

The Wokaty Family

Missionaries to Hermosillo, Sonora MEXICO

U.S. Correspondence: 2925 W Polk St, Phoenix, AZ 85009 e-mail:
dwokaty@mgmi.org



FEBRUARY-MARCH 2018

Friendship Days

From January 31-February 2, Ebenezer Bible College and Seminary (IPES) held its annual Friendship Days, which is an opportunity for prospective students to visit and experience college life for a few days. We had a record number of visitors this year: approximately 100 young people visited during those days! Our daughter, Abby, attended, and the highlight of her visit was working in the kitchen (since her student host's work scholarship was in the kitchen), and Greek class, which was taught by Josué Guzmán, the academic dean of the college and a former student of ours. Please pray that the Lord would impress upon the hearts and minds of these young people who visited as to how He wants them to serve Him and where He wants them to go to prepare.

Teaching in person, virtually, and online this semester

Apart from other courses that I am teaching this semester, I have the privilege of teaching one of my courses, Bible Panorama (a course on culture and geography), to a group of resident and town students. I also teach the class live to students connecting on Zoom (virtual), and then recorded to students who are taking the course but cannot take the course live. This scenario presents unique challenges, but it also offers me the ability to teach students who live in Hermosillo and in different parts of Mexico and the U.S. Additionally, this course is a representative only of the other courses that IPES offers this semester in the same format.

Master's degree in Teaching Bible

Dan is coordinating the remaining two courses in the new master's program at the seminary. The professor for both Church History and History of Doctrine is Dr. Jason Armstrong, teacher at UCLA, a Christian university in Monterrey, Mexico. Dr. Armstrong connects online and teaches weekly from Monterrey. Once these two courses are completed in May, Dan will modify them so that individuals will be able to take them at their own pace. In May we will offer this degree completely online. We are grateful for the continued and growing interest in this program by those who are continuing their preparation for ministry, as well as by those who are already involved in full-time ministry and wish to further equip themselves for the Lord's service.

Unique opportunities for fellowship and ministry

Between semesters, we had a visit by Pastor Mike Gradwell and his family. Mike Gradwell pastors Continental Baptist Church in Tucson, AZ, which is one of our supporting churches. Apart from the fellowship, there were many opportunities for ministry. The Gradwells were able to see many of the ministries that we are involved in, and Pastor Mike was able to preach for Emanuel Baptist Church's youth activity (with Dan interpreting) and during one of the services (with Ron Cochran, the pastor of the church, interpreting). One unscheduled ministry opportunity was when the Wokaty and Gradwell families walked to a park to let the combined nine kids run around. A young man in the park heard us speak English and began to talk to us. This opened the door to a one-hour witnessing opportunity with this self-professed atheist. Please pray for this young man, that the Lord would convict him of his need for salvation.

MGMI staff conference. On February 5-9, MGMI held the annual staff conference, where the missionaries under MGMI travel to Phoenix, Arizona, for a time of fellowship, challenge in the Word, prayer, and team building. Nearly all of the missionaries attended. Although the Aguilar were unable to attend because Jacinto had to have heart bypass surgery, others attended who are new to MGMI. Wesley Barley, on deputation to Hermosillo, attended, representing his family. The Roberto Diaz family, who are planning to minister to Hispanics in Georgia, are also new to the MGMI team. We also welcomed a couple of visitors to the staff conference so that they could get to know MGMI's philosophy a little better. Apart from the devotional messages by Dr. Shumate, it was a blessing to have MGMI board members Pastor Dick Mercado, Jr. and Pastor Steve Rubio challenge us during the week. We also enjoyed the presentation by Ben Arellano on how to use technology in the ministry.

Update on furlough plans. As we mentioned in a prayer letter last year, our furlough will begin in June. The time for us to report to supporting churches and visit new churches quickly approaches. Please pray for us as we have been attempting to finish certain responsibilities, turn over responsibilities, downsize, pack, and coordinate our travel throughout the U.S., all while continuing our "normal" routine of ministry here in Hermosillo.

Praise/prayer request for protection. We often take the Lord's protection for granted. The U.S. State Department recently placed five states in Mexico on their highest level of warning against travel because of violence within those states. During our Master of Ministry week in January, Dan was at the table of some students, and realized that the students at that table represented three of those five Level-4 states. Our students and graduates have the privilege of ministering in many needy places! Even in Hermosillo, there exists a great need for your prayers; a young person who previously was in a kid's club recently had his life threatened and nearly ended by violence. Although we, our coworkers, students and graduates rest confidently on the Lord's protection and we don't live in fear, we are reminded that we should not take for granted what the Lord provides for us. We are grateful for your prayers.

Praises

1. In our last letter, we mentioned a need for some electronic equipment to address the need of having multiple live online courses in our undergraduate program. The Lord provided the college with that equipment!
2. You prayed for our Master of Ministry course, which was held on January 8-12. Dr. Dave Shumate, MGMI General Director, taught that course, and 22 attended from various part of Mexico. The course, Theology of the New Testament, was both profitable and practical.

The Family Corner—Family Adjustments. Daniel turned 13 on January 21, so we now have 3 teenagers in the house! Anna was recently accepted to Bob Jones University, and will attend in the fall.

Current level of promised support: 79%

Note: If you are receiving our newsletters by "snail mail" and would prefer to receive them by email, please send us a quick note at dwokaty@mgmi.org to let us know.

Thank you for your prayers!

Dan, Opal, Anna, Abby, Daniel and Damaris Wokaty
Missionaries in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico

Sending Church:
Iglesia Bautista de la Fe
2129 Poinsett Highway
Greenville, SC 29609
Phone: (864) 467-1561
Website: www.iglesiabautistasc.org

Mission Agency:
MGM International
2925 W. Polk Street
Phoenix, AZ 85009-4921
Phone: (602) 272-0312
Email: mgm@mgmi.org
Website: www.mgmi.org

