

“ESPERANZA ETERNA”
Bringing Hope for Eternity to Latin America and Beyond

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Eternal Hope Newsletter

August 2009

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August 14, 2009 Update

Scheduling appointments for 2011

Summer Plans Continue as Scheduled Despite Political Turmoil in Honduras

Thank You. First I want to say thank you to all who have written or contacted us to express concern for the political situation in Honduras and to make certain we are safe.

May Trip to Baxter Seminar. As some of you already know, I was in Honduras for about four weeks during May and June. Among other things, I spent this time visiting with Baxter graduates, visiting area churches, and working on the Strategic Planning Initiative for Association Amicus. In mid-May, I served as a workshop teacher for the annual Baxter Institute Seminar. Also on this trip, as chairman of the board of directors, I had the privilege of introducing the new president of the Institute, Dr. Howard W. Norton.

May-June Trip. I returned to Honduras for almost two weeks the last week of May and the first week of June to continue assisting with various details of the presidential transition, returning just in time to attend the annual QUEST program at Oklahoma Christian where I was privileged to serve as a class/track facilitator. My assigned topic was “Contemporary Directions and Challenges in Ministry.” As always, I enjoyed tremendously the interaction with those who attended this excellent program and the opportunity to renew friendships.

June in Honduras. I was in Honduras once more in mid-June, again assisting with the transition and administrative oversight. I returned to the United States about one week before the political situation intensified on June 28, and thus did not get caught in the turmoil of trying to reschedule airline flights and exit the country. We were able to safely evacuate all of the groups that were housed at Baxter with no difficulty.

I had some interesting experiences during these trips. First, I had my first experience in an **earthquake**. I was awakened about 2 a.m. by the severe shifting and shaking of my bed in the married students apartments at Baxter. The next morning, I found out how severe the quake, which was centered northeast of the Honduran island of Roatan in the Caribbean, had been, with severe damage in some of the northern regions of Honduras. Second, I had not participated in the Baxter Seminar for a number of years and was pleasantly surprised by the warm reception I received as I presented some fresh materials on the book of Revelation. (This may be because my Spanish has improved over the past 5-6 years!)

August Trip is “On”

While the Oklahoma mission group that I often accompany cancelled their July trip (I was not planning to go with them this year), all systems are “go” for Jan and me to spend much of the next two weeks in Honduras (August 18-27). Jan and I are especially pleased that we are going to be able to spend some time with our friends, **Bob and Ridglae Stephens**, during this trip, as we will be on campus at the same time. Bob and Ridglae are making their first trip to Baxter to explore possible future involvement. I hope to be able to put finishing touches on an initial version of the Strategic Planning Initiative, and also to help with some planning for a fall board meeting and for graduation.

Pray for our safety as the political turmoil continues and for our fruitfulness as we strive to advance the Kingdom of Christ.

2009 Plans

Jan and I plan to attend the annual board meeting and graduation at Baxter in December 2009. We do not currently have any other mission trips planned, although several possible trips are on ‘hold’ as we finalize scheduling.

Scheduling Seminars/Workshops/Speaking for 2011

Beginning in January 2011, Jan and I are anticipating a major change in our ministry and mission focus as we lessen our local congregational commitments. We anticipate more time away from the local work and have begun scheduling appointments for 2011 and beyond. If we could visit your congregation to talk about missions or to assist with a seminar, workshop or evangelism series, please contact me. All we would ask is expenses and support for the mission work we undertake if possible. A more complete list of available workshops and series appears on the website on the “About Us” page.

Thank You for your Prayers and Support!

Thank you for your prayers, concern, and support. Thank you for your heart for missions and evangelism. Thank you for your generosity in helping us to follow our God and our heart as we strengthen the cause of Christ around the world, especially to those who are regular contributors. Efforts such as these pay great dividends, and the opportunity to connect with people around the world makes us more aware of the great blessing of being part of the worldwide family of God.

Checks may be made payable to Main and Oklahoma Church of Christ and marked for "Bob and Jan Young Missions" and sent to **1108 Ono Ct, McAlester, OK 74502**. **Please note the change of address!**

As always, we are thankful for your continuing interest and support in what God is doing through us in the kingdom.

***Que Dios le bendiga (may God bless you),
Bob and Jan***

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