



The Stalnaker Family Prayer Letter

Oct & Nov 2014

Another ending of the year & another holiday season for our family... This time of year is always flooded with memories of family and friends. Though we are having a great time here in Nicaragua; the kids tend to get a little home sick for family, snow, fireplaces, and egg nog. Thankfully, Joy managed to make the most delicious eggnog.

Our Thanksgiving was wonderful. We seem to keep the traditions of overeating & sleeping. Jo and the girls fixed most everything that was familiar to us, included pumpkin deserts from cans of pumpkin brought to us from one of our supporting churches. Due to the high price of turkey, we decided to substitute it with his cousin, chicken. He went very nice with the cranberry sauce.

I spent sometime meditating on Thanksgiving and those original separatists that, due to strong desire to keep their children from the world and religious freedom, set out to a new land. How I pray that this same conviction and willingness to sacrifice would become more common today!

The Stalnakers

We are fast approaching our semester end for school. The kids are on a shorter school year. Our whole family is planning a necessary return to the States in the spring, and they are working very hard to wrap up school before we leave. Otherwise, they are staying very busy with the church and it's many activities. I rejoice that we have a church here in Nicaragua! What great fellowship & friendship for our family.

Iglesia Bautista El Calvario

Since our last reporting, Calvary Baptist has hosted its first missions conference. We

held the conference for only three days and had two missionaries present. Each night we enjoyed a testimony from the missionary, preaching, and refreshments. I am not aware of any Nicaraguan missionaries who are planning to go to another country, perhaps there is one; but, mostly, missions is thought of as church planting within Nicaragua. On Sunday of the conference, Gil Anger preached and challenged us to think beyond Nicaragua. Afterwards, we took our first faith promise. The services were exciting and well attended. This was very new to them. Although they were not able to completely comprehend what missions is about, the desire is there to be involved. Time will only reveal what their faith in God's Word will bring about! I get so excited thinking about their future.



Missions Conference



Baptismal Service



New Shelter

Project Upside Down

As you remember, Project Upside Down is merely a church-planting ministry based on Acts 17. Currently, we are working in several areas according to God's provision. We are laboring in other places, but two have the bulk of our attention. Lucidia Mantilla is the first place we began to work. Bible Baptist Church of Fernandina Beach, Florida, has partnered with us to establish this work. We were able to build a shelter for the purpose of holding one combined Bible study/service. I have attached a picture. The shelter is permanent, as we plan on expanding from it in the future. We held a special peaching and fellowship after the shelter was erected and were thankful for the great turn out and response. There is a lot of excitement brewing in this community. I have mixed emotions. For sometime now we have been nurturing these Christians from Calvary Baptist knowing that one day that would form their own church. Seeing the end in sight makes us happy; yet, at the same time, sad to lose their fellowship at Calvary. I have difficulty waiting, but remind myself that only time will tell the story of this church's life.

Another place we are working is Nueva Guinea. Since May of this year, Pastor Ivis and

two other preachers have traveled with me to this city. It has been a once a month evangelism trip and from the very start, God gave us people. We have continued to nurture relationships and look for others to bring to faith as we have prayed for God to provide a preacher for these people. Marlon is one of the young preachers that travel with us. In fact, it was originally his idea. He has answered God's call to move to this city with his expecting wife and take over this work. We can't wait to see the great plan God has in store for this preacher, this church, and this city.

Other things

Our next church-planting institute is scheduled after the first of the year. Due to all of the schedule conflicts, we had to postpone it until that time. Recently, I was preaching at a conference in Managua on the subject of reproducing. It is very exciting to see the interest and willingness. I see a genuine desire on the part of many good men for church planting. Our continual prayer is that God would not just start a church or grow a church, but start a church planting movement.

As stated earlier in the letter, we are planning a return at the end of March. The amount of time home is undetermined, as it depends on the timing of the paperwork we are filing. If your church would be interested in our family visiting and reporting, or presenting the ministry, please email and let us know. We are so very thankful that we are a part of your team. May the Lamb that was slain receive the rewards of His sufferings.

the Stalnakers » Marty & Jo, Joy, Jared, Joshua, Jessin, Jacklyn, Jordan, James, Jonathan, Julia, Jaralee, and Jinger T.



One of our Bible Studies in Nueva Guinea