3-30-2000

Silveira, Lupita Oral History Interview: Class Projects

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MSL: What part of Mexico are you from?

LS: I am from Saltillo, Coahuila Mexico, North-east of the Mexican's Republic, and I was born in Torreón, Coahuila- now with the new Highway--two hours away from Saltillo. And Saltillo is close to Monterrey, a very famous city, the third one in Mexico because it's an industrial city with a big influence from the United States, so we are in the part north of Mexico- three hours away from the border with Texas.

MSL: Can you describe your homeland and what it was like to live there?

LS: Of course. The climate is semi-tropic, the climate is excellent--Saltillo--they use to call the city of the air-conditioned city. But now everything is changing because it's growing and you know sometimes with too many cars, it gets hot. Usually our weather is nice weather, especially in summer, spring-summer. And we have cold weather--very cold weather--generally in February.

MSL: Do you get snow?

LS: No, usually we don't have snow. Once in a while--probably every twenty-five years. And by the way, two or three years ago they had snow, I was already here, and it was a big experience for them, but also a lot of problems because they are not so prepared as we are. You can imagine, they were really in big trouble. The weather usually, the difference between the cold weather down there and here is that down there is too dry-very dry- and down here is humid because of the lake.
MSL: What was it like going to school in Mexico?

LS: In my case? Well, I spent in Catholic private school, sixteen years with nuns and priests. It was a wonderful experience, I'm very grateful to God because the Lord gave me the opportunity to be in contact with them. They were very nice people. I spent my preschool, kindergarten, elementary, high school and part of college with them.

MSL: Could you tell me why you immigrated to the United States.

LS: Well, I was talking about the school. Being almost seventeen years old, my dad sent me to Huntington Park, CA, to another Catholic school in order to study English. The idea was to study three years down there- the complete high school. But I am the oldest--I have six brothers, four sisters--and my mom... I was her right hand and she was missing me and she was crying everyday and my dad called me and he said, ‘You’d better come back’. So after a year and a summer program for a few months, I came back to Mexico. But it was a wonderful experience to be in California and being back, I kept studying. I like to paint, I love ballet and Spanish dance. And I also studied French, I have two semesters French. But then I met my fiancé. I got engaged for five years and then I got married. So I forgot French. Instead I was, all the time, thinking about my future husband.

MSL: Now, you met him in Mexico?

LS: Yes, I met him. And, by the way, he was an agriculture engineer. He was studying at one of the Universities--the University of Agriculture.

MSL: Like the picture on the door.

LS: Yeah, and now he's in Mexico. I'm here with my little one who is 18 years old.
MSL: Your here just with one of your sons?

LS: Yes, it's so weird, the story, I'll try to be short. When I came here, first my oldest son, he was born in the States by accident. When I got married, my husband was studying at Texas A&M in Houston. And then, my first boy was born here in Houston. We went back to Mexico and we stayed for more than twenty years down there. In 1991, a missionary from Holland, Mr. Paul Fredrickson, he is right now eighty years old. He's my neighbor by the way. He went to Mexico, and he visited our church. Then he started writing to me and praying for my family. After two years he invited my son to come to the United States because he could study and work here because he was an American citizen. Then after six months, he went back to Mexico for his brother. And then being here both for two years, they called me and said, 'would you like to come to the United States and be a family here, and bring my brother--the little one?' So I came in April 1995 and then my oldest son went to pick me up down there. And then the little one stayed for three more months in order to finish his school there in Saltillo, and then he came in July 1995. Being here in Holland, my son was working at Prince, now Johnson Controls. The Lord blessed him. He started in line, and then he went to a receiving achievement department, and then he was working hard. And now the Lord blessed him being a field quality engineer for Johnson Controls.

MSL: Now this is your youngest son?

LS: The oldest. Yes, Luis Alfonso Gámiz Jr. He's twenty-eight years old. But how the Lord works. He's traveling constantly between the United States and Mexico- all the plants of Johnson Controls in Mexico. And the new plant is fifteen minutes away from my
hometown. So he went down there, he travels in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Dallas, and he goes to Mexico: Querétaro, Mexico City and a few cities down there. And then, he's now living close to our family because, as I mentioned the main and the biggest plant of Johnson is close to Saltillo. My other son Roberto was here. We were happy altogether here. When I came, I became resident alien through my son and then I asked as a mother, for my two sons, Roberto and Jair. And according to the new immigration law, being here, you know older than twenty-one, he was better in Mexico waiting for his residency because he couldn't study or work. And the little one, as he's only a teen right now, he's with me. He's a junior at Holland High School. He likes to be participating as an interpreter at the hospital because he wants to study medicine. We are praying right now for a scholarship at Hope College. It will be a blessing because I know how good Hope is for med.-school. It's excellent. When my son came, he was attending West Middle School. At that time, they only had ESL--English as a Second Language--down there. So, he spent six months, and then he fought so hard in order to become a regular student. And the Lord blessed him, and he spent the other semester with very good grades and then they said, 'you'd better go to East Middle School, where we don't have an ESL support, but you can go for your own'. So he did very well and the Lord blessed him. We got a proposition for a scholarship through Western Michigan University, which is excellent. But I have been praying because I would like that he could stay here. The reason is that I don't have more relatives, it will be excellent if he could stay also here and attending Hope--that is a very good opportunity for med-school. But we'll see. We can plan but, you know, the Lord has His plans that we need to respect. My two oldest sons
went back to Mexico for the reasons that I just told you, and now we are only here—my son, the little one, and I in Holland. When I came here, I'm pretty convinced the Lord gives you the desires of your heart. When I came to the States for the first time, I fell in love with the United States. I said, 'I love this country, I like its laws. I like people. It's a wonderful country full of diversity and opportunities'. Usually you respect the law here and I like that. I was amazed how you try to keep clean and in order, the environment. You know, all that kind of stuff. So I said, 'I love this place'. When I came here, the reason why I came, was because, as I told you, we said that we would like to start a new life in the United States. Because when I got married, after five years of marriage, my husband had a bad accident, and he hit his head, he broke his leg. Everybody put so much attention into his leg and he was recovering so well, but we never thought that the problem in his head was going to be so bad. So, he started changing—as a very nice person who he was in his character, and he started even drinking, no responsibility at all and things like that. So anyway, we went through too many treatments, and asked support to too many organizations. Even, we asked to AA, and we had clinics and psychotics and all that kind of stuff. But no, we couldn't do anything in all those years. That's why my son called up and said, 'make a decision Mom, we need to keep going, we need to go ahead.' And he was right. So thank God, the Lord blessed us much by bringing us to this beautiful place. I feel that I am under His will. And also, since I was at school, I loved the Lord so much and I wanted to become a nun when I was 12. But my dad said no. The Lord had another plan for me. But now the Lord blessed me because also I said, 'I would like to work for You'. I also said, 'I would like to become a
missionary’, but it's impossible because I had three children and I needed to take care of them. I needed to be mom and dad at the same time--it was hard. But you know, which is impossible for us is possible for the Lord. So He said, ‘okay, you want to be working for my people, go for it’. He also gave me this wonderful job, I love it. I can be in touch with a lot of people--with a lot of Mexicans, Hispanics, from all over the world. And the very neat thing of this group, is that we are so well organized and in touch with all the agencies and it's amazing, the support of this beautiful town--that we can support to the families when they are new in the area. And I can understand them because I was in the same situation, being new here, not knowing the city. The system is different--talking about medical service--it's a huge difference than in other countries. Also housing, and I'm talking about the families. Praise the Lord, in my case I came and the things were easier. My sons, they were already living in a beautiful apartment. They bought a car for me- when I came it was ready.

MSL: Can they buy one for me?

LS: Of course, why not? I like my car, not because I love material things. It means so much for me because it was the intention of them- being so sweet, paying the down payment and keeping paying the car. ‘Mom, everything is ready’. And then I told them, ‘I got a job, let me keep paying this car’. ‘No, no, no, you already did a lot’. And then the Lord blessed me with a job through Buin Pastor Ministries as a social worker and migrant recruiter. I have been working every summer for them for two months and a half or three months.

MSL: Now what's the name of that ministry?
LS: It's Head Start, that's a federal program. Working together with Buen Pastor Ministries. We are here on 13th and Pine Street at the Third Reformed Church. Then the Lord blessed me because I came to enroll my son to the West Middle School. And I met my coordinator of the bilingual and federal programs. She hired me. She gave me the opportunity to be serving as a teacher's aid, or an ESL teacher at the school system. It was good because then I learned where the schools, and the system. Knowing the city, sometimes I was looking, you know, 'where is the Longfellow school?' I didn't know. But the Lord blessed me, I had to learn how to drive in the snow. For me, it's amazing to drive and to see how it's snowing. It's an adventure driving. Now I feel more confident. And I like to have the opportunity of enjoying the four seasons. It's amazing. And I love each season.

MSL: Do you have a favorite?

LS: I like so much all of them. But I really don't. Probably, I like spring, because you can see how the capacity of the Lord--His power--Let's begin all over again.

MSL: Everything's new and green.

LS: It's amazing. You're right. Spring is excellent. I like it more than summer because summer is full of emotion and people are very hyper with the hot weather and sometimes it's very hot. But really my purpose was to come here to start a new life in the United States and to serve the Lord, to work for others, because I believe nobody is a prophet in his own land. Sometimes you need to move. For me, I think the way was easier. The Lord blessed me, as I told you, through a missionary. She was asking for Spanish classes, and then she introduced me to the group of Hastings mission here at the First Presbyterian
Church. Then later on, I became member of the church. I also attend the Gospel Chapel here in Holland. It's on 26th and Michigan Ave. It's the same church as we have the mission in Mexico in my hometown where all my brothers are attending because they became Christians. The Lord made his job in a year. Except two brothers that stayed out of the Gospel--being still very religious, not being born again. A few months ago, my brother, he received the Lord and we still are missing one. Here in Holland, the Lord gave me the opportunity to work for him through organizations. When I came, I had no insurance and I received a test and it was not good for me. Then they sent me to Grand Rapids and they said, 'Everything's okay, but you need to take this medicine'. I have the medicine for two weeks and it was terrible for me. So I got very weak, and then I went to the Community Health Center, they were just opening their doors. I became a patient and now, thanks God, for four years I have been part of the board and the committee as a secretary, and then, I love that organization because they have been a blessing for the community. And then the Lord blessed me to be part of LAUP- Latin American United for Progress, with the community being pretty active. I like to be a peacemaker not a troublemaker. Then the Lord blessed me, because one day, sitting here in this office, I said, I would like to have all the information possible for my families--so I can give a flyer with address and telephone with name of the agency. So they can go straight, not to be struggling with all those issues--like where they are or what they require and that kind of stuff. One day I went to Habitat for Humanity and they gave me all the information. A year later, a friend of mine, she works close to me in the next door office, and she said, 'Why you not apply?' and I said, 'I don't think it's for me'. And she said, 'Why not?'. So
she encouraged me and she supported me so much and the Lord blessed me, and I was selected. So now I have a house form Habitat for Humanity. I moved last November 8. I call it my little green house. It's on 32nd in a beautiful location, it's a dream. I love so much to be there. The environment is so neat and so peaceful. I have my neighbor, the missionary, because he sold the piece of land to Habitat. And then they said, 'would you like to be part of our group and became partner or friend of a new family'. And I said, why not, so next July I'll be participating with them and this family, they are living in Pullman, and they will be building a home in Fennville. And then they said, 'Would you like to be part of our board?' And the Lord blessed me and now I am part of the board.

And then, as somebody recommended me through Good Sam., and I said, 'let me pray', because I have so many things. But they were so needy of organization, they are all the churches, Christian churches, getting together with the goal of City Mission, Lighting House, and all those programs, they are so good for me because I can transfer the information to the new families and relate it to them and contact them. So I said, 'okay, I'll go for it', so now I am part of the group.

MSL: So you're a coordinator for all of those programs. Do you give the information to...

LS: Well, not coordinator. Really, I am part of the Board and I work with one of the committees, so I know the programs and I work with them. But also, here in my office, I can give the information to a lot of the new people. So when families are here in my office. Our job is to enroll kids at the school system and to follow up the enrollment and all kind of stuff. But also, we support them with food, house, we have another homeless program. And also, we try to support them with job connections, housing, food, FIA
support, medical support and immigration support, lawyers, law offices, all kinds of stuff.

So I feel a missionary here in Holland.

MSL: You are, absolutely.

LS: Well, all the glory to the Lord because I am only working for Him. I want to be His hands, that’s it. But I am very grateful to Him because He’s given me the opportunity.

MSL: Did you have any problems adjusting to life, in Holland in particular?

LS: No, you know, for me, when I just came I said, ‘Lord, I feel like this is a piece of Heaven-Holland’, and fortunately, sometimes I can hear people complaining. I never complain. Everyday, I give thanks to God for being here because everybody here is so nice, so friendly, everybody opened their heart to me. And sometimes I feel a little sad to hear people, that they are not happy. I pray to the Lord that they can find the way that the Lord had for me because, you know, here Americans, not only Americans, Dutch people, everybody, all the time- I can see they are waiting to support you. If people sometimes, they feel discriminated, it’s probably because if you are discriminated, it’s probably because you need to find out, how are you acting? How are you working? What is your attitude? What are you doing in order that they reject you? Sometimes we are carrying things that we don’t know, but they are not cool. But sometimes, we only see what others are doing not correctly but we need to understand, what am I doing? What am I bringing here? And then my experience, for example, for the snow--At the beginning I said, ‘aaagh’, I was shaking, but I said, ‘You need to be brave,’ and the Lord says that you need to be brave and no fears. And I said to Him, ‘You are with me and you won’t leave me, never’. That’s a promise. There are more than 8000 promises in His word. So I believe
that He is a God of mercy and He never lies. He is faithful. So I said, 'you're right', so I was all the time driving, and I knew that He was with me and going to any place and seeing how all the time I was so very welcome. For me, you know, the first days were kind of... like I could see in my mind a map where here was the United States, very close to the north and my hometown, far. And I thought, how hard is it to travel, for example take the airplane, to fly from Chicago, travel three hours, then to stop in Dallas, then go to Monterrey, then travel an hour to go to Saltillo, and I said, 'Oh, it's so hard'. I was so far away from my hometown--so hard to move down there. And also, it was hard to leave everything down there: my mom, my dad, my brothers and their families. In some way, my husband, and my sisters and brothers in Christ, my friends, my environment, my job. Even, one of the hardest things was to leave my son for three months--the little one--because we were all the time so close that it was the hardest thing for me. But the Lord gave me His strength and also, one thing that happened after being here is that my dad died. I never saw him alive again. After a year and a month he died. I couldn't visit him anymore, so an hour before he was buried, I saw him. But the Lord, as always, supported me. And I felt a peace and a joy even though I couldn't see him anymore. The Lord gave me the vision that he was with Him and that one day I'll see him. Here in Holland, I understood that my mission was to start all over again and to work hard. Being here at this office full time, I start praying for another job at Steketee's for two years and a half part time. So I was working straight from Sunday to Sunday. But I was happy. Very grateful to God for the opportunity to have a job--in this case, two jobs. I kept praying an then I said, Lord is it possible, no matter if I have three or four jobs, but all related so I
could quit a year and a half ago from Steketee's. The Lord blessed me with a job through a program they call HOME at VanBuren County. They depend from the education department from Lansing. Related also with the migrant population in the states—all those are federal programs. And then the Lord blessed me, because West Ottawa, they have a migrant, bilingual program in summer, so I can send them every year one hundred students. Because here we have an excellent bilingual program in the school year.

MSL: But not in the summer.

LS: Right, and lately now we have a lot of schools that are now giving the opportunities, which is excellent like Washington Elementary School, but still, the program of them is six weeks. If they qualify for the program that I run, they can go- it's something that they get for free and it's a wonderful experience because you can receive all kind of support. And also they will have art, sports and teaching tactics so it's very necessary. Especially when they are new students, they need to update it, you know, their grades.

MSL: What part of Mexican culture did you take with you, and you use in Holland? For example, family customs, etc.?

LS: I can see, Mexico is like, the Mexican Republic it's with a lot of diversity. Each state has its different way of eating, different food, different way to dress, the culture is very different, customs. Even way to speak, idioms and expressions. As here in the United States because the north part is different, south part is different, east and west... In Mexico is the same. We used to say that like a map, where each state is a tile. And the tile has its own culture. Well, in my case, the culture of the Northeast part of Mexico is very related to the Americans. Because we're so close to the United States and when you
are in Mexico, having the opportunity, talking about the economic resources and
schooling, it gives you the opportunity, like my dad had the opportunity to send me to
study in the United States. Or visiting the United States, very often going shopping to
Laredo or border cities- because the border is a very large border. No matter the
influence of the United States, which is good, it was good for me. Usually we know how
to read and write English at school because they require. In order that we have better
opportunity, we want to go to the university and get a degree or a doctorate. But also,
talking about the very, very own culture of my state. We have tribe they call Kikapu
Indians. They were almost extinguished. We use a lot, as you know Mexico is a very
Catholic country. There are a lot of traditions. Like for example, martichinos when they
dance, because the 12th of December when they celebrate. They have a lot of food and a
lot of celebration and party and music, close to the Catholic big churches or cathedrals.
Still, they have a lot of idolatry and even they use witchcraft, white, which is not black
probably- I think more black they use in the central or south part. Or more in Central and
South America. Like Puerto Rico, Brazil. But in Mexico, in my state, I think they have
more witchcraft white. Which means that you believe in Jesus, In Christ, but still you are
so religious that you are adoring to the saints. You know, people that they were good.
But saints, we are everybody when we receive the Lord. But they adore to the Virgin and
sometimes they get distracted to worship and to go to Jesus that He is the way and the
truth and the light and the only way to the father. And so, as you can see, there is a lot of
lie--which is sad. In those traditions, still they participate a lot. When I became a
Christian fifteen years ago, it was not easy. I couldn't anymore be related to my friends to
the ceremonies that they used to have like weddings, or to baptize to the babies. I didn't go anymore to hear mass or to Catholic celebrations. And Christians, we were not too many. Or they used to say that we were in another religion--like they thought that it was a sect. In some ways, they even rejected when I told some of my relatives about the message of salvation. They didn't understand and even, they reject me a little bit. But Praise to the Lord because if you are rejected, you are blessed. It was an honor for me. Still, I keep praying for all my relatives. Some of them, the Lord, He has been so merciful and they have received the Lord. Because in these last fifteen years, I saw how the Lord is blessing to my people, through Americans, missionaries being there working for the Gospel.

MSL: My friends are planning to be missionaries in Saltillo.

LS: Wonderful. If He opens a door, everything goes so smooth. But if you try to open a door without His authorization, you are in trouble. I'm going to turn the 26th of April, 53 years old. I remember, I used to try to open the door by myself. To walk through the ways like this is my plan, and I'm going to do this, and dreaming, and probably being positive. I wanted to do the things. And I said, 'God help me', but my faith was so small so I thought I'd better do something because He's not going to help me. Now, Praise to Him, my vision is different. My goals are different. But also, I learned through too many hard things that it's better that you say, 'I have this plan, would you please bless this situation. Show me if it is Your will' and then, go for it. And the other day, we went to Hastings and we were having lunch because we were visiting a sister in Christ, her dad had died. And she was the one that related me to the First Presbyterian Church. And one of the
brothers, the couples, that are very close friends of mine. By the way, they were my partners through Habitat. They chose her, and I didn't know. And then when we knew each other, we were screaming ‘it's amazing, I can't believe you are going to be my friend, my partner-friend’.

[end of side one]

The thing is that they said, ‘it would be nice if we could start praying to find out if our church has an interest to go and preach the word of God or give testimony of the love of God in Saltillo. I said, ‘Oh my God, it sounds amazing, but let's pray’ because it's, as I mentioned, something that we need that the Lord must say ‘Yes, go ahead’.

MSL: Could you describe your feelings towards Tulip Time?

LS: Of course, it's amazing. You know, first of all, I love flowers and birds. I like to have, at home, fish. When you go and visit me, I have a bed of fish and I have a few tropical- not aggressive. But, for me, tulips are so beautiful. It's amazing, and Tulip Time, for me, it means to celebrate the Dutch Community, which I respect so deeply. I admire- they are so good and hard workers. I tell one thousand times, they have been so nice to me. Also, I like the parades and my son, to see him, because he belongs to the band since he came.

MSL: What does he play?

LS: He plays the sax. Now he's with the main band at Holland High, with the wooden shoes. They are so neat. I like to see how they play, they count in Dutch, they dance. It's amazing, the coordination and everything. Also, I like to see all those flowers. It's so colorful and to see the city full of tulips and then, later on, how they keep the flowers. The next step that they put the little ones. To see a lot of people visiting this beautiful
town and all the celebrations, and I like to go to the theater and all the events that they have so neat. I love it. It's excellent.

MSL: What do you think about the Cinco De Mayo Festival here?

LS: Well here, for the first time--by the way, I lost the opportunity to go to all those things because the first two years and a half, I was working. When the parades and all the celebrations were going on, I was working. And then the Lord blessed me, and now lately, for the first time, I was at the Cinco de Mayo--two years ago and this last year. Being part of Latin American United for Progress, I was supporting them a little bit in small things. By the way, the Lord blessed me, being part of the committee when the sister city, Querétaro, the artisans came and Hope College were hosting them very nicely. They were having lunch and dinner down there. Everybody was so nice. It was an amazing experience. Also, I like to see how they dance. The Dutch girls dance.

MSL: That is cool.

LS: Yes, as young people say, that is very cool. It's amazing. I also like to walk by all the stuff that they have on Eighth Street. I like all related to the Dutch traditions and community. I'm praying to the Lord and I know that He will give me, as always, the desires of my heart to visit the Netherlands in Europe. I would like to go to Austria and Switzerland. The Nordic countries, for me, all the time I dream to go down there. I know one day the Lord will give me the opportunity. In Mexico, in my hometown, we still have traditions like the parade of 20 de Noviembre. They celebrate the revolution. It's a parade in which all the school systems participate. Also, they have those big cars, like somebody fighting- What's that in English?
MSL: Oh, floats.

LS: Yes, very neat floats of the revolution. As here you have Tulip Time, and the school system.

MSL: That would be really neat to see.

LS: Yes, it's very nice and as you know, September 15 in Mexico is the independence celebration as here the 4th of July. Down there it's a big celebration. We have also another parade, but it's different. Like a military parade- very different than November 20. At November 20, schools and students can participate with sports. Gymnastics and all kinds of stuff. Usually, we have a fair in August. It's pretty neat because every year for the last 35 years they have been having that fair. And they bring an exhibition of cars, like now Johnson Controls, because we have also General Motors and Chrysler.

MSL: All by Saltillo?

LS: Yes, and it is growing and growing. I used to work down there in an industrial company for ten years and another ten years for the Health Apartment. If you want, I can give you my resume, and you can see the places where I worked.

MSL: I would love to see that.

LS: I can give it to you. My goals, being here, is to keep on working for the Lord for my brothers and sisters which is working for Him. But also, one of my goals is to go back to school. I want to go back but I have too many options because I like social work- I have business administration in Mexico- that was my main activity down there, and a little bit of teaching. I can go also for teaching- I like to give Spanish classes. I have students of Spanish. Also there are a few options. Like going through a Johnson Control, but I don't
think that's my time anymore. I think that's more like social worker, or Spanish teacher.

One day, I told my son 'probably I can go for computer'. He said, 'I don't think so Mom. I don't think so. You like to talk too much. I can't see you in front of the computer all day'. I said, 'sometimes I have to do that because I have to do my work'. I run the program and I have to report by the computer. And he said, 'well it's because you have to do it, but I don't think it's you'. So probably Melissa, I'm planning to--one of the options is to go back to school and keep studying and get a degree as a Spanish teacher. That way, I can get my English, better English, because I need it. That way, I can keep working on my English, and then being related with that, I can keep working. I like the school system.

MSL: I think your English is excellent.

LS: Well... I like to hear that. But I need it better. I need it. I have a lot of accent and I'm sure that I won't lose it because that's part of my being. I want to learn more English, I like English.

MLB: Wonderful. I'm going to end the interview and I just want to thank you so much.

LS: Your welcome. It was a pleasure to meet you Melissa, and I would like to keep your friendship.

MLB: Absolutely.

LS: Feel free to come anytime to visit me. This office is open and my house too. I would like coming back because, did I tell you tomorrow I am flying to Mexico?

MLB: No, tomorrow?

LS: Tomorrow, at five from Grand Rapids. I'll be spending the Spring break with my family.
With all my brothers and sisters and my two sons, and my mom and friends and brothers and sisters. I'm sure that the Lord is going to take care of me and give me the opportunity to share a lot of things with them. The last time that I was there was August of '99. So I couldn't go in December because I was working with the house for Habitat. But lately, I would like to go in summer or spring. One time I spent almost two years without going, which was pretty hard. But now, I'm praying for in order to go in summer or spring. Because in wintertime, it's very hard. The roads, the snow, and also, you know what? Because I love Christmas celebrations and Christmas Eve in the United States.

MLB: You do? I like it too.

LS: I love it. I said, I like to see everything and all the celebrations. And I love Thanksgiving. We don't have any day of Thanksgiving in Mexico. I love it, and getting all together and, even though my family's not here, the Lord gave me this thinking. My family are my brothers and sisters and I love them so much. But right now, my family is my brothers and sisters here. So every year, I receive a beautiful invitation and we get together and give thanks to the Lord. We have to give thanks every day, but a specific day is excellent. I love it. And also, I love to eat the food that they prepare. And the pumpkin pie.

Okay Melissa, please feel free to call me.