



# LABOR OF LOVE

Shepherd's Care Ministries Holiday Letter

Little child in the dark  
Homeless one in the park  
Not attracted to pleasant places  
He was drawn to broken hearts and lonely faces.

What would Jesus say  
What would Jesus do  
Where would Jesus go  
We've gotta go there too.

He wants to love them  
Love them thru me and you

We must be His voice  
We must be His hands  
We must show His heart  
So they understand

Brothers and sisters we've got His work to do  
It's a Labor of Love.  
-Lyndsey Lloyd



**Highlights of our Winter Drive to 105 needy families  
December 18, 2004**

**We must be His hands**  
**By Logan High School Teacher, Linda Rodrigues**

We began at 9 AM with two fully loaded trucks and twenty eager students ready to serve their community. After the car assignments were disseminated, I lifted myself into the truck headed for the Barrio. Cars filled with students trailed behind the truck. As we meandered through the streets of the Barrio, we stopped at the pre-designated stops to deliver the food, food certificates and gifts to the eagerly waiting families. It has been a long six months of work getting the family names of the needy from the schools, adopting out families to classes, clubs and staff to raise the \$100 food certificate and working with Crosswinds church to provide presents for the children. The members of Shepherd's Care ministries worked non-stop the last two weeks picking up food at the school sites, sorting and boxing the food and loading the trucks. I had spent hundreds of hours organizing and detailing every aspect of the drive to make sure no family was forgotten. Students had held candy sales and ornament making sales to raise money for the truck rentals and truck gas. We were finally ready and the big day had arrived.

I enjoyed watching the families. At one small home, the family left the front door open after we had delivered the gifts and said our good-byes. As I sat in the truck, I heard the echo of laughter and joy from the children as they opened the large garbage bag filled with gifts. The parents joined in the laughter and I felt that moment of contentment knowing that all the labor and effort put into the drive was really a labor of love and worth every exhausting moment.

At about our thirty-fifth stop, the students lifted the food and gifts out of the truck for a family that lived in the rear of a rectangular building. The building was dilapidated and a narrow path lead to the rear of the structure. As we passed the front cyclone fence, I noticed an elderly lady leaning against the building. She was weather beaten and I could tell that she had lead a hard life. We passed her small door to get to the family in the back of the building. As we past, I noticed a canary cage swinging on the door as the birds enjoyed the warmth of the sun beating down on the door frame. The inside of the home was very simple and small. I could see a worn chair and a small rug. We delivered to the family and as we said our good-byes the spirit moved me to give a food certificate to this elderly woman. Mario was with me and explained in fluent Spanish that we were giving her a certificate for food. The woman began to cry and gave Mario a kiss and blessing. Soon all the students were in tears as they hugged the woman and wished her "Feliz Navidad". Mario turned to me as we left and said, "she was so very grateful and it was all I could do from breaking down and weeping for her". And we continued on in Jesus' name.



**LABOR OF LOVE**

Shepherd's Care Ministries  
655 Lewelling Blvd #337  
San Leandro, California 94579  
(Donations are tax deductible)