

Crawford Connection December 2016

Dear Friends,

It's been a year of changes in our ministry! I'm going to try an acrostic, reflecting over this year... here goes!

LEARNING... our new mission, "Luz y Vida" (Light and Life) is already more than a year old! We've had steps forward and back, and in everything we are learning and growing. We recently met with the pastor of our "mother" church, Manantial de Vida, for re-grouping and re-strategizing! This is exciting and we are anticipating greater things in the year ahead. **Pray for the leadership team: Juan Carlos, Yaneth, Albano, Cecy, Pedro, Virna, Blanca, Ferny, Pamela and Guy and I.**

LAUNCHING... The 4 areas of the Free Methodist Church in Mexico came together this year, the Provisional General Conference of Mexico. After many years of church planting and growth the Mexican church is self-governing, electing Bishop Rosario Castro and a Board of Administration. **Pray for guidance through the year ahead for this group.**

LETTING GO... Our youngest daughter set out on her own adventure this year after graduating from the University of Arizona in May, working with the Navigators collegiate ministry under her brother, Director of Nav's at USC and several other Los Angeles campuses. They came to the Manantial church to do a workshop on Thanksgiving weekend, which was exciting for us! **Pray for the 2nd part of this training in evangelism, scheduled in January.**

LAUGHING... We experienced the joy of our daughter Jane and son-in-law Vidal's firstborn son, Vidal Alan Ramirez this past week, December 10th. His birth reminds us of the joy of Christmas, "Joy to the world, the Lord is come!" **Praise God for Vidalito's safe arrival!**

LONGING... for the lost in our world to know the hope of Jesus Christ. **Pray for us that we would be bold in sharing our hope in Christ with others!**

LOOKING AHEAD... Guy and I were invited to a missionary retreat with other Free Methodist missionaries in Latin America. This will be January 9-15th in Medellin, Colombia. **Please pray for us and all of the other participants during these days of retreat!**

Friends, thank you for your prayers, and please write and let us know how we can be praying for you in this season!

May God bless you during this special time of celebrating our Lord's advent!

Betsy and Guy



Saturday morning Kids' Club with leader Pamela, learning the Fruits of the Spirit!



Steven and Caroline giving a workshop on evangelism, with Pastor Juan Carlos at the Manantial de Vida church



Grandma and Grandpa with Vidalito!