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March 2022 Newsletter

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Fry Road CHURCH OF CHRIST Houston, TX

Esteemed brethren at Fry Road,

God continues to provide us the necessary oxygen to live in this present world – not free from health and spiritual limitations – powerfully enabling us to seek and obtain the salvation of our souls. We are determined to stay the course, to not only look up to heaven, but to make an honest and sincere effort to reach heaven. This is the salvation promised by God to all mankind before the beginning of time. These are “the wonderful works of God” that I preach, and you encourage me in preaching them. Thanks for your valuable fellowship which makes possible the work I do preaching them in the Spanish language to Spanish-speaking people everywhere.

Havana, Cuba – (March 6th-15th)

Due to the obvious circumstances surrounding this preaching trip and in the best interest of the Lord’s work – this is an abbreviated report. The visit and work among the brethren in Havana were urgent for all the right reasons – mainly a return to “strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, ‘We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God’” (Acts 14:22.)

My last visit was about three years ago, before the pandemic which has taken its toll on the country, its people, its economy, etc. – affecting tremendously also those who fear God and are busy doing His will. Most of the saints are determined to regroup as before the pandemic; to continue their evangelistic efforts. It is an immensely uphill effort amid material poverty, social ills, and government oppression.

My daily lessons were based on such passages as 1 Thessalonians 3:3 “that no one should be shaken by these afflictions: for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this” – 2 Peter 2:9 “the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations.” Modern trials and tribulations can be overcome in any given place by just and godly people... just as God saved Noah and delivered Lot.

Plans call for a possible return later this year in August. There remains a real need for reassurance. Travel to other parts of the island is not yet in my program. The brethren in their daily prayers remembered you and all who made my work and trip possible. They are fully aware of the circumstances surrounding the trip and work. Please receive their words of appreciation for they come from people who share our faith and hope.

Xonacatlán, Mexico – (April 6th-15th)

Iván Palomino (Miami, Florida) will be my partner when I go to Xonacatlán, about an hour by car west of Mexico City. Xonacatlán is a small – but growing – community east of Toluca, the capital of the State of Mexico. This will be Iván’s first preaching trip into Mexico. Surely, it will not be his last one.

Back in the 1980's, at the request of the small group of brethren that were driving every Lord's Day and every Wednesday night to meet with the Tacuba Sector church in Mexico City, I had a part in the beginning of the local church in Xonacatlán. For a good number of years, I would travel by car or by plane to assist them in their beginning efforts. Working with them had beautiful results that stand out today. There is now another local church within the city limits due to their work. Today, the Xonacatlán church is the largest in number of the local churches in Mexico and Latin America. *Severiano Solís* is the local evangelist; a talented, mature Christian. Fry Road has fellowship with Severiano as he labors in Xonacatlán and in other places in Latin America.

After our work in Xonacatlán – Iván and I will remain to preach with the Tacuba Sector church in Mexico City. *Daniel Martinez* is the local evangelist.

Alajuelita & Alajuela, Costa Rica – (April 26th-May 6th)

Costa Rica is open to foreign visitors. The country is not free from the virus – the government people have removed major restrictions that will start helping the country return to some normalcy. This will benefit the local churches in Costa Rica.

I look forward to working with the Alajuelita church since in my last trips they were not able to receive me due to their own health issues. Here too, there is a real need for encouraging deeds and messages. *Santiago* and *Marvin Soto* are dedicated men working with the Alajuela church. Both men will be my partners in this work. The gospel of Christ has the power to convict and exhort – to heal and restore – to eventually save the eternal soul of man. Let us remain determined to preach it in whatever language people can hear and understand it.

Finally –

I am deeply grateful for all you do to assist me in my foreign work in Latin America. Your sacrifices are also noted and appreciated by my family and the brethren I serve. Thanks for the financial support and travel funds. Thanks for remembering us in your personal and public prayers. I humbly ask that you remember the saints in Havana who also are remembering you in their prayers.

In the love of Christ,
Ruben C. Amador