

February 09 / yr. 3

in Honduras

Janet Alcántara

“Behold, I show you a mystery...” –I Corinthians 15:51

One mystery down... “How long will you be in Honduras?” everyone asks. I finally have a date: until the **end of June** this year. The ICLH decided not to extend until 2010 because they can’t have two missionaries at once and they really need the support of a Youth Minister. They are right! The ICLH is a young church with huge groups of youth.

Another mystery down... I’ve been waiting for this year’s job description from Administration. After our major planning meeting this month, I finally have the draft of the closure program. There will be a huge push in **Leadership Formation** and **educational materials production** and less travel to the communities--although I am to trek **weekly to teach** in La Cañada. In the past fortnight I’ve already collaborated in developing a unified confirmation course, and facilitated the Pastor’s Support Group and the Women’s Spirituality Group.



ICLH Staff (see column, right) on office roof during annual planning meeting.

...and another mystery to go. I haven’t got the slightest idea of my next step and feel confused. If you think, “Oh, I know the *perfect* place for you to work!”, now is the time to mention it: I’m collecting ideas!

In faith and service in Christ, *-janet*

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Ambiance

Job Offer... Do you know anyone with youth worker experience who speaks Spanish? Please ask them to check out the want-ad on the ELCA-Global Mission website. Accustomed to indifferent youth? Beautiful, sunny Honduras would be a treat: our young people are enthusiastic, eager to change the world, and **complain** about not getting enough spiritual sustenance!



Paying the bills... One thing I dread about returning to the USA is utility bills. Here in Honduras, water costs less than **\$5.00** per month; electricity, with my Thrifty User Rebate, turns out **free**. Garbage disposal is a **once-a-year** Christmas donation of **\$10.00** to the garbage truck guys, and **\$5.00** to the street sweepers. The land line telephone is around **\$3.50**. The big bill is cable Internet, \$48.00. Bus fare is **15 cents**, the *colectivos* are **60 cents**, and most taxi routes I need (after dark or when heavily laden) are **\$3.50**.



ICLH Staff—(front row) **Rubí**, *Diaconia*; **Leticia**, teacher, **Martín** *Lutero kindergarten*; **Roger**, *Youth Ministry*; **Milly**, *Administration and Communications*; **Josefina**, *Health*; **Hernán**, *student pastor, Lake Yojoa and San Pedro Sula*; **Dunia**, *Children’s Ministry*; (back row), **Rolando**, *General Secretary*; **Martín**, *Student Pastor, La Ceiba*; **Andrés**, *Pastor, East*; **Victor**, *Pastor, Tegucigalpa/SPS*; **Berta**, *new DECOFE coordinator*, **Rocío**, *on-loan pastor from Colombia*; **Yours Truly**; **Olga**, *mission point San Francisco*; **Gloria**, *Children’s Ministry aide*; **Eva**, *Women’s Ministry*; **Suyapa**, *Pastor, Tegucigalpa*, **Gustavo**, *LWF Consultant*; (back) **Herminio**, *outgoing DECOFE co-ordinator*