



BMDMI

MORE THAN MEDICINE



NICARAGUA NEWS

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Managua, Nicaragua
Darrel & Cathey Johnson

Baptist Medical Dental Mission International
11 Plaza Drive - Hattiesburg, MS 39402
Phone: 601-544-3586 FAX: 601-544-6508

This time of year, for the past more than 24 years, Cathey and I have been in Nicaragua. While it seems strange to be in our home in Claremore, it has been a really good time getting to do things I have missed, like mowing the lawn, planting flowers, working in my woodshop and doing many necessary home repairs for us as well as my sister. We also got to help Cathey's brother and sister-in-law move into their new home in Owasso from Frisco, Texas. Attending our home church, even though in a very different format, has also been a blessing.

Because of wonderful technology, we stay in contact with our staff at the Mission Home in Nicaragua, our pastors and churches, the Director and teachers at the Mount of Olives Christian School, and the lady who is caring for our home in Managua. This, by-the-way, is free with both video and voice calls, through something called "What's App." Fortunately, we can pay our bills for our house electronically and school Director Doris Lopez helps us pay the others.

Covid-19 has wreaked havoc on the Nicaraguan people due to inaptitude of the Nicaraguan government, a poor public healthcare system, and the extreme poverty of most of the people. One of our pastor's passed into his eternal reward as a result of Covid-19 on top of his already compromised health situation. Before his passing he had asked one of our staff to guide the church until a permanent pastor could be called. The church is flourishing in large part due to the

leadership of this pastor and his wife. Recently, three adults gave their hearts to Christ. His wife is still as faithful as ever. Another of our pastors who also had the novel virus has recovered but is still struggling to regain his strength. I read statistics where 40% of the evangelical pastors in Nicaragua have succumbed due to Covid-19.

I am so proud of our staff and pastors for the way in which they are ministering not just to each other and our churches but to their communities as well. They are right now engaged in a *campaña de oración*, or prayer campaign. They have specific matters of prayer as well as specific times of day when they all are in prayer. There have been evangelistic campaigns and baptisms. Our Youth Ministry recently baptized nine young people. Discipleship continues in all of our churches.

Something called *virtual mission teams* have been formed. These virtual teams are sponsored by BMDMI teams and made up of members of our Mission Home staff, BMDMI pastors, and contract Nicaraguan medical personnel. The next planned trip will be going to the east coast to a place called La Perla where the team will give out rice and beans, do several small construction projects, and of course share the Good News of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Two evangelistic outreaches are planned later in the year, one at our church in Israel and the second at our church in La Estrellita. Two medical teams will also be going to the department of Nueva Guinea.

Classes at the Mount of Olives Christian School are underway but, in a format designed to protect teachers and students. Currently, the boys and the girls are alternating their attendance, i.e. boys one day, girls the next. All are wearing masks. Attendance continues to be over four-hundred students.

The loss of revenue from the Team Ministry due to Covid-19 has brought a major financial burden to the Mission. It seems to have also affected giving to the school. Please pray about what the Lord would have you do in the way of a financial gift, large or small. Ultimately, the Lord is our Provider but He uses His people to accomplish His perfect will. Giving is a gift given by the Holy Spirit and Cathey and I have observed those with this gift for many years now and your giving has sustained us and the ministries that God has called us to. The promise of Jesus recorded in *Luke 6:38* has not ceased and is unfailing. ...*For with the*

measure you use, it will be measured to you. Thank you to those who give and those who travel to Nicaragua often, on their knees.

Blessings,

Darrel & Cathey Johnson

P.S. Cathey and I will return to Nicaragua when the airlines begin flights and the COVID-19 situation stabilizes. This may not be until October or November. At that time, Cathey will be taking school photos and perhaps we will have the graduation ceremony at Mount of Olives Christian School. Cathey will continue to provide direction and leadership to the school both through technology and occasional visits. We encourage you who have been so faithful to support our ministry fund to redirect your giving to the Mount of Olives Christian School where ministry will continue. If you have any questions for us or would like for us to come and speak to your church or small group, please don't hesitate to contact us.

US cells: 918-219-7030 D

918-520-7311 C

Address: 906 E Woods Ct, Claremore, OK 74017



Ladies from our BMDMI church in San Miguel, Matagalpa preparing the food for 400 people in their community.

A visitor to the church said he would donate all of the corn needed for this Corn Festival celebration.

On the right is the pastor's wife with some of the donated corn.



Mission Home staffers, Abel, Omar, and Wilber, with school director from El Hular, making plans for upcoming evangelism/construction team.



School in El Hular where the evangelism team will also do a variety of repairs to the gate, latrines and classrooms.