



MGM International
Multiplying Leaders for the Great Hispanic Harvest



News from The Shumates

Shumate Family Update: June 2020 At a Glance

Updates and Praises

- Discipleship opportunities at the Evangelical Baptist Church (EBC) in Phoenix
- An open door for a cooperative printing project in Colombia, South America
- Successful completion of school year at International Baptist College and Seminary

Prayer Requests

- Wisdom and success in South American printing project
- Wisdom for the EBC leadership for a safe phased reopening
- Work opportunities for Joanna

Times of Opportunity

In our last prayer letter, we spoke about times of crisis as times of opportunity. Praise the Lord, in our lives and ministries He has shown Himself strong. We at La Iglesia Evangélica Bautista (the Evangelical Baptist Church) have seen considerable growth among the leadership and the people as COVID-19 has focused our efforts on discipling and caring for the members. In addition to live streaming the services, we have been able to use video conferencing to do much in caring for each other. One side benefit is that friends of our ministry have been able to join us for fellowship and edification from places as far away as Oregon and Mexico. The church leadership has been burdened for some time to develop a disciple-making culture in the church, and the pandemic has given rise to an even greater focus on the core of the Great Commission. Please pray for all of us as we plan on regathering in phases. Several have commented that, under the current circumstances, going through the necessary procedures to meet in person is going to take even more work and organization than meeting remotely required.

The Lord has also opened opportunities through increased cooperation between partner churches and missionaries. Two of our supporting churches arranged Zoom meetings with their missionaries so that we could share updates and prayer requests. During one of these meetings a Venezuelan missionary pastor said that the people of his country are hungry for the Gospel and the Word of God, but that because of the long-running economic crisis there is a great shortage of literature and the paper and ink needed to print it. Another missionary from neighboring Colombia said that the church there had set up a printing-press ministry and was eager to help print gospel tracts. As a result of the meeting, we decided to set up a WhatsApp group to see how we could all work together. We had a productive conference call and are now trying to work through the logistical issues, which are considerable. Please pray for this opportunity so that the parched souls in the suffering country of Venezuela can have the water of life. If you would like to contribute toward the project you can do so via check sent to MGMI.

Note that we have obtained a Post Office box and our mailing address is as follows:

MGM International
Box 6128
Phoenix, AZ 85005

Please send packages:
c.o. The Evangelical Baptist Church
2925 W. Polk Street
Phoenix, AZ 85009-4921

You may also give electronically through our website: www.mgmi.org/partner.
Please indicate the purpose of the gift.

On the home front, we are all well. Thank you for praying for Joanna, who was uncertain about summer plans due to the virus. It has turned out that the college ministry team of which she was a part cancelled its summer itinerary. Please pray for Joanna as she is now looking for work for the summer and for next fall. Pray for just the right opportunity for her to help pay for her schooling as well as be a witness and a blessing to others. We also thank the Lord that He has provided an opportunity for Linda to take a graduate course this summer in curriculum design from IBCS. Linda has experience in Christian School education, and this course of study will give her a greater capacity to help MGMI as we seek better ways of providing theological and practical education in Hispanic churches. Please pray that she will profit greatly from the course.

Although COVID-19 has altered some of our plans, it is a blessing to see how the Lord has His own plans and those are always perfect.

Dave and Linda Shumate