



New Life, New Leaders

Preparing for God to move

Sometimes in this time of pandemic--Puebla is still at a fairly high level of lockdown--it feels like things are just standing still. Or going backward. We lost another friend to COVID in February. Yet God is always at work. We've been working through a video course with about 10 people at church, and though progress and attendance has been a bit spotty, several people are really taking the class to heart and working at becoming faithful students of God's Word. We've had some really good times of discussing Bible study techniques and simply practicing observation of God's Word. It's so special that we don't need great intelligence or marvelous tools and commentaries in order to faithfully study and observe the text. We don't need a seminary degree to recognize structures and notice important words. Time given to diligent observation and practice are most important. While we are *certainly* believers in theological education, the work of faithful study is open to all. We are thankful for those in our church who are working to become faithful students of God's Word. We hope to add 2-4 men to our preaching list this year.

It's Winter, but Easter's on its way...

This Easter we hope to baptize, optimistically, as many as 9 people. In March we will be taking people through preparations and then celebrate!



Lunch with missionaries (family in the middle).

(We WERE distanced except for the 30 seconds of the photo!)

Missionaries Wanted

We have always wanted our church to have a strong outward focus, evangelism in our neighborhood and in our circles of family and friends, but also around the globe. For years we've supported a Mexican missionary in Uruguay, and we've been getting to know a missionary college student in Puebla as well as a family going to Italy--they postponed an exploratory trip a year ago as COVID raged through Italy. Now our church has voted to take them on for support. We also have an opportunity to help out on the ground floor in a new church plant in a small town about an hour outside the city. We're excited to see how God will use our church to grow His Church both at home and abroad.

PRAISE

1. Growing disciples: thank you for praying for *Vale, Emmanuel, & Manuel*. They continue to grow, and we hope they will be involved in the new church.
2. Drew & roomie: Drew's roommate recovered from COVID & Drew never got sick.
3. Preaching class: we're up and running well, with good attendance and participation.

PRAYER

1. COVID in Puebla: As of this writing over 88,000 have been vaccinated (1% of the population). Please pray for this process to accelerate so as to save lives and allow a reopening.
2. Church plant opportunity: pray for the new work in the small town (*San Andrés Hueyacatitla*--we give you the name just for fun!) in order that, whatever our role and involvement, God will establish a faithful church there. But it would be great to see our church be a help as well as for us to catch a vision for planting new churches.
3. Baptisms: pray for the step of baptism in the lives of new believers. If you've been tracking names, Star's family and Enrique's family will feature among them, we trust.

Thank you for your prayers!

Tim, Barbara-Lee, Drew, Gavin, Fiona