

Before we got a chance to *really* warm up, we had a few more days of cold weather in Atlanta. We spent the time visiting with a few more friends. We also had the opportunity to have the Mission Moments at our home church, Cannon UMC in Snellville, GA. After church, they always send us off with a good, slow cooked BBQue pork lunch. What a treat, and to think



those guys stayed up all night in the cold to fix our lunch! They are great!

Did we mention we did warm up? Yep, we hit Nicaragua on January 11<sup>th</sup>, and haven't seen temperatures below 80° since. We must admit when we hear the weather reports of all the snow up in the great Northern States, we don't miss it at all!

We got back to our home in Chinandega and found everything here, nothing missing – except maybe technology! Where to begin, first, our trusty laptop computer for the past 5 years refused to wake up. It didn't even blink an eye. Ed took it all apart, went on-line for help, to no avail. So, we bought a new one from the states and had a team member bring it down for us. Then, our printer seemed to have a problem – we put in a new cartridge and then it made a terrible grating sound. We read the instructions about "what to do" and it suggested we shake it to see if there was anything inside. Well, it seems while we were gone a pichete (gecko) moved in, made a nest, and laid some eggs. If you've ever wondered what a gecko or her egg looks like, here are a couple of samples.



Now after all that was taken care of, we needed a good hot shower. But wait, our in-line water heater has decided to blow out. We think the technical problems in the house must be catching from one room to the next. We ended up having to totally replace the shower head, the parts weren't available! For those who have never seen this type of heater, it is lovingly known as a "suicide shower". The water is heated over coils as it pours over your



head. Not to worry, it's just 220 volts of electricity & water & you are barefoot!







We were just about back to normal, until our 1982 Maytag washing machine decided to give us a little trouble. We got the part to fix it in Managua, but the salesman thought we needed help with the repair. He didn't know that a Georgia Tech grad, after a month of "small" household repairs was not to be deterred! Ed had simply downloaded the schematic from the Maytag site.

We did get a chance to do some ministry this month. Linda had the opportunity to spend a couple of days with the Bead Amigas gals visiting from the United States. They were here working with the production team from Villa Rotario. It's amazing to see the beautiful work these women from Villa Rotario are able to do with limited materials. Their beautiful jewelry can be found at <u>www.beadamigas.org</u>. Here are a couple of the women with their beads.





Amigos for Christ has asked Ed to be the Project Engineer on the El Chonco Water Project. This is a project that is funded by Care International, as well as Amigos, and other partners. The project, which will provide water for 235 homes, includes a 400' deep well, and 6 miles of water pipe. It is by far the biggest project we have been involved in.





More about this project in February as we continue. To God be the Glory!

## IN HIS SERVICE, ED & LINDA BAKER

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