



#### ORONAVIRUS GOOD NEWS

I started off my June prayer letter with the following sentence: "I pray this prayer letter will be the last one in which this dreadful virus is highlighted." While COVID-19 is still a world-wide pandemic and does not seem to want to let hold of its mortal grip, I am glad to report to you all that what Satan has meant for evil to attempt to destroy the kingdom of God, our Lord is using for the good of his kingdom. We fully understand that many have suffered during the last six months, and we do not pretend to make light of such suffering. However, "we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." So here is just some of God's good in the lives and ministries of your missionaries.

- I wrote in that last prayer letter that we were still in lockdown. Within two weeks of the letter, the Faith Baptist Church of Palencia began holding limited services again in our building. For ten weeks now, we have been meeting together as commanded by Hebrews 10:25. What a blessing to once again see each other face to face even though it is partially covered by a mask, and we cannot shake hands or give the two "holy" kisses as is the Spanish tradition! Elbow or feet touching has had to be the new normal. To date, no one in our church has been infected by the virus.
- In this ten week period, an older teenage girl and three more children of our congregation have made professions of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. Lord willing, on the 4th of September, we will be holding a baptismal service in the river nearby for three teens and three children who have been saved since the first of the year. Three other adults also made professions of faith, and we continue to pray for their following the Lord in baptism.
- Our attendance has not returned to the pre-COVID average of 50 per service, but we should reach that once again by next month. Nevertheless, we have gained a family who has started attending faithfully, as well as a mother and pre-teen daughter. While several families are hit and more miss with their attendance due to COVID, we are working and praying to hopefully see them become more faithful in their attendance.
- The transitional phase of the change of pastorate from yours truly to our associate national pastor, Valentin Lucaci, has resumed in spite of a few setbacks that we see are definitely of the Lord to refine Valentin as well as our church. Therese and I are still on track to leave for furlough in December when we will leave Valentin as the interim pastor with plans to surrender the pastorate to him when we return in June 2021. Of course we are well aware that it is as the Lord wills depending on whether COVID-20 becomes a reality or not.
- The financial situation of the church suffered great setbacks during the confinement period, but in the last two months, due to the tithes and sacrificial giving of the members of FBC, it has fully recovered and is even better than before COVID. Several families had to be helped financially during the crisis but are now recovering.

### Cood News?

Sometimes things happen in which the child of God tries to find the good news. Friday, the 8th of August, Therese woke up with severe pains in her left chest, shoulder, and upper arm. Of course, everything pointed to a heart attack, so I rushed her to the hospital in our town. She was stabilized with medicine and the EKG showed a few anomalies, but our small hospital did not have the capacity to perform tests to find the problem; so an ambulance transported her to a larger hospital in the next city 30 minutes away. She was released to go home at the end of the day, but with strict orders to rest through the weekend. The following Monday, a diagnostic catharism was performed to determine the cause of her angina attack. It was determined that she has a congenital heart defect that has now shown up 64 years later, probably due to higher blood pressure and stress she has been suffering lately. For now, this condition can be fully controlled by medicine to keep her blood pressure normal. So what is the good news? It was NOT a heart attack. Her heart has not been damaged. In fact, she has a very healthy heart with clean arteries. Again, what Satan meant for evil, God has brought forth as good!

#### We greatly appreciate your continued prayers and financial support!

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#### Serving Christ together,

Bill + Therese

# Bill & Therese Williams July - August 2020



## **D**HOTO 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.



# Our first service in early June









