



MGM International
Multiplying Leaders for the Great Hispanic Harvest



News from The Shumates

Shumate Family Update: September, 2020

At a Glance

Updates and Praises

- A closer walk with the Lord
- Bible study opportunities for Dave with two men
- Hispanic Church services recommenced
- Good start to the school year at IBCS
- The funds came in for the printing project for Venezuela
- Another grandson on the way
- Good health so far

Prayer Requests

- For genuine revival
- For MGMI missionaries and their families to walk close to the Lord and for spiritual power in the work in difficult times
- For continued provision for MGMI missionaries and the home office
- For wisdom in the opportunities that God has set before us

What God is Doing

Now that we have spent months under circumstances altered by the pandemic, we have thought about the lessons God might have for us. There haven't been fewer things to do; working from home is our normal. Some traveling was canceled, but the basic work of MGMI and teaching through Zoom has continued. What has changed is a new awareness of how God wants to work in my life. I have been blessed to have spent much time in the last few months learning from and about our Lord in the Scriptures and to have enjoyed more time in prayer. In this sense our prayer letter is not about what the Shumates have been doing but what God has been doing. He has been growing us, even in these difficult times. Pray that we, along with all of God's people, would earnestly seek to know Him better and to walk humbly before Him.

At the Hispanic church, our English Sunday School group continues meet via Zoom twice a week. On Sunday mornings we give testimony to the Lord's goodness and pray for one another. I am also teaching through Psalms selected by the members of the class. It is a great joy to see God's people understanding and being blessed and changed by His Word. We also are going through a discipleship book on Wednesday nights. Recently we have been studying prayer, a

subject that has been a great challenge to me, especially in the last couple of months. Oh, that we would become mighty intercessors for God's glory and for His people!

Our church has started meeting in person on Sundays, both morning and evening. Please pray for wisdom for the church leadership as we continue to follow the recommended precautions.

International Baptist College and Seminary has resumed classes. I am teaching theology and Hebrew this semester (Our son, Stephen, is one of my Hebrew students). We praise the Lord that the school now has authorization to offer our distance education program in all 50 states. Most of our seminary students are now studying online. We thank the Lord for how He continually causes the different facets of our ministry to work together. Lord willing, next school year I will be offering Hebrew for Spanish-speaking students. Please pray as I need to learn how to teach this technical subject in a different language.

Linda had the opportunity to take two graduate courses this summer and is currently taking a course in the Old Testament Historical Books. I greatly admire how she is zealous to continue to learn and be better equipped to serve the Lord.

Praise the Lord, the funds for the Venezuelan printing project have come in. Please pray that the missionary for whom the tracts will be printed will soon be allowed to return to Venezuela so that he can oversee the distribution of this material.

Family News

We are happy to announce that our son Stephen and his wife Melissa are expecting their first baby (a boy) in January, which will be our seventh grandchild. So far all our children have lived here in the Phoenix area, but Mary and her husband Dustin have recently moved to the mountains in northeast Arizona. Mary has never had to buy "winter" clothes, but she will have to now. It is a high-altitude cold place that gets a lot of snow.

Joanna has started her junior year studying Church Music at International Baptist College and Seminary in Chandler, Arizona, on the east side of the Phoenix area. It has been exciting for us to see how she is growing, both as a Christian as well as a musician. It will be a challenging year for her as she tries to balance classes, homework, practicing, and her job.

Please Pray

The solution to the problems that confront us personally, socially, and politically is not found in journalism, social media campaigns, demonstrations, or elections. Please join me in praying for genuine revival in our family, in your family, and in believers across our country. Let your light so shine before men, that they shall see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:16).

Pray for team of MGMI missionaries, that they would continue to walk faithfully and close to the Lord, and that God would provide for their physical needs.

Finally, pray that we would have wisdom in ministering to others and the sensitivity to recognize the Lord as He leads us along.