and he is becoming quite responsible. Jordana is also active in her work, developing her business, and growing the ministry. Health is good for all of us and we are so blessed to have Jordana's parents here with us for a while. Gene is keeping busy with the daily operations of Cristo Vive, the local Swim Team (as their board president), working at the hospital as one of the volunteer chaplains, plus doing what he describes as the "Go Getter", meaning that where Jordana or Ben need to go, he goes and gets them and takes them there.

As you consider the new year, we ask that you remain faithful to your king and in praying for those He places on your

mind. If you are able to add a dimension to your giving this year, please consider helping us to have greater impact to our world. We are believing for a much greater ability in the year ahead to expand even further to work on meeting the needs for kids and their families. We truly would like to find the ability to open an office in our community to better enable our ability to connect to the people here, to reach out better as a resource for families dealing with disabilities in their home.

May God richly bless you and may you find great prosperity through the months ahead to open up doors for sharing your generosity in your world.

Love and Joy,

*Gene & Jordana*

