

CRAWFORD CONNECTION

GOD ON THE MOVE IN COSTA RICA

We thank the Lord for a wonderful, full and blessed time with our FMWM missionaries in Costa Rica. In two very different settings these families are impacting communities with the good news of Jesus Christ.

Prayer Connection

Prayer requests:

- Lorenz family: language study, church planting, coaching of leaders in Latin America. Daughter Libby plans to begin university this fall.
- Leon family: Pray for Dennis and his team as they train leaders in CCP in the Shoreline District network of churches.
- Pray for Wendy and Kyle as they keep their kids' schooling and their homes running smoothly as well as help their husbands coordinate their busy travel and ministry schedules.
- The Greens in Uruguay- Andrea's baby is due in May, and for partnership building as they begin home assignment in March.
- We got to see Thad Roller in Tucson in January! We served with his family when we first came to Mexico in 1994. Pray for him, Nikki and family as they prepare to serve with FMWM in Colombia.

In the capital San Jose we spent a few days with Wendy and Glenn Lorenz and their four children. They've been studying Spanish these past two years and exploring opportunities to plant churches in the city. Glenn has been on a team that has developed contextualized materials for CCP (Community Church Planting) for Latin America. He also coaches pastors who are implementing this strategy. The Lorenz' shared their plan of becoming even more involved in church planting in San Jose, after their home assignment, in 2020. The Lorenz' are terrific hosts, helping us experience the 'Tico' culture (coffee farm tour, and more!)

We took the bus out to the Pacific coast where the Leons live- Dennis' home town of Esterillos. God called him and his wife Kyle to plant churches in the communities nearby and beyond. His team keeps a map of Costa Rica. As they pray they mark it with dots- green (already reached), yellow (something has begun) and red (no work as yet). We got to visit two small groups in the evenings we were there. Again we were treated royally by the Leon family, nice long lunches and conversation each day, as well as enjoying the beach together.

The last two days we all gathered at an eco-lodge in the mountains where each family had a cabin. We enjoyed some 'down' time, hiking in the forest, looking (in vain) for the quetzal bird (we even had three guides!), sharing a cozy fire, dinner, and a sharing and prayer time. It was a good opportunity to build



The goal of Free Methodist World Missions in Latin America is to fuel and sustain a biblical movement to reach Latin Americans for Christ.

This will happen by:

- *Empowering and coaching national leaders to multiply disciples, groups, leaders, and churches.*

- *Catalyzing initiatives and partnerships to plant clusters of churches in strategic cities.*

<http://latinamericaarea.com>

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We are self-supporting missionaries, however if you'd like to partner with us and give towards our travel and ministry costs, this is our giving page:

<https://give.fmcusa.org/donation/df-aslacrawford>

Let's draw near to God's throne with assurance of faith, for we can be confident he is faithful to hear and answer as we pray. Let's keep encouraging one another to love and good deeds. These dear servants have daily struggles common to all of us, so let's remember to keep them in our prayers!

Hebrews 10: 22-25 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

relationships. We were encouraged to see how God is using each family. We understand how to better pray for each other!

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING

Again, we want to say thanks for praying for us in our member care role with FMWM. It's a joy to come alongside these dear servants. Pray that God will give us grace and wisdom as we make ourselves available to our missionaries.

Photos:

-All of us in the forest

—Glenn and Wendy Lorenz, and family with Pastor Pedro, Melissa and family at the Alajucla church.

-Dennis leading a small group in a surf shop in Esterillos.



