



CHRISTIAN REFORMED

WORLD
MISSIONS

The Holtrops

...Partnering with you in Nicaragua
May 2009

FAMILY VIOLENCE:

"Issues of family violence are very important," said Pastor Obed. "This kind of violence keeps every member of the family from developing in a healthy way and is reflected in our society as a whole." Child and family violence is a serious problem affecting Nicaragua. Unfortunately, much of it is regarded as "normal." The Nehemiah Center, with whom we work, is promoting positive values and behaviors (such as respect, recognition, communication, support) and reducing abuse/violence through a series of trainings in churches throughout western Nicaragua. Pastor Obed tells of one couple whose lack of healthy communication was affecting the entire extended family. Through some biblical counseling with Pastor Obed and his wife, Adela, the couple was able to reconcile with their family, and are now attending the church, as well as inviting others.

The Nehemiah Center is a community of service and learning which trains and accompanies lay and pastoral leaders in the development of an integral biblical world and life view, and encourages local national and international collaboration for a Christ-centered, transformational development of communities and nations.

-To read more of the story, go to: www.nehemiahcenter.net/Newsletters/Apr2009.pdf

SEE YOU SOON:

<p>We made it to North America smoothly! We have been in Michigan and Ontario connecting with some of you already. To the right are the remaining dates and churches where we will be.</p> <p>We would love to meet with you - give us a call or email us.</p> <p>Michigan – 616-241-4623 / Ontario – 905-387-2346 Email – sholtrop@crcna.org</p>	May 31 am	Grant CRC
	June 7 am	South Grandville CRC
	June 7 pm	Noordeloos CRC
	June 14 am	Brookside CRC
	June 14 pm	II Grand Haven CRC
	June 21 am	Spring Lake CRC
	June 28 am	Westview CRC
	June 28 pm	I Grand Haven CRC
	July 5 am	Maranatha Bowmanville CRC
	July 5 pm	Bethel Brockville CRC
	July 12 am	Maranatha York CRC



SINCE WE LAST WROTE:

- **Praise** that Alia had a good first year in pre-school (see photo to the left).
- **Praise** that our travels from Nicaragua went smoothly in the beginning of April and that we were able to find good transportation while in North America.
- **Praise** that we are on target for what we need to raise financially. Thank you for your generosity.
- **Praise** that Kim's dad was treated quickly and apparently successfully for prostate cancer.
- **Pray** that we might have the wisdom to learn from you and to share with you what we have also learned from Nicaraguans.
- **Pray** for the Nehemiah Center as it needs to make difficult budget decisions before July.

Thanks,
Steve, Kim, Alia, Nathan & Elise