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December 2005

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas from Chula Vista, California!

2005 has been a year of tremendous growth and change for the Kapusinski family and Harbor Presbyterian Church in Chula Vista! And, as always, there's never a dull moment—Joshua and Caleb are on a personal mission to keep things moving around our house at what seems to be the speed of light. And, our boys never disappoint us with their unique perspective and interpretation of the Christmas message. We were doing our Advent devotional the other night and Caleb noticed the portrait of the Madonna and child on the cover of our devotional booklet and exclaimed, “chunky Jesus!” So yes, at our home, we rejoice in the birth of “chunky Jesus” this year—Christmas through the eyes of a three-year-old.

Our Family At-A-Glance

We have much to give thanks for as a family in 2005. Joshua began kindergarten this fall and absolutely loves learning, making new friends and remaining active, very active! Caleb spends most of his waking hours playing with racecars, trucks and anything with wheels. Caleb is our poet and brings creative genius to conversations that astound us. Diane is experiencing a wee-bit of freedom that she hasn't had for over five years. She pursued her Real Estate license this fall and passed her exam on the first attempt. I (Russ) jumped back into coaching football this fall at Eastlake High School. It was a great experience and we were able to connect with the community in a way most pastors aren't able to—and, in an area of passion, football! Although we've only been in Chula Vista for a little over two years it has become home and we're thankful for the grace of God that has sustained us through a difficult transition to this mission field.

Harbor Presbyterian Church in Chula Vista At-A-Glance

It's difficult to summarize all that God has accomplished in the last year at Harbor Chula Vista. We're most encouraged by the “*transformed lives—ours and others!*” We've seen a number of people embrace the Savior for the first time, laying hold of Jesus and his church and glorying in the gospel in a way that can only find explanation in the work of God's Spirit. Here are a few highlights:

- Our congregation is diverse—ethnically, culturally and socio-economically. I serve on the Board of the Trinity House in Chula Vista that provides housing for “women and their children in transition.” Basically, for women who were either homeless, involved in prostitution and, as a

result, their families were being devastated. Many of these women, and their children, come to our church and have been wonderfully transformed by the gospel.

■ Our congregation is compassionate—we're learning together what it means to follow Jesus by "serving others, not ourselves." On Saturday, December 17th we hosted a church-wide Christmas Party for the families of prisoners. We had over 80 people in attendance for this ongoing outreach of our church. We regularly serve in a number of Mercy Ministries around the city. This is part of our DNA as a church. *"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."* (James 1:27)

■ Our congregation has two pastors—God has graciously provided a Mexican Pastor by the name of Ramon Robles to serve alongside me in this ministry. Since Ramon has joined us in late July we've seen an influx of Hispanics to our congregation. Ramon leads two Community Groups in Spanish and he, along with his family, has been the single greatest encouragement to us since our arrival in Chula Vista. Ramon is working on his Doctorate of Ministry in Missiology (study of missions) and is integral to our vision of developing a theological training center on the U.S./Mexico border.

■ Our congregation is growing—spiritually and numerically. Over the last quarter we've experience some rather significant growth. Our average attendance has gone from the mid-50s to the mid-80s. Spiritually growth is evidenced in the amount of people we have involved in ministry and in more regular attendance at Sunday morning worship.

The challenges that lie ahead are innumerable, but we will enter the new year in hope and in anticipation of more transformed lives and Kingdom expansion.

I hope that you're encouraged by this report and I want to thank you for your participation with us in this ministry. Your ministry of prayer for this work has been, and will continue to be, the unseen fuel that propels Harbor Chula Vista forward and expands Christ Kingdom in this region of the world. Thanks for your faithfulness to petition the Father on our behalf.

Also, funding continues to be a matter of prayer and need. I've enclosed a separate document that outlines our financial needs for 2006. We're trusting that God will continue to provide through the generosity of his people to support this work until we can stand on our own. We're very thankful for your generosity to this work as we realize there are many kingdom initiatives that are worthy to support. Thank you.

Have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

With Gratitude from the Southwestern Frontier,

The Kapusinskis—Russ, Diane, Joshua and Caleb

P.S. If you have not been receiving email updates please email me at: Russk@harborpc.org and you will be added to our list. Also, there are a number of resources on our website, including weekly sermons that are available to you at: www.harborpc.org.



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Mission San Diego
exists to ignite a
church-planting
movement that so
fills the city of San
Diego & Tijuana
with the Gospel of
Jesus Christ that
the people of
these cities are
changed in every
dimension-
spiritually, socially
and culturally.

Financial Report

First, we give thanks for how God has faithfully provided for all of our financial needs as a young church. And, thank you for your participation and generosity. Here's our present need: we need \$15,000 to cover our expenses for the 2005 fiscal year and an additional \$34,000 to meet our financial needs heading into 2006. Our 2005 budget needs have been met as follows; 16% has come from outside churches, 20% has come from family & friends, 15% from foundations, 9% from the Harbor Church-Planting Fund and 30% from Harbor Chula Vista (General Offerings). Our goal is that 60% of the 2006 budget would come from General Offerings according to our initial four-year plan.

If you wish to make a year-end gift and/or support Harbor Chula Vista financially in 2006, your tax-deductible contributions are greatly appreciated. You may send checks to:

**MISSION SAN DIEGO
964 Fifth Avenue, Suite 535
San Diego, CA 92101**

***Please write "Chula Vista" in the memo line of your check**

**For information on Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) or for gifts of non-cash assets including appreciated securities contact Doug Swagerty at: DougS@harborpc.org*

FINANCIAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS

One time and/or additional year-end gift of: \$_____

Ongoing pledge of \$_____ per _____ for _____ years
(month, quarter, annually) (1,2,3, or 4)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

(Print this form & mail it to the above address)