



# “Give Ye Them To Eat”

An Integrated Development Program

April 2020

Dear Friends,

We so hope that you are well and have not had anyone affected by the virus. Here is a brief update about your friends at GYTTE.

As Mexico has had an increase of virus cases, we made the decision to pretty much send people home with pay. At the farm Sal comes to care for the animals and Veronica comes three times a week to water and do a few other things – but they are in different parts of the farm. Catalino drives to the farm now and then to take things to Sal. Clara and I work from home, so if you need anything, we will take care of it.

In March twenty-one women finished the week of intermediate training in their journey to become health promoters and Rev. Marian Hartman accompanied us. It was an incredible week and such a blessing to complete it as the coronavirus cases began to go up the following week. While today, April 9 there are 402,000 cases in the US, in Mexico there are 2,700. There have been a few cases in towns near the farm and the state of Puebla has 179. We want to protect the health of our workers and their families so we are taking care.



We have had a few baby goats born in the last month and that is always fantastic! Rango, Molly and Luciano miss you and hope when the virus becomes less virulent, you will return to the Tree of Life farm.

During what we now call Holy Week, between Palm and Easter Sunday, it became apparent that Jesus had a huge following. So the Jewish authorities decided to have him killed with the help of the Romans. This always draws me to the importance of the example he gave us.

Jesus spoke truth to power and always took the side of the poor and oppressed: women, children, widows, the sick, and the downtrodden who, to survive, had to do things like prostitution or collect taxes! Jesus' example is especially poignant at this time of the viral pandemic. It is a time for us to act as Christians, to do everything in our power to make sure that the whole community gets what they need: health care, food, housing and other human rights. Along with showing Jesus' example to others, while we are at home we can write letters and send messages to our representatives about causes we want them to act on in order to have a healthier community, nation and world. For me, this is what it means to be a Christian – try to act like Jesus did. A tall order? When we do this, we are filled with the energy and creativity of the Holy Spirit and we feel God's amazing love encouraging us to do the right thing.

Also at this time, we feel especially thankful for the love you show our Mexican sisters and brothers through Give Ye Them to Eat. Thank you.

Please take care and let us know how you are. Our love and prayers are with you. Although we haven't gotten to Easter yet, we know we will, so let us say to you:

*Christ is Risen!*

In God's love, Nan, Miguel, Clara, Cata and the rest of the staff