

## Les and Jane Zerbe

Missionaries in Costa Rica

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Dear friends,

One of Michael Savage's quotable quotes is "things don't start out the way they end." This of course is a simple concept but at the same time profound! To our disappointment, approximately 10 missionary families have left Costa Rica last year alone. The great missionary William Carey said, "If the biographer gives me credit for a plodder, he will describe me justly. Anything beyond this will be too much. I can plod, I can persevere. To this I owe everything."

My grandfather was in the Great Depression and the dust bowl of Eastern Montana. My dad and mom were missionaries in Liberia, West Africa, starting in 1948, and persevered. My mother killed 13 poisonous snakes in the house that first year we lived in that mud stick, thatched roof house. She washed all the clothes and dishes by hand. Then they lost everything in a house fire which burned the house to the ground in 20 minutes. We escaped, but they persevered.

The question I have is can the missionaries of our day survive this inflationary and recession cycle? I think so if certain criteria is met. Soldiers do not go to war unless they have the correct training and have the correct supply and sufficient supplies. We may have to grow our own rice and beans, and we may have to temporarily use the new Vocational School building as a refugee Center. Whatever happens in the recessionary cycle in the United States in turn happens the very next day in Costa Rica. Since Covid masks are gone, church attendance is getting back to normal. Leaders are being trained and the teachers of Sunday School use computer visuals to teach the classes. Due to the cost of fuel, etc., the donated bus in Fairbanks, Alaska will have to stay in Fairbanks.

I'm finding out that our new crop of missionaries are not the same as my parents' generation. We had to boil all our water, and there was no electricity. While eating supper, Dad would sometimes shoot large tarantula spiders in the thatched roof above our heads. From time to time, at the sound of the 22 Rifle, the spider would fall on the table where we were eating!



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We will see if any of this new crop of missionaries in the Millennials age group, can and will persist and be able to carry on in a foreign field in this manner.

Over the years we have been involved in seven areas of ministry.

1. We converted a horse barn into a beautiful church which is now pastored by a competent Spanish speaking preacher.
2. A ministry to the Cabecar Indians, reaching them by airplane, motorcycle, four-wheel drive vehicles, and horseback.
3. An orphanage like ministry in the church where church ladies from time-to-time adopting / fostering newborns until permanent homes can be found for them.
4. Special youth rallies.
5. A special practical skill level vocational school for potential millennial missionaries who only know how to run computers and smart phones.
6. Helping needy families—benevolence, gifts of food “care packages”
7. Ministry of R & R at “Campo Zerbe” to local and other Central American pastors and missionaries.



Iranea –was a charter member of the church

We are grateful that you are partners with us.

Scripture says the just shall live by faith and quote. So, my simple prayer, “Lord you know what I need!” Should suffice for my everyday wants and needs. As one of our Liberian pastors said, “God is good all the time.” We are so very grateful for all of you who partner with us in this ministry.

Your representatives in Costa Rica,

Les and Jane Zerbe

For more information contact me at 907-322-8807. I will text back or call you on SKYPE.

To donate, write check to CMC and attach a note “for Ministry of Les Zerbe” CENTRAL MISSIONARY CLEARINGHOUSE P O BOX 219228, Houston, TX 77218-9228

**Señor Sam Sez:**

*It's rainy season, good for growing gardens.  
Oh, and mildew on my shoes!*



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