

September 2017

# There and back again

Well, we did it! We went. We ate hamburgers on the grill, drank Vernors, saw friends and family, and now we are back in Honduras. Thank you for your prayers concerning my family's permission to travel. God opened the doors and they were granted visas. Unfortunately, we were unable to arrive in Michigan in time to participate in Cornerstone Community Church's Mega Kids Camp. But the folks of CCC still gave us a gracious welcome. While we were in southern Michigan we also visited with the First Baptist Church of Brooklyn and Michigan Center Bible Church. We are grateful for the expression of love from each of these churches and for their partnership with us in ministry.







In under 6 weeks we tried to fit in what I used to do in 3 or 4 months of furlough. Regrettably, we were unable to connect with some of you. I apologize. It may take a trip or two to get used to the logistics necessary for the short furlough that fits into the kids' summer vacation. Furloughs are one of the blessings and challenges of missionary life. They are part vacation and part work. Fany and the kids experienced this juxtaposition when we covered just under 3,000 miles through 12 states in 15 days. They had to endure five days with more than 8 hours in the car and sleeping in 5 different places. But then again we were able to sit down with many friends and family, share a meal and share our stories. On July 31 we flew back to Honduras and quickly settled back into our home in Siguatepeque. School has begun for Marissa and Jayden. We are all excited as this is Jayden's first year of school. Hopefully his teachers are well rested. In ministry, I hit the ground running. Our first two Sundays back I taught our church. During the third weekend in August, I met with Bobby Wilson, the director of World Reach's Bible Institutes in Latin America. That Saturday, we visited a potential new site for our Bible Institute strategy where we could invest



# 20-second summary

- My family was granted their visas. We enjoyed our visit with churches, family and friends.
- Back in Honduras we are working on our Bible Institute where we train pastors.
- Jayden and Marissa have started school. Hopefully before Christmas their adoption will be finalized.
- Our family of 5 is growing.

- Your missionaries with -

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205.979.2400 info@world-reach.org www.world-reach.org in 17 pastors. On Sunday afternoon we sat down with 2 couples who have recently joined World Reach. They are a wonderful addition to our team. We discussed strategies for helping them recruit the partners who will support them through prayer and donations. Please pray that God will provide for them so that they will be able to dedicate themselves to ministry with the rest of our team in Honduras.



Some of the World Reach-Honduras team meeting to plan our Bible institutes

#### Simpson 5... well, that didn't last very long

I reworked the header on my last letter to reflect the inclusion of Fany and Carlitos in our family, 3+2=5. Well..., now we are 6. Fany is pregnant and our son will be born in December. She has had some of the usual discomforts, but generally she and the baby are doing well. Thank you for remembering them in your prayers. Marissa and Jayden's adoption is in the last stages. My lawyer will be presenting our papers to the court to finalize the adoption. Thank you for accompanying me in prayer all these years. Please continue to do so. In the words of Yogi Berra, "It ain't over 'til it's over."



The little guy



#3 Marissa with her ballet class

### **Investing in Investors**

Thank you for coming along side me as God continues to provide the opportunities to invest my life in the lives of those who are teaching and leading others. You have a very real and very important part in that. When you take the time to read our updates and pray, you are taking an active role in what God is doing in Honduras. I am grateful to have you as part of our team.

Should you choose to make a financial investment in our ministry please use the address on the front page or go to our mission's website to make donations electronically.

http://world-reach.org/donations/

We are grateful for your continued partnership.





### **Prayer matters**

- Please pray for Marissa as she starts the new school year. Pray that she will be encouraged and that she will make much progress.
- Please pray for Jayden as he adapts to the classroom and develops good disciplines.
- Please pray for the 5 of us as **we continue to learn** to love and live together.
- Please pray for wisdom and creativity as we plan and refine our classes for the start of our Bible Institute with a new group of pastors in 2018.