

January 2019 Dear Pastors, Friends, & Family,

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas and are now off to a great 2019. As I mentioned in our last letter, we were able to fly over to the Seville area of Spain and spend Thanksgiving with some other American missionaries that we went to college with. Although we were not able to spend it with family, God has provided good friends just a short flight away; for that we are thankful. He asked if we would be able to stay over the weekend and have a missions emphasis weekend. We were able to attend the meal they had with the church on Saturday night. Then on Sunday morning I preached, and they made their second Faith Promise commitments. Their church is just over three years old, so it was exciting to see what God might have in store for us here. For Christmas, it was just the four of us, but we enjoyed getting to make some new traditions. Palma loves Christmas, and if you wanted to do something Christmas related, you could probably do something different every night for four straight weeks. We are still learning our city and the unique culture here, and we really enjoyed some of the Christmas festivities. For New Years, we learned that fireworks are definitely not illegal here. At midnight, you could see fireworks in the streets, on the balconies around us, and being shot off of the neighboring rooftops. Since, everyone here in the city lives in apartments with shared walls, everyone was out on their balconies yelling Happy New Year to us. Of course, we yelled it back. We love where God has called us to serve!

One thing that is hard getting use to after being in Mexico for so many years is the process involved to do anything. Everything requires time and a lot of paperwork. Currently we are trying to get approval for our building remodel, register our church, and renew our visas. It seems with everything you try to do you spend a few days running from one office to another and then have to wait a month or two to hear anything. I am not sure that we will ever get use to it.

I would like to ask you to pray for Jason and Jessica Stanley; they are the family that is coming to work with us. They are expecting twin girls in May and then hoping to move here in the summer. They are currently 75% support! There has been some complications with the twins, and Jessica is no longer able to travel with Jason on deputation. Please pray for the health of Jessica and the girls and that God will bless Jason as he travels alone these next several months.

Thank you for your prayers and support, Markie Bullock