



MGM International
Multiplying Leaders for the Great Hispanic Harvest



News from Ron and Jackie Cochran

Spring, 2022

Dear Friends,

Forty years may be a long or a short time, depending on what you're talking about and your perspective. A forty-year-old building has been around just a short time, compared to the pyramids, the Great Wall of China, or the Taj Mahal. A person having their fortieth birthday may be considered old, in the prime of life, or a youngster, depending on if you are ten, forty, or ninety years old. A couple having their fortieth anniversary has been married a long time, and a business that lasts that long is highly unusual in the 21st century. This May Emanuel Baptist Church celebrated forty years of God's faithfulness to His people. During our Bible Conference, in nightly presentations, we were able to see some reminders of the work of grace the Lord has done in and through Emanuel. How thankful we are that the Lord has allowed us to participate in this ministry in various ways since our arrival in 1985! We ask you to continue praying for each member of Emanuel Baptist Church, that all will grow in grace and knowledge of Christ and that His name might be glorified in our lives.

Our new semester at the Bible college and seminary started out with good postgrad classes taught by Dr. Shumate; we also welcomed two new students to the dorms, bringing our number of dorm students up to 49. It has continued with good missions trips to Molino and Mazatán and weekly visitation and meetings there. Please continue to pray for these two towns, that God would be glorified and souls saved and established in the faith. Please pray also for our students, that they would continue to learn and grow as they serve in local churches and missions.

Ebenezer Bible College and Seminary is seeking to expand our facilities, and we praise the Lord for donations that have come in to get this new project off the ground. With the increase of technology and online classes, greatly augmented during the pandemic, we have prayerfully come to the conclusion that the best use of the donated funds is to remodel the other half of the property, tearing down the current structures and putting in new men's dorms and offices, and to remodel the old building, restructuring the offices and teachers' lounge as classrooms. We are currently working with an architect to get the plans and permissions ready to begin construction this summer if possible. Please pray for wisdom, grace, provision, and workers to help this phase to continue smoothly and quickly.

In March we made our way north to the greater Phoenix area for our annual MGMI meeting and ended the week participating in a NCHO Think Tank, an organization that meets several times per year in different areas, designed to encourage and share thoughts on Hispanic ministries in the US. This year both our daughter Lizzy and son-in-law Ivan and we were invited to speak in divided sessions—Ron and Jackie's theme was longevity in the ministry, and Lizzy and Ivan spoke on counseling. Both our yearly meeting and the NCHO conference were a blessing and encouragement.

While the attendance at church and activities such as family camp has been on the rise, returning to “normal,” the area of ministry that has suffered the most is the K-12 education ministry at our church. Enrollment has dropped considerably. Please pray for God’s wisdom, grace, and provision as we prayerfully consider how God would have us continue with this ministry.

Family news: Having a daughter and son-in-law working with us has been a tremendous blessing, not only to IPES, but also to the church. They have helped out in the areas of counseling, teaching, preaching, music, and ministry to young adults. Another family blessing came in the way of a visit from our oldest son Benjamin and his wife Carla and their children Jack and Amaia. This was their first time back here since 2016, when Jack was a baby, and it was a great blessing, not only to spend time with them, but to have Ben preach in church, the Bible college and seminary, and at our family camp.

During this time news came of a special prayer request for our youngest daughter, Rachel. She was just diagnosed with Hashimoto Thyroiditis, an auto-immune disease that affects the thyroid gland. Please pray for Rachel as she makes adjustments in diet and activity and for wisdom to deal effectively with the disease.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support over the years. May the Lord bless and use you for His honor and glory.

In Christ in Mexico,

Ron and Jackie Cochran