

Prayer Letter: March

Psalm 133:1
How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!

Two More Scares in February

A magnitude 7.2 earthquake took place on Friday, February 17 in central and southern Mexico at 5:36 pm. Another earthquake on February 19, a 6 on the Richter scale, shook the west coast of Mexico at 12:56 am, both were felt in Mexico City. After these two more than 2,000 aftershocks have been registered. We were alert and somewhat frightened, the children getting used to it and somewhat "surprised" with the shaking movement since September was so violent and felt very horrible.

Website and EdM

Due to the earthquake of February 19 we could not start the School of Ministries, however the following week we started with "EdM." I did not manage to have the 10 students I wanted but enrolled 7. They are very excited, and every Monday from 8:30 at 10pm we have our class by video conference. They complete readings, research, and more during the week. Both they and I are adapting little by little to the operation of the apps and other technology that we are learning together.

The website has been a success not only for the "EdM" but also for more people to know about our ministry and what we are doing in Mexico City. You can visit it at <http://miiialasnaciones.wixsite.com/miia>. I continue to create the audio-devotional "A New Day" each Monday through Saturday, and it is amazing how this small labor has reaped so many results; brothers and sisters are encouraged, people are receiving Jesus in their hearts, others participating in Bible studies, strengthened marriages. Etc. Etc. This devotional has already been heard in various parts of the world: I receive prayer requests from Holland, France, and more. The last good news of February was from a sister who shared the devotional with her co-worker in New York and the next day asked to be added to the devotional pray for her, received Jesus and the following Sunday accompanied the sister to her church; now I am sending bible studies for her and her husband. For this and much more I give glory to God.

Annual Mennonite Assembly of IAMUM

From February 2 to 6 another pastor and I attended the Annual Mennonite Assembly in Cuauhtémoc, Chihuahua, on the border with El Paso Texas. All the member conferences of the national conference were represented, we renewed our credentials and we were able to talk about the challenges we have as Mexican churches, and we left with many plans to develop in the conferences.

Pastors

I implemented with the pastors of MIIA two group conversations per month, one via ZOOM (videoconference) and the other face-to-face. Because of the distance we are from each other this helps us to be more in communication. I ask for your prayers for a pastoral couple to whom Mimi and I are giving marriage counseling. They are going through difficult times. Likewise, continue to pray for health for the wife of Pastor Jesús who, as you know, has kidney failure. I have also met individually with some of the pastors to deal with more personal matters, which is a blessing and great responsibility the Lord has given me, and so please pray for me.

International

On February 14 Pastor Gerardo Loza, a Mexican missionary who lives with his family in Algeciras, Spain, arrived and met with us that same day. He gave a talk about how to renew strength in the ministry and how to

avoid spiritual fatigue. It was a good time with a lot of encouragement, we all needed to hear this message. We continue to pray for him and his family, as well as the Gutiérrez brothers of Cuba who for weeks have been in El Salvador sharing the word of God, during which time we have had little communication.

Family

We thank you for your prayers for our family, especially for Abraham who, as you know, had a small tumor on the right side of his neck. The doctors have been treating him, several exams and an ultrasound have been done to determine the action to be taken to remove it. The Doctors say it is benign (not carcinogenic). Thank God and your prayers. We continue in this process.

Isaac (12) recently got braces and feels a little strange but is looking forward to his teeth looking much better. He is in the 7th grade and doing very well in school.

Augusto (7) sends greetings and still remembers some of the English words he learned with the visit of the Salford team. He sends greetings to his "Aunt Jane."

Alan (18) returned to take his exam for the main university in Mexico and the results are to arrive March 19. We trust in God's will for his life; he wants to study physics, and he has already started working as well.

Pray for our children, above all that God protects them from all violence.

Nohemí and I are well and blessed with a lot of work in the church and with MIIA but encouraged. In the church we restart the service of coffee and bread for people whose loved ones are patients in the nearby hospital: every Saturday morning we distribute bread and coffee and we pray for the people as they ask us.

My Mother (Ophelia) fell in the bathroom and hurt her shoulder, so please pray for her speedy recovery.

Pray for my work in the taxi, since with the entry of UBER the government wants to end traditional taxi service and leave only services with mobile applications. They are doing this by implementing new and higher taxes for taxi drivers. This is unfair, arbitrary and a sign of the terrible corruption in Mexico.

Because of this I am considering switching to UBER. For this I need to sell my car and buy a newer one, since they only accept cars 2016-2018. Pray for this decision please.

Dear brothers and friends of Salford,
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, your family and your ministry as a church.

SHALOM
Nohemí y Cesar Marín