



336-686-6437

1611 Brookhaven Mill Rd.

Greensboro, NC 27406

Rolanzwot@gmail.com

WWNTBM

## Aug 2018 - Going Back and Forth

A lot of things have happened since we last wrote you. One of which is that my computer suddenly stopped working and took a few weeks to get back running, hence the delayed letter. Thankfully, the fix was inexpensive and I didn't lose any information!

In the last letter, I was asking prayer for direction in our church's next step. Of the things I listed, an option I did not expect came up the following week. A fellow Christian (Chuy) from Arandas (a neighboring town) came and visited our mission church. We were invited to visit them for a Bible study, and we decided to go. I preached for them, and after the service there, Chuy told me that their mission church had a building and about 10 regular attendants, but they were without any leadership and they had been praying that God would send somebody. I told them that it would be impossible to leave one mission church to go to another with the "oldest" believers having only been saved one year but that I would keep coming for three months and see what God would do. Meanwhile, we could be of some help to them. It has been two months that we have been helping out, and both our congregation and theirs have been talking about merging. Since Arandas is three times bigger than San Miguel, there are a lot of job opportunities, and some of our people who have been struggling with work had been talking about moving even before this came up. They are actually seriously considering moving but have waited on my direction as a pastor. Along with that, our rental house has been threatened by flooding this year and we were already talking about looking for a place in town. I have not begun to candidate in Arandas yet because I want to try to get a hold of all of our supporting pastors and get their counsel. So far I have reached half of them. One other blessing we had was that my father-in-law, Pastor Daniel, who happens to also be our sending church's pastor, was here to see firsthand much of the Arandas work. We are constantly running back and forth between the towns right now. We have Sunday morning services here, Sunday night there, and Wednesday night there, usually taking about ten of our people along with us each time.

Hannah and I are content to remain here and also willing to go there. The one thing I'm not so comfortable with would be working in both towns. I feel like I wouldn't be able to give my all in both places, and the constant travel has been a bit hard on the kids. Pray that God will lead us in whatever He wills. My mind constantly goes back and forth about the situation.

I have to tell about three miracles that happened. We had three professions of faith in only a few weeks! Alex, who lives in Arandas, received Christ the 14 of July and decided to be baptized the very next week. Melanie, Nena's 13-year-old daughter, for whom we have been praying for a long time has also made a profession of faith and wants to be baptized very soon.

Third, this month, with the help of both churches, we were able to hand out over 3,000 "Romans" and many more tracts. One fruit of that was that a man named Jose Luis who lives in

### Ortiz Family

#### PRAISES:

- Alex's salvation and baptism
- Melanie's salvation and upcoming baptism
- Jose Luis' salvation

#### PRAYER

#### REQUESTS:

- Mari's unspoken situation
- Kristal's eye infection
- Amadeo's paperwork
- Next step for our mission church

**For growth:** Hannah and me, Evencio, Alfredo, Jose Luis, Alex, María del Carmen (Carmela), Nena, Kristal, Rufina, Mari and Maricela.

**For salvation:** Filomeno, Manuel & Saira, Lola, Eladio, Beto, José, Gladys, Jorge, Sabino & Margarita, Edgar, AnaDelia, Severina, Rojelía, Rigo, Roberto, Arturo, Arnulfo & Lupita, Eliu, Juan Pablo, Carlos, another Carlos, Miguel, Miguel & Juanita, Gloria, Alison, Maira, Adrián etc.

Serving in San Miguel El Alto, Jalisco, Mexico

Arandas was considering committing suicide when he decided to call the phone number on a book of Romans he was given. That night after church, I was privileged to share the Gospel of hope with him, and he cried out in his own words to the Lord for salvation. Praise the Lord for His mercy!

This has been a great but very trying time for our church. We had our one-year church anniversary, joined by three other churches, and were blessed by the message from Alfonso, a longtime friend of mine and assistant pastor at my dad's church. Also Miguel Angel Lira visited us again. He was on vacation and looked up a Baptist church in the area one year ago. Without knowing it, he came to our very first service! Now on vacation again, he came from his home in Mexico City with the purpose of being with us. He has been a great blessing to us as well, and we feel like he is one of ours.

On the side of trials, several people in the church have had physical problems. Nena is having several oral surgeries, Kristal got a pretty serious eye infection that has crippled her sight for over a month. Hannah had a bad infection a couple days and later a serious migraine. Viana, our second daughter, fell backwards out of our parked van and hit her head on the corner of the sidewalk, resulting in a significant cut. Nena also had her rent doubled. On top of that, our house nearly flooded, we had a flat tire, a large van repair, my computer malfunctions, and Hannah's keyboard (piano) refusing to work one service. Most of these have happened on Sundays and/or in Arandas. Through it all, God has provided for our needs and given us peace. Despite the list of trials, we have been very joyful as of late here in San Miguel. Any month in which someone is saved is a good month!

I would really like to ask for prayer for Carlos. I have been working with him for seven months, and he seems so close to getting saved, but the world has a strong grip on him.

We are thankful for your prayers and support.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,

Rolando, Hannah, Azelia, Viana, and Amadeo



Alex's Baptism



Church anniversary ↴



Men praying ↑



Viana's injury ➡