



Ellyn Benson Dubberly – Children’s Ministries

Global Ministries Missionary Serving in El Salvador

Fall Update (September 20, 2023)

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Dear Friends,

This update is sent out with great joy and thanksgiving for good health and a successful return to work after three months of medical leave earlier this year. I returned to work the last week of June. I am thankful to now work with a second EFL teacher at the Methodist School. Melany Vega now helps me cover the English classes with all the grades. We work well together. Melany is truly an answer to so many faithful prayers.

The photo of children above represents the children and youth that I get to be in ministry with each Sunday morning in Sunday School at La Providencia Evangelical Methodist Church. All together we serve around 60 children and on any given Sunday morning we are blessed with 26 children and youth eager to learn more about God and faith.







### September in El Salvador

Is truly a magical time because it is the month in which all Central American countries celebrate Independence. In Ahuachapán, El Salvador, September 7 is the day of the farolitos. Farolitos are hand-crafted lanterns that are lit all around town in memory of an earthquake. It is said that the townspeople all lit lanterns and gathered after a big earthquake. This night in Ahuachapán is very special and to this day home and business owners decorate the downtown area with colorful lanterns and people from all over come to enjoy the beauty of the night lights and the music and traditional foods.

September 15 is the exact day that Central America celebrates independence. Each town celebrates with a parade and civic events. Schools celebrate all month long with special assemblies in which the students learn about each of the five Central American Countries including Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Costa Rica. Students share information about the food of each country as well as their traditional dress, music, dancing, and national symbols.



## **BACK to SCHOOL Time???**

At Colegio Metodista Ahuachapaneca, it is the end of our school year.

We are preparing for end of year activities with Children's Day and End of Year Exams in October and the last week of school in the first week of November. So, while many of you reading this are just now getting back into a good routine after summer break, we are looking forward to the change of schedule that comes with summer break. The break is from early November to mid-January. Many countries in Latin America and the Caribbean follow similar school calendars.

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<https://umcmmission.org/covenantrelationships>

MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU!

In faithful service,

*Ellyn Dubberly*