

April 24, 2021

Dear praying friends and family,

Our last update talked much about the extension of the FPC in Latin America, but we left out the needs and details of the home front.

Our local church in Mexico City has seen growth during the pandemic. Unsaved family members have begun attending, as well as some people who have come back to the church. We continue with two identical morning services in our church building, and an online afternoon service. Our morning service attendance has grown significantly. For the next two Sundays we have around 80 people "registered" to attend, spread out over the two services. During the pandemic it has worked for our church to have people register their attendance so that we can adjust the seating to the specific families and individuals in attendance, and still be able to social distance somewhat between the chairs. The session of the church is seriously considering that soon the church should come together into one service again. However, even pre-pandemic 80 something people had us uncomfortably squished into the sanctuary and overflow seating. It would be impossible to do so now in a way that takes even some health measures into consideration. The need for the church to have its own property and building is very pressing, not only considering the church's internal growth, but also considering the external growth in establishing a Latin American FPC where the Mexico City church is a hub to train men and help other churches.

There is a property that we would like to buy and that we have been saving for. It is over 2,000 square meters (over 21,000 square feet), half of which holds 2 houses and half of which is undeveloped land where we could build. Some people have asked us to be more specific about the financial need. The property is listed at \$1,000,000 USD (land is expensive in one of the biggest metropolitan areas in the world!). We plan to offer less, since it's been on the market for a while, and because the pandemic has greatly affected the housing market. Our church has been saving, and we have a plan to be able to pay for a portion of the property ourselves- we consider it important for our own people to take part in what the Lord will do. We have received some small gifts that have been saved in an account that the mission board has for our building project, but you can see that the need is immense and that we need the Lord to provide.

The plan was to present the need during deputation meetings in 2020, but the Lord in His good will delayed those plans due to the pandemic. We are trusting and waiting on the Lord for His timing for rescheduling those meetings. In the meantime, we ask for prayer as we prepare a video that gives an update on our ministry and also talks about these needs. We started a video a year ago, but it has since become outdated, and we find ourselves needing to overhaul it. Unfortunately, video making is not in our area of talents and seems like a monumental task.

The Lord may be opening some doors for a temporary larger space and for this we ask prayer. The landlady of our current church building passed away about a year ago. Her husband continued to live above our meeting place until a few weeks ago when he passed away. The contract is now with their daughter, whom we've had previously contact with. She has another

space for rent (which we had seen and considered years ago). We would like to make her an offer to rent that other place, which is much larger, for slightly more than what we are paying right now at our current location. Even though our offer is only to pay a little more than what we're paying right now, it is less than half of what she's asking. It would be on the condition that we would be renting it at this lower price while she is looking for long term renters that are willing to pay her asking rent price. We ask prayer that she would accept this offer. Although temporary, it would give us a larger space to meet.

There is so much going on that some people have asked for a bullet point summary of the different facets of the ministry.

- Pastor Jair Aguilar (Tehuacán, Puebla), Pastor Wenceslao (Jalpan de Serra, Querétaro), Pastor Pepe Luna (La Escalera, San Luis Potosí), Pastor Lalo Peña (Córdoba, Veracruz), and Pastor Ramon Sosa (Dominican Republic) are officially working towards joining together with us to form a Latin American FPC. Each are in different stages of their training, with Jason proctoring their courses. Jason makes a trip each month to rotate visits to these churches to encourage and continue teaching on the FPC distinctives.
- Miguel (Zongozotla, Puebla), Pablo (Mexico City), Rubén (Mexico City), Arlington (Bogota, Columbia), Sergio (From Paco's church in Hermosillo, Sonora) are just starting or interested in starting studies with Jason using a mix of translated Geneva Reformed Seminary materials and other Spanish resources to prepare for the pastorate.
- Jason is teaching a homiletics class to 16 men from all over Mexico.
- Sarahy Lozano is a single lady from our church who has recently started missionary work with women and children in Zongozotla, Puebla.
- Translation of seminary classes and the Book of Church Order continue with good progress.
- Our church here in Mexico City has weekly elder training meetings, as well as women's meetings every 2 months. The children and adult Sunday School has been suspended during the pandemic, but we hope to recommence soon.
- Jason has an upcoming trip in June to Ciudad Juarez (across the border from El Paso, Texas) to make contact with another pastor who has expressed interest in joining the FPC.
- Marriage counseling, premarital counseling, home visits, baptism and membership interviews continue to be a regular part of pastoral work.
- Some men in the Mexico City church are aiding Jason in leading services and teaching at Wednesday night prayer meetings.

Finally, our church is rejoicing to have two baby dedications this coming Sunday (April 25), and look forward to traveling to Tehuacán, Puebla with Rev. Derrick Bowman so he can conduct the infant baptism of Pastor Jair's daughter, and for Jason to conduct an adult baptism. Praise God for these signs of growth!

On a personal note, please continue to pray for Jonathan's adoption. There has not been any progress in the last months, and we are praying that the Lord would work greatly so that we could have an appointment with the judge soon for Jonathan's adoption.

We thank you for partnering with us in prayer for these needs. We greatly need God's guidance and blessing over all aspects of the ministry and home life.

In Christ,

Jason, Danielle, Caleb, and Jonathan Boyle