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December 2021 Newsletter

December 27, 2021

North Beach Street CHURCH OF CHRIST – Ft. Worth, TX

Brethren,

I am very appreciative of the Lord's help, and yours at **North Beach Street**, in making possible my preaching work during this very difficult year 2021. Following is a brief report on my preaching trip to the **Dominican Republic** the first days of December.

Santo Domingo in December –

My last preaching trip for this year 2021 took me to the **Dominican Republic**. I had two goals before me: working with *Arcadio Mañon Ozuna* in **Santo Domingo** and with three families near the city of **Puerto Plata**. The three families – due to unexpected family issues – were not able to receive me. I hope that I can visit and work with them next year when I return to the Dominican Republic. Therefore, I was only able to work with Arcadio and the church in the sector of El Mamón.



Arcadio, Lily (his wife), their son, and Lily's mother (pictured on the left) are a huge encouragement to the work in El Mamón. They not only work with

the local church in El Mamón but work with several smaller congregations in the eastern part of Santo Domingo. (Due to the restrictions, I was not able to visit these other churches.) Arcadio is highly respected by the brethren because of his stand for truth and his knowledge of the Scriptures.

The local church in El Mamón is trying to recover from the pandemic issues and the government-imposed strict restrictions. Attendance, as you can judge from the picture at right, is not what it used to be prior to the pandemic. Different illnesses (some COVID related, heart problems, cancer, etc.) are causing severe problems – but it is great to see the determination and faith of those who attend.



Several members personally expressed their thanks for making the trip to work with them these few days. They asked me to pass along their appreciation to the brethren who make possible my work.

My studies and sermons – based on the writings of Paul and Peter – demonstrate that the influence of tribulations is real. It was – and is – a physical and spiritual challenge. Nevertheless, we must all remain humble and submissive before our Lord and Savior. These are the lessons that I am preaching everywhere I go. Please continue to remember Arcadio, his family and the church in your prayers.

Preaching Trips Planned For 2022 –

In January I will be in **Saltillo, Nuevo León, México** – about one hour drive south of Monterrey. *José Ángel Garza* is the local evangelist. After finishing my work there, I will fly to **Mexico City** to be with the new congregation where *Juan Escobar* labors. This is the group of brethren that had earlier schedule a meeting with me, but it did not materialize due to several contracting the virus.

In February I will return to **Catacaos, Peru**. I will be teaching my series of lessons on “Preparándonos para servir” (English: “Preparing Ourselves to Serve”).

I am planning another trip to **Havana, Cuba** in March. I am working with my travel agent and should have additional information to share with you in my next newsletter.

Finally –

Here we are at the end of another year. The year 2021 – the second year with COVID related issues has brought hopelessness to many folks around the world. However, as Christians we are called upon to recognize and acknowledge every kind of tribulation as a test of our faith. We are challenged every day by hardships, illnesses, and deaths. However, we cannot allow these issues to hinder our pathway to be with our Lord and Savior. As Christians, we are empowered to overcome all hindrances.

I must admit that it is not easy to stay focus on my work and goals. Traveling and visiting in these Latin American countries, I see and live their present distress. Your prayers give me courage and determination to preach the gospel of salvation to convict and encourage, addressing the needs of peoples’ souls. Thanks for enabling me to this end.

Minnie and I wish you and yours a happy and fruitful New Year 2022. Please continue to remember us in your prayers and in your plans for the year 2022. I need and request your help. Thanks for your continued interest and partnership in the work I do in preaching Christ.

In Christ,
Ruben C. Amador