



MGM International
Multiplying Leaders for the Great Hispanic Harvest



News from The Shumates

Shumate Family Update: May-June 2017

Summary

We have so much to be thankful to the Lord for, especially for the prayers of God's people. The spiritual battle continues, but we can see the Hand of the Lord.

Updates and Praises

- Blessed time in Sinaloa, Mexico, with MGMI missionary families Tap and Denise and Brian and Diana Hornor
- Linda and David's successful completion of the school year teaching
- Graduation at the Ebenezer Bible College and Seminary in Hermosillo, Mexico
- Graduation of Stephen from International Baptist College (will be entering seminary)
- Resident visa application for Marco Zapien successfully submitted to USCIS

Prayer Requests

- Strength and success for a busy summer of ministry and travel
- David's preparation for teaching this coming year, including a new course
- Ministry opportunity in Costa Rica
- Ongoing financial needs of the MGMI missionaries and the home base
- Mary and Joanna ministry in camps this summer

Dear Friends and Partners in the Work:

Going through the (snail) mail, I saw a card from a member of one of our faithful partner churches. The note said, "I just prayed for you and God's blessings on your ministry, marriage, family, etc." When I looked at the date of the postmark, I was struck by the fact that during that time, in different ways, we were passing through a time of unusual spiritual warfare and of spiritual blessing. Although the dear sister had no way of knowing, her prayers arrived at the throne of Grace at a crucial time. This small card was a great encouragement and a pointed reminder of the importance and power of prayer. Thank you for praying for us.

May the Lord be praised for His great blessings upon us this spring. I enjoyed a wonderful time as one of the speakers at the 20th Anniversary Conferences of Tap and Denise Hornor's ministry in Alhuey, Sinaloa. While there, Tap, Brian, and I visited a sister church in Navolato. This is the sending church of MGMI Mexican missionary to Colorado, Marco Zapien. They are currently without a pastor, and the Hornors are providing them invaluable counsel and encouragement. Please pray for the Horeb Baptist Church.



Speaking of Pastor Marco, Praise the Lord! We have completed the first stage of his request for a resident religious worker's visa (Green Card)! He is in the second half of his five-year stay at Front Range Baptist Church in Fort Collins, CO. Please pray as MGMI's application needs to be approved; and, once that happens, Zapiens will need to go through a lengthy and expensive visa application process of his own. If everything is approved, they should be able to minister indefinitely among the Hispanics in the USA without the need to return home for a year and reapply for another temporary period.



May and June are times of rejoicing for graduates. I had the privilege of participating in three graduations. First, the commencement at International Baptist College and Seminary saw our son, Stephen, complete his degree in Bible with a concentration in Church Music. He and Melissa are leading a summer ministry team for IBCS, and they are scheduled to return, where they will serve in various

capacities, including residence hall supervisors while Stephen begins his seminary studies.

The next week, I traveled to Findlay, Ohio, to speak at the graduation of the Christian school of Calvary Baptist Church. The pastor, Gordon Dickson, is the Board Chairman of MGMI and a dear friend in the ministry for many years. The following week it was my joy to be a part of the commencement events for the Ebenezer Bible College. At that time, we recognized brother Keith Huhta for 35 years of faithful service as an MGMI missionary and acknowledged long-time MGMI team member Ron Cochran for having received an Honorary doctorate from Puerto Rican Baptist College. The next day one of the Ebenezer graduates married the son of the director of a Bible Institute in Peru. We are looking forward to ministry opportunities through our greater relationship with them.



Another opportunity that has arisen through matrimony is in Costa Rica. Ron and Jackie Cochran's daughter, Lizzy, married an assistant pastor and Bob Jones graduate from that country. Dan Wokaty and I are scheduled to teach a module for pastors the last week in July. Please pray for success.

I was expecting a time for getting caught up and planning for further classes in the next few months, but as it turns out, I will be attending a conference and teaching two modular classes, so the summer is already filling up. Please pray that I will have time for my course preparation. In addition to the module in Costa Rica I will teach a summer doctoral course in preaching from Old Testament narratives. Next school year I will be teaching various courses, including Old Testament Theology (Spanish) and a new course for me, New Testament Theology (one class in English and one in Spanish).



In addition, we would greatly appreciate your prayers for our daughters as they will be serving in camps this summer—Mary at Grandview Christian Camp in Arizona and Joanna in the Leadership Live program at Camp Ironwood. This May, Mary completed her first year of studies at IBCS and Joanna her junior year at Arrowhead Christian Academy where, among other things, she played Aunt Polly in *Tom Sawyer*. She was a very convincing 19th Century Midwestern country widow.

Finally, please pray for the continued spiritual, ministry and practical needs of our MGMI team members on the various fields and on the vital administrative support team.

Thank you so much for your faithful prayer and support.

Your servants,

The Shumates (David, Linda, Mary and Joanna)