



MGM International
Multiplying Leaders for the Great Hispanic Harvest



News from The Shumates

Shumate Family Update: September-October 2017

Summary

The Lord gave us a very busy but productive time teaching in the United States and Latin America, both in person and via the Internet. We have also been blessed with **two** new grandchildren.

Updates and Praises

- David taught modular courses in South Carolina and in Costa Rica
- David and Linda have begun a new year of teaching at International Baptist College and Seminary and Arrowhead Christian Academy respectively
- First-stage approval for Marco Zapien's resident visa (green card) approved by USCIS
- Ministry of Foundations Baptist Fellowship. Putting together of an edition of *Frontline Magazine* "Mentoring in the Ministry."
- Safe arrival into the world of Evie and Julie, grandchildren numbers five and six

Prayer Requests

- David's teaching of a new course, New Testament Theology, in English and Spanish
- David's preparation for a new course in the spring, New Testament Introduction
- Busy travel and conference schedule for the fall (balance travel with teaching and administrative responsibilities)
- Linda as she continues with her many and varied responsibilities
- The brethren affected by the devastating hurricanes and earthquakes in the last month
- Ongoing financial needs of the MGMI missionaries and the home base

Dear Friends and Partners in the Work:

Blessed Fellowship

The last few weeks we were privileged to work with and encourage some of our wonderful ministry partners and friends in the ministry. First, we a wonderful time with Northwest Valley Baptist Church in Glendale, Arizona, along with our missionaries, the Dan Wokaty family, and a team that they brought from Ebenezer Bible College and Seminary. Northwest Valley is one of our great partner churches (Pastor Kevin Schaal is on the MGMI board of directors, and we work together in various ministries. Also, Linda teaches in and Joanna attends their Christian school). The church had just completed their beautiful and well-designed new building (after holding two morning services for 20 years). The next week, Dan and I attended the Global Opportunities Week at Bob Jones University. There we were able to network with other like-minded missions agencies and challenge students in various majors to use their gifts and knowledge in the furtherance of the Great Commission.

Sobering Events

As we have shared our burden, especially for the multiplication of leaders, we have been sobered by the reports of the terrible devastation in Puerto Rico and Dominica from Hurricane Maria (not to mention the ongoing needs from Harvey in Texas and Irene in the Caribbean and Florida). Please pray for the people and especially for the brethren who are going through a terribly difficult time in those places. MGMI missionary, Bacilio Alfaro, is the president of Puerto Rico Baptist College. He has stayed in regular communication about the needs and ministry opportunities on the Island. Because of our connections with both English and Spanish-speaking ministries, we have also been helping the vital ministry of Jan Milton of Operation Renewed Hope to identify specific needs on the Island and churches burdened to help with the need. Our Puerto Rican brethren are going to require our prayers and support for a long time to come. You can get in touch with Operation Renewed Hope through their website: <http://www.operationrenewedhope.org/>.

Equipping Faithful Men

This summer and fall have been filled with the work of theological training. In June I taught a Doctor of Ministry course at Bob Jones University in narrative preaching from the Old Testament Historical Books, and the first week of July, Dan Wokaty and I spent a week in Costa Rica giving a group of about 30 pastors a taste of the theological training opportunities available both in person and on the Internet through the ministry of Ebenezer Bible College and Seminary and other resources. It was my first visit to Costa Rica, and the pastors there are very hungry for tools and fellowship. The scenery was beautiful as well, and the coffee out of this world.

Please pray for Linda and me as we begin another school year. Linda is well into her busy (virtually full-time teaching schedule, along with her church music and children's ministry responsibilities). I am pressing ahead with a new school year as Seminary Dean and teacher at International Baptist College and Seminary. This year I am teaching a new course (New Testament Theology). We are getting double duty from the course preparation. I teach it (along with two other classes) in English on Mondays, and then on Thursday evenings I am teaching it at Ebenezer in Spanish via video conferencing. Lord willing, I will finish up the Spanish course in person in a modular course in January. We would greatly appreciate it if you would ask the Lord to give us strength. Also, please pray for me as later in October, I am scheduled for missions conferences in Placerville, California and in Tucson, Arizona.

More Good News from the Front Range

Thank you for praying for Pastor Marco Zapien, our Mexican missionary serving in Fort Collins, Colorado. We praise the Lord that USCIS granted our application on his behalf to minister there. That is step one of the two-step process for him to get his Green Card. Please keep praying as he and his family have to actually apply for their Green Cards, an expensive and time-consuming process. Also, please pray for the Roberto Diaz family as they are in the preparatory stages to go through MGMI from Mexicali, Mexico, to serve the Lord among the many Hispanic people in the Dalton, Georgia, area.

Additions to the Clan

We have been greatly blessed in the Grandma and Grandpa department. In addition to being able to enjoy all of our grandchildren here in Phoenix, the Lord has added two baby girls, Evelyn and Juliet. The scorecard now stands tied at six children and six grandchildren!

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 prayers and support.

Your servants,
The Shumates (David, Linda, Mary and Joanna)



Operation Renewed Hope with essential supplies for the brethren in Puerto Rico. Please pray for the continued need.



Linda encouraging the ladies of Northwest Valley Baptist Church



Team from Ebenezer Bible College and Seminary