

BIG, FAT THANK YOU FROM THE PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM & JOHN XXIII INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL ACTION

NOVA had the good fortune to welcome the director of Juan XXIII, Edwin Novoa to our liturgy on August 11. He and John Mooney helped us to understand the housing crisis in Nicaragua – a million homes are



needed, growing by 20,000 yearly and 94% of the population cannot qualify for

home loans. They also laid out the new efforts being made to bring about even more self-sustaining measures for their home building within a community development plan through their Affordable Housing Alliance for Nicaragua (AVSEN).

To our surprise and delight Edwin presented the community with a beautiful painting of Nicaraguan women hard at work as a thank you for our support for their micro financing program to help women raise themselves out of poverty through small business enterprises, such as making pizzas or opening a little store out of their home. Many, many thanks to all who brought food for the picnic: as usual there was an abundance and Edwin felt so warmly received—your hospitality is stellar. Actually you can see for yourselves if you

go to https://www.facebook.com/JUANXXIIIUCA?hc_loca.

~ *Dianne Carroll*

