



SUMMER  
*update*  
**2022**

# a New Life for children!

The metamorphosis of the caterpillar to a butterfly is a remarkable illustration from nature of the transformational work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers in Christ.

The life of a caterpillar is filled with a colorless existence, a groveling for food... always fearing what danger lurks ahead and above. It reminds me of what many third-world children experience on a day-to-day basis in the places where they dwell. They often live with fear, uncertainty and despair, without hope and joy.

Yet, the incredible transformation into a butterfly changes all that! Now, God's little creature explodes with beauty and color; it's a life of flight and freedom, the sweet taste of the nectar of flowers, and the keen sense of migration to a new place, a new home.

That's our hope for the children who attend one of the schools or after school programs that LeadaChild supports: new life in Christ. We pray that the Holy Spirit will work mightily through His Word so that they will be transformed into God's dear children, full of joy, hope and eternal life; that they taste the sweet, sweet nectar of the Gospel, fly with freedom as the burden of sin is lifted, and rejoice with great anticipation as they see - by faith - their eternal home with Christ and all the redeemed saints.

Enjoy the fluttering of all the butterfly pictures throughout this issue (read about the Lenten/Easter project in the middle pages) and rejoice that so many children are now putting their faith and trust in our resurrected Savior.

Continue to pray for all the children, as well as the teachers and pastors who diligently work to share the love of Jesus through their school programs. Along with your prayers, send in what financial support you can so that the mission can continue to grow and flourish. Partner with us as the Spirit-led metamorphosis fills up all of our international classrooms!

*Dr. Phil*

Executive Director  
executivedirector@leadachild.org

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old is passed away; behold, the new has come.

II Corinthians 5:17



OUR ANNUAL  
BIKE4ACHILD EVENT IS UPON US,

and *what* an event it will be!

by Lisa Hellyer



LONG DISTANCE RIDES

There are three long distance rides with a total of 15 bike riders using their muscles to pedal their way either across Kansas, Missouri or Wyoming. That's a lot of miles! It is too late to participate in the Kansas or Wyoming rides, but we have room for anyone who wants to join us in biking nearly 400 miles across Missouri from June 24-30.



Joe Harwell and Pastor Jeremy Klaustermeier

Long distance biking isn't for everyone and that's why we have 2 other options for those of you who would like to join us for one of these shorter distance rides. From August 19-21, a group of people are going to ride a portion of the Katy Trail in Missouri—a beautiful, flat easy ride. Over the 3 days, we will bike 50-75 miles. If that is too far, or not far enough, you can add to or take away from the distance to suit your needs.



SHORTER DISTANCE RIDES

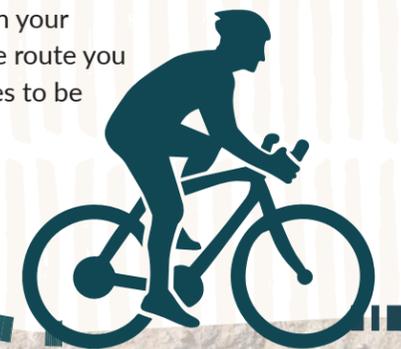
The final bike option is the Design Your Own Route Bike4aChild event. This is our most flexible option. Simply design your own distance, date of ride, and the route you will use and do it! We want all rides to be completed before September 30.



DESIGN YOUR RIDE

To register for any of the above rides, go to the LeadaChild website and download the registration form. You can also email our Director of Engagement & Outreach, Lisa Hellyer at [lisa@leadachild.org](mailto:lisa@leadachild.org).

If bike riding isn't your thing, please consider a financial gift to support those who are riding.



Leada  
Child.org

# MEET David Mina

by Nury de Milian



**DAVID IS A LUTHERAN SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AND IS OUR LEADACHILD NATIONAL DIRECTOR IN EL SALVADOR.**

His story is one of victory—victory through struggle, hardship, and, heartbreak. His story could be easily made into an Oscar-winning film, with Jesus as the true hero weaving everyday miracles into each struggle.

As a young boy, David had dreams of going to school, getting an advanced degree, and serving others through his career, but those were big dreams for him. He grew up as the only son to a single mom already raising four girls. She wanted better for her kids so David's mom worked long hours in the kitchen of a local hospital

in order for her children to receive an education. But finances weren't the only obstacle in David's way. He was born with a cleft palate that left him unable to speak. During his elementary school days, David endured 3 surgeries, which enabled him to speak, but not clearly. Dealing with the cleft palate and multiple surgeries was definitely a struggle, but the Lord's hand was on David, working through his strong desire to learn.

In his early teen years, civil war broke out in El Salvador causing fear to have a stronghold in the lives of people

throughout the country. It was this fear for David's life that caused his mom to send him to Zacapa, Guatemala to the Lutheran high school where he could live in the boarding house. It was the generosity of many who provided a LeadaChild scholarship for David to continue pursuing his dreams. In fact, it was through LeadaChild and the school in Zacapa that made a way for David to receive a uniquely designed prosthetic, allowing him to speak with clarity. God is so good!

When the conflict ended, David returned to El Salvador, where he continued his studies, earning several advanced degrees in Arts and Literature, Education Sciences and Human Rights Education for Peace. He married, but then lost his wife and first child during childbirth. David remained a widower for many years until 8 years ago when the Lord brought Glenda into his life. The Lord blessed them with a son (David) who is brilliant and very funny! Glenda works as the Principal of a different Lutheran school in El Salvador.

For David, having the full support from LeadaChild during those years not only helped him grow in the knowledge of the Scriptures and fulfill his dreams to study, but literally the help from LeadaChild saved his life. And his mission now is to assist other teachers to become great educators who integrate the Christian faith into every subject they teach and to be the best examples for their students.

# Celebration

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2022 | 6:30 PM

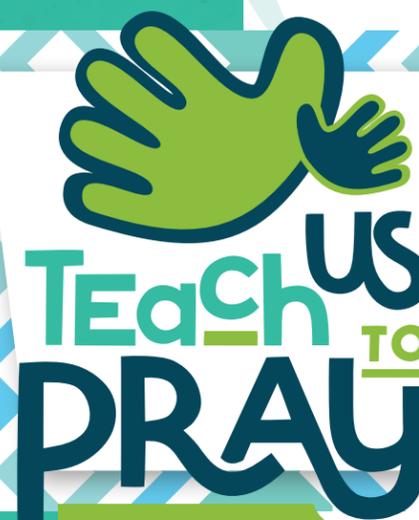


Mark your calendars for Friday, October 21 at 6:30pm for an evening of fun and fellowship! We will celebrate all that the Lord has done through the year for those impacted by the ministry of LeadaChild.

We will have beer, wine and fabulous food as we share pictures, video, and stories from around the world. There will also be an online/in person auction. You won't want to miss it. Keep your eyes open for more details on how to register.

## AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

We are in need of auction items for this year's Celebration on October 21. Do you have handmade quilts, home décor items to donate? How about gift cards, plane tickets, use of your vacation home, or hotel points? We could use themed baskets: wine, evening out, spa, family game night, etc. The sky is the limit on what you might put together for this event. If you have any questions or items to donate, please contact Lisa Hellyer at [lisa@leadachild.org](mailto:lisa@leadachild.org). Auction items need to be received by September 15.



Sign up FOR OUR 2022/23 KIDS HELPING KIDS

Drop us an email to sign up or ask any questions about connecting your day school, Sunday school, or vacation Bible school children to our international mission of sharing Christ's love!

[executivedirector@leadachild.org](mailto:executivedirector@leadachild.org)

# A SYMBOL OF THE RESURRECTION *and New Life!*

by Dr. Philip Frusti

For this year's special Lenten art project, I created a butterfly design for the children at our project sites.

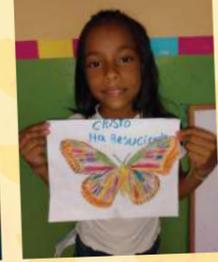
The butterfly is a wonderful reminder of the culmination of Holy week as Jesus was laid in a tomb (like a cocoon), and then burst forth into a new, resurrected life that first Easter morning. It also represents our life in Christ as new creations.

The butterfly design I sent had 40 sections to color – one for each day of Lent. Some of the children filled in the spaces throughout the Lenten season; others colored in the picture during Holy week.



Following the celebration of Easter, my inbox began filling up with the completed pictures, fluttering in from project sites all around the world: Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Ghana, Cambodia.

Enjoy all the colorful artwork displayed ... and rejoice in all the smiling faces of children now experiencing new life in Christ!





## LeadaChild

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### get INVOLVED

Pray for the children and international Lutheran schools

Host a LeadaChild Sunday at your church

Sign up your school / Sunday school for our *Kids Helping Kids* program

Sign up for our monthly e-news or phone app

Give generously

*Sharing the love of Jesus with children around the world through Christian education.*

# MEET Carmencita

## CARMENCITA IS 10 YEARS OLD AND IS A 4TH GRADE STUDENT AT CHRIST THE SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL IN PUERTO BARRIOS, GUATEMALA.

Like most kids, her favorite time of day is recess but her favorite subject is grammar. When asked why that was her favorite subject Carmencita said, "We get to talk a lot, read a lot and make drawings."

Carmencita is a happy little girl with a big dream of one day being a doctor. Until she gets to work on live patients, Carmencita will continue to take care of her dolls, rubbing their tummies and giving them a pill when they don't feel good. If only life were that easy when her dad got sick.

At the beginning of the pandemic, Carmencita's father got sick and needed to be hospitalized. During his stay in the hospital, he contracted COVID-19 and died very suddenly. Because of the national restrictions in Guatemala, Carmencita and her family were not allowed to bury their father or even have a funeral for him. He was just gone! All of a sudden her family had no food, no home and no future. Claudia, Carmencita's mom says that through it all, "I knew that God was always with me, sending many blessings through neighbors and church members who opened their doors for us to live." The Lord also provided a job for Claudia by giving her a place at the market where she can sell fruits and vegetables. *God is so good!*



Above: Carmencita doing her homework at the desk in her moms fruit and vegetable stand



Carmencita and her Mom, Claudia at her fruit and vegetable stand in the market