

Bill & Therese Williams

September - October 2020



HERE WE GO AGAIN!

Our last prayer in August, expressed hope that this virus would continue to go away and let us live our lives and continue our ministry in relative peace. Well, that did not happen! To the contrary, Spain is now in the midst of the second wave of the virus. Our city of Palencia is in confinement. We have members of our church who live outside the city limits and cannot attend our church services. A Pentecostal pastor of a church in our city is in the intensive care unit at the hospital fighting for his life, and his church has been closed for three weeks now due to the high incidences of COVID among the members. Nevertheless, while we have had members and faithful attenders who have had to self-quarantine due to contact with acquaintances who have the virus, as well as several who have lost loved ones in the last few months; as of this date, NO ONE in our church has had COVID. That could change in any moment, but we are so pleased to inform you all that God continues to work in spite of COVID. Our church is being strengthened in the faith even as we are being affected emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually by this dreadful disease.

Salvations and Baptisms and 5th Anniversary!

Therese and I have had the privilege to lead to the Lord three children and three teenagers in our church since the beginning of the year! Amen! In the attached photo page, you can check out the photos of the baptismal service we celebrated in the river last month in which we baptized all six of these children and teens. Therese also led three adult ladies to the Lord, and we pray that we might be able to see them baptized possibly in the spring of next year.

The church also celebrated its fifth anniversary this past month. Even though at that time we were in the midst of a 50% limited seating capacity, we still had 50 in attendance for our Sunday morning celebration service. Nevertheless, in this last month because of a dramatic increase of COVID in our city, the government has reduced our seating capacity to 30%, so we have had to go to two services in order to allow everyone to attend.

Difficult Ministry Decisions

Due to the present challenges on both sides of the Atlantic, Therese and I have made the difficult decision to delay our planned furlough for three to six months. Even though our associate pastor Valentin and his wife Laura are mostly prepared to occupy the ministry of the church, we are really needed here right now more than ever. Hopefully in March or June of next year, we will be able to travel back to the USA to visit with our family and faithful supporting churches.

But the Lord has also revealed to us another, more drastic change that we have had to make in our future ministry. We have been planning for years to finish the work here in Palencia and move back to Madrid to work with a young man and his wife there to start another work in a suburban city of Madrid. However, after consulting with our sending pastor, with several pastors and missionaries here in Spain as well as among our supporting churches, we have come to the difficult decision to not return to Madrid at this time, but to remain in Palencia as we continue to work in the church here as well as work in three other national ministries with which we are heavily involved: the camp ministry, the seminary, as well as our Bible memorization program. It was certainly not an easy decision, but we know it is of the Lord. I will not go into details, but age, health, and the continuing need of our guidance here in the church in Palencia were all factors that led to this decision. We ask for your understanding and prayers as we continue to serve the Lord here in Palencia. **We greatly appreciate your continued prayers and financial support!**

• Sending Church:

Central Baptist Church
1030 N. Morris Street
Gainesville, TX 76240
Landline: +1 940-665-9815
Pastor Tyler Bittner

• Spanish Address:

C/Marcos de Celis 1,
Esc. 2, Atico D
34004 Palencia, Spain
Landline: +34 979-178-453
Cell: +34 649-755-056

• Communication:

Email - WilliamsInSpain@gmail.com
Web page - www.WilliamsInSpain.com



www.facebook.com/williamsinspain/

Serving Christ together,

Bill & Therese

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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.



Three children and three teens baptized in the river last month.



Baptism of Ecaterina



Baptism of Deborah



Baptism of Juan Diego



5th Anniversary Service with 50 present