

Bill & Therese Williams

January - February 2021



THE THIRD WAVE

I wrote in our prayer letter last October that Spain was entering into the second wave of COVID. In the middle of December the second wave subsided a bit; but after the revelry, although somewhat muted, of the holiday celebrations, Spain has now entered fully into the third wave which is proving to be more deadly than the first two combined. In our region of Castille-Leon, and especially in our city of Palencia, we are in the center of the storm. Palencia was spared from the worst of the first two waves last year, but since the first of the year, our city of 80,000 people has seen incidences of infection and the death rate triple from what it was last year. Just yesterday afternoon, Therese and I participated in the city's mass COVID testing of more than half of its citizens. While the test results of Therese and me came out negative, nevertheless, one percent of those screened were found to have coronavirus even though they had no symptoms. But, praise the Lord, that even though we have had several of those who attend our church who have had the disease; for them, none-the-less, it has been nothing more than a bad cold or similar to the flu. They have all pulled through without any major complications or hospitalization. We ask you to continue to pray that the Lord will protect us as we continue to trust in his watch-care for us.

What Satan Meant for Evil, God Turned into Good!

As Satan continues in his evil battle against God and against His people, it is so amazing to see how our great God converts Satan's machinations into His victories! While there are those few even in our church who have "fallen away" because of the fears and discouragement of this disease, the great majority of God's children in His church here in Palencia are standing strong and even drawing closer to the Lord and each other. Nevertheless, our services continue to be curtailed more and more. Just last week, our capacity was reduced by the government to one third with a maximum of 25 people. And then, we learned late Saturday afternoon, that we could not hold our Sunday evening services due to new regulations on any "non-essential" businesses or activities who have to close their doors by 6PM. Since the government here includes churches as non-essential, we have also had to close the doors of the church at that hour. If they continue to allow us to hold services this coming Sunday, we will move up our Sunday "evening" service to an "afternoon" service. So how has God turn this to good? When we are able to hold services, our people arrive early and then have a hard time leaving. So it has caused us to desire to have more fellowship and to appreciate the "live" preaching and teaching of God's Word. And because of the ravages of COVID among our friends and families, we have converted our face-to-face Wednesday prayer meeting service into Tuesday and Thursday evening fellowship prayer services on Zoom. The brethren thirst for coming together for fellowship and prayer even if it has to be electronically! In short, the prayer life of the church is so much greater than it ever was before, because our folks are seeing the power of God in answered prayer. The Word of God is so much more appreciated, as well as our fellowship one with another.

Difficult Ministry Decisions... But God Moves Anyway!

You may remember in our September 2020 letter, we informed you that we made the decision to not return to Madrid to work with a young man who is starting a church in a suburb of that city. In our service yesterday morning, Gastón joined us on Zoom from his living room where he is starting the work that God has laid on his heart, and our church here in Palencia has begun to financially support him. We are also counseling him on steps to take especially in the difficult times we are living in. Please, continue to pray for Spain and for your missionaries as we *stand in the gap!*

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[www.facebook.com/
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Serving Christ together,

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PHOTO PAGE

There are so many photos we wish to show you in the way of more news, so please permit us to include a second page of our prayer letter with these photos below as well as a brief explanation of each one.

P.S. We have made a new update video as well as a recording of a special song from Therese. The links are below:

Update:

[https://1drv.ms/v/s!
AmaQ7OI4CVDIjeRQkBpvRg-
mAXKM13Q](https://1drv.ms/v/s!AmaQ7OI4CVDIjeRQkBpvRg-mAXKM13Q)

“Declare His Glory”:

[https://1drv.ms/v/s!
AmaQ7OI4CVDIje-
ROEqQkf5mCDAiKvA](https://1drv.ms/v/s!AmaQ7OI4CVDIje-ROEqQkf5mCDAiKvA)



**January 2021
Frozen Weeping Willow**



**January 2021
The Carrión River
in our city.**



**Bill & Therese
Christmas 2021**



**The new annex with pastor's office
and children's class.**