

ABBA – Dixie Patterson

Ministry wise, just like everything else, our call volume is down to a trickle. But, I suspect if this isolation requirement goes on too long, we will be picking up again in June.

Meanwhile, we are praying for our volunteers; several in the upper age range, and others whose work is shut down.

Since we would only meet with one person at a time, I see no reason to not mask-up and accept appointments as needed.

Dave & Carol Sue Merkh - Brazil

Brazil seems to be a couple of weeks behind the US. A country divided - some respecting the social distancing, others (including the President) - not. The hospital infrastructure here is precarious, at least the public system, and the testing takes like 10 days so a lot of people are dead before they know what it was. This is the first time in 32 years that we've been mostly "stuck" here -not complaining since we have an amazing place to be isolated!

Carol Sue and I have a few years of accumulated projects waiting for attention, so we've been able to put this time to good use, even though all of our "normal" ministries have been cancelled... trips to WOL Paraguay, Ukraine and Portugal; weekend conferences through May; classes at the Seminary and services at PIBA. I was recently able to relaunch our website called "Palavra e Família"

(www.palavraefamilia.org.br) after about 5 years of inactivity and I've already been able to upload hundreds of messages in MP3 and numerous articles and studies we've produced over the year. We also continue to record youtube videos on parenting. So far over 50 have gone on-air (youtube.com "Palavra e Família").

We have delayed by 11 days out furlough (arrive June 6) but still hope we can make it...

Ironically, the country here shut down the week that David Jr. took over with two other pastors the lead pastor roles at PIBA. Their first official act was to cancel all services. Pastor Mendes had already left for the States. Truly a trial by fire as they guide the church through this time but they're doing a GREAT job.

Airton & Vera Moura – Brazil

Things are getting even crazier in Brazil. So far 11,281 people got the virus and 487 died. The seminary is closed and all the professors will be teaching their courses on line. Churches and non essential business are closed. Word of Life has closed all the camps and activities. The financial impact of all these is that employees will be fired, missionaries benefits and salaries will be cut down.

But the biggest issue in Brazil today is the political battle -.....

Vera and I are in West Virginia after 14 days of quarantine without contact with our daughters and grandchildren. Praise the Lord we did not get anything in the flight from Brazil to Newark. Melisse is well now. She had some pains and her doctor recommend rest at home or stay in the hospital. With Vera helping with the house care and taking care of Mae Belle and Vinny, Melisse can rest and does not need to stay in the hospital. Her C-Section is scheduled to April 30.

I'm working homeoffice attending the students of the Master program. My assignment continues to be tutoring the students who will write their dissertation this year. They are sending to me their pre-project for approval.

In West Virginia things are not too bad yet, they say just two people have died. We are following all the instruction to fight the virus. We have been following as many worship services on line as possible and encouraging family members and other with messages of hope letting them know that the Lord is in control and He has purposes allowing all these to every nation.

Thank you so much for reaching out. We are so thankful for what FCC is doing to church members and missionaries. Nick Rementov has also contacted me to offer help in case of need. I'll let you informed.

Dave Burt – OTAN

My son, Matt, and his wife, Kailey, arrived in Philly this am (from Chengdu). Kailey has been hospitalized for about a week in China. She tested negative for COVID-19, but has had extreme back

pain. She was admitted to U Penn upon arrival home, with the goal of figuring out the cause of her pain, and getting the appropriate treatment started.

As you would expect, our work with OTAN, and my business, are greatly affected by the pandemic. I'm pressing ahead with the things we can do: prayer, study, planning, creating awareness, support raising.

Dale & Karen Marshfield – Tri-M – India, et al

Here is a link to a video update.

<https://youtu.be/vva5sAZKF4s>

Corinne Callahan – Young Life

Young Life is praying psalm 91 for 91 days. Thinking of you and Anne as I read about God's sovereignty over pestilence especially for those who trust in Him.

I am doing as ok as I can be. I miss being around kids. I miss going to the school and I'm missing meeting new kids who don't know Christ. However, it's been sweet to see what God is teaching our kids in this season.

Denny & Dotty Rigstad – ISI

We are both doing well. Someone asked me if I was staying in. I told them I had to go out because we only have 64 rolls of toilet paper. Any responsible person should have 2x that!!!

Life is different for us in that I can't be face-to-face with the scholars. It makes communication (especially language and culture differences) to be much more difficult. I am planning to set up two "classes" this week to talk about Good Friday and Easter. Need to pray about just how I should do this.

David & Janice Clemens – DCBTM

As for us, the same loving God Who watches over you, is also watching us here. We were well underway with plane tickets to Spain for ministry, etc, etc, etc. And then, increasing word of the pandemic. We looked hard to The Lord. His Word spoke, AND, the government spoke; they were in agreement, and so was the director of the work there. God has given us full-time hours in bringing into our lives a myriad of work for Him. He is so, so, so protective and kind.

Thanks to you and others for the faithful prayers and comradery in Christ's assignments.

Juan & Melissa SantaFe – Colombia

Thank you for reaching out. We are doing good. You know we supposed to leave for Colombia March 31st but we had to move our departure day to May 4 we are doing well. Our daughters are handled the quarantine pretty well, I think we are the ones struggling Hahaha.

Karen Bradley – UN Embassy

New York has felt pretty surreal the past few weeks. We only know for sure of a few diplomats who have the virus. We have been meeting with diplomats via phone and internet, and are now doing simple Bible studies via Zoom. I am mostly focusing on individual contact these days. Have had a lot of deep conversations which I'm thankful for and trust God will use.

About 8 weeks ago, God had led me to do a 3 week fast from mid-March until our diplomat Easter event April 8th. I really don't think the timing of it was a coincidence as I have much more time and focus to really pray. I am thankful for this. It has been a sweet time with the Lord. Trusting God will accomplish His purposes in me and my family.

Brennan & Kathleen Coughlin – Trenton

Amidst the difficulty, it has been a huge blessing to have more family time and have a break from the normal rigors of ministry. For prayer---the virus has obviously kept us in our neighborhood much more since we're not going to school and sports in another town. I've called the police about five times in the

past week for various concerns and dangers. This is discouraging. I would personally ask for prayer for encouragement that our house is exactly where God wants it to be. I know this---we have four neighbors that have either come to know the Lord or now come to church--but, still, I find I need constant encouragement to mentally withstand the declining state of the city.

Thanks for listening and thanks for reaching out

I echo Kathleen's email. The church is responding well to social-distancing and engaging via Zoom and Facebook. Please pray for wisdom as we consider a potential building. Please also pray for the Lord to lead us to/send us a Pregnancy Care Director. We desire to begin pregnancy care services from our church office but need a person to champion this ministry.

Jon & Courtney Weaver – Charlotte Eagles

It's been amazing how the Lord has used all of this uncertainty to unite churches and families in amazing ways, but it's been to grasp the sadness the virus brings in this world and how the Lord is using that. The verse that keeps coming to mind when I start having those doubts is *Habakkuk 1:5* "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you not believe if told".

The feelings I am fighting, as I'm sure many are, that the virus is limiting our ability to have a spiritual impact. Things are certainly slow here with the Eagles ministry, but we are finding creative ways to still interact with our players either through Zoom calls, daily devotionals or sending them daily challenges to compete against each other. We are currently working through our options if whether we should do the Semi-Professional season or our camps during the summer or not.

Ruth Lopez – Guatemala

We are in quarantine too. But I have meetings in zoom with my Bible club and with the missionaries of Word of Life too. I am discipling for video call. We know that the GOSPEL IS NOT IN CUARENTAINE .

Praying for you, your family and for the Fellowship Community Church. God bless you.

Fernando & Tatiana Figuero – Guatemala

Thank God we are fine. Now we are not allowed to leave the house, but we are confident that this situation will pass soon.

Willson & Joanna Arriaga – Guatemala

We sent out our newsletter yesterday with some specific prayer requests. Joana and I are in Chattanooga to get some needed paperwork done to be able to renew her resident visa. It's been a slow process as so many government and public offices are closed. We have seen God's faithful provision for us, even though this trip and extended time in the US was not something we had anticipated or budgeted. We are thankful for Joana's parents church (Stuart Heights Baptist Church) for allowing to stay in a guest/hospitality house. We are trusting the Lord's purposes in having us here during this next month or so, and trusting in his provision.

As always, please extend our love and greetings to the Fellowship Community Church (I apologize for the mistake in the Newsletter where I wrote Fatih Community Church).

Solivan and Stacy Esquite – Guatemala

This is a test that all humanity is going through, we want you to know that we are praying for you and for your family and for the church every day, we ask God to protect your health, your body, your mind and your heart; Because we understand that it is very difficult to see or experience the harshness of this situation but we fully trust that God is manifesting himself and that today more than ever we have to be focused on Him in order not to weaken ourselves. We are well and asking God to continue protecting our health and our house and trusting that He has absolute control of this whole situation, our country has not

yet been hit hard by the pandemic and we pray to God that we can stand firm to be able to Keep working hard after all this is happening! We will continue to pray for your health!

Craig & Cassandra – Nicaragua

We are content, for the moment, staying at home. Because Cassandra is more susceptible to severe illness, we are being careful. Really, all of our team is being as careful to keep their distance from other folks. COVID-19 reports and deaths are very low here but if it really hits Nicaragua, it will be devastating. Most believe that is because the government isn't testing for it or is hiding the information. There have been over 500 deaths due to "pneumonia complications" but only one reported death from COVID-19. Go figure. They continue to call for public events and ignore the risk. My theory is that the health system here would be overwhelmed by even a "flattened curve". So they are ignoring the virus to "get it over with" or because they somehow simply don't believe it will affect Nicaragua. The government lost the public trust long ago, so most people are taking their own precautions.

One thing I will be doing this afternoon is contacting all of our pastors to offer to put money on their phone accounts, specifically so that they call their folks who are staying home. I hope that this will remind them that social distancing is a good idea but that they can still care for their sheep.

Tim & Ginny Good – Poland

We are hunkered down over here but we didn't panic as restrictions have been being passed down. We were able to finish out our 2nd semester of English4Life and only had to shorten it one day. When borders started closing here, everyone ran to the airports and planes and hallways were packed --- that had to be a nice incubator for the virus. Well, we had 3 guests here but they stayed and after a week or so were able to finish out their time here and then get a special charter flight that LOT was flying. It was a bare bones flight with only 50 on a 290 seat plane. 2 stewardesses served 2 liter bottles of water to everyone at the beginning. Later gave out a sub sandwich for supper and breakfast was a granola bar. Interesting but much safer than a packed plane.

We cannot visit Clubs and we had to cancel 3 concerts we had planned in churches but we were able to do a mini-concert for 2 of those churches and now we are doing Morning Worship every week for our church. It's kind of incredible because a lot more people are watching this way than if we just were in churches. Praise the Lord! It's a lot of work but God has given us time to do this recording of our songs in Polish that we have wanted to do for over a year now and never had the time. He sure had to create a unique situation for us to do it.

My biggest prayer right now is for God to soften hearts and open things up for summer camps! We are still a few months away from that and I am trusting God to work! many are saying it won't happen but I believe that God can do it and I believe He wants to and I am praying that way. However, I still do not think it will be easy to get teens out. Probably a lot will be leery about sending kids to a close quarters place so quickly after this. It's a crazy thing but God is in control.

Beth Fuller – PNG

Please pray for my older brother, he is in a psychological delusion right now. He is William Wallace and I am our kindergarten teacher. He is not taking any meds, and has been going downhill for a while now. While we were listening to a sermon online this morning, a neighbor came to us and told us he had been screaming and cursing at a neighbor at the end of the street and then, took off in his truck. I went down to try to talk to the neighbor, to tell him about Jim's mental illness, but he would not come out. My mom and I prayed about what to do, and when my brother came home, we went out to talk to him to tell him that he either had to come with us to mental health place or that we would call them to come out. He

took off. He still has a key to the house. He has never hurt anyone yet, but when he thinks we are other people lying to him about our identity...it concerns me.

Some praise – Thursday afternoon I sent off my last assignment for the first year! I also had my first zoom meeting with prof and cohort for the start of the second year. I have ordered all my books on Friday, and with map out (put on calendar) the assignments on Monday. I was going to get my mom's house ready to be painted this past week, but tripped on an elevated piece of sidewalk early Monday morning and smashed my knee up. The swelling is going down and the bruise is just starting to go away, but it still hurts and I have not done much walking on it. Lord willing, I can start the painting the week. We are basically just staying at the house. My mom quit work at the hospital, but, is still working 2 nights a week as a care giver to a 90 yr. old woman. She still is allowed to work to help this woman. AZ has not been hit as hard as other parts of the country with the Virus. PNG has only had one known case of the virus and the gov't acted quickly to declare a State of Emergency – even cancelled all domestic flights for two weeks. The gov't is re-evaluating this week, and I think they are starting domestic flights again. The US State Dept. is organizing some flights for Americans to leave PNG this week, ones who were trying to leave the country before the State of Emergency started and all travel stopped. Many of the missionaries are staying at Uka and are continuing to self isolate. Whoops, this was just going to be a short update. Sorry. REST, RENEW, RECUPERATE. I send a hug.
B

Jon & Marilyn Rust – Portugal

Portugal has been declared a "State of Emergency" lock-down for over three weeks now, and has been praised by other European countries for its handling of this pandemic since we have a small fraction of the deaths in comparison to our neighbors in Spain.

We don't have much new ministry news to share, other than we are doing OK and trying to stretch our technology skill to compensate for everyone being in their homes. We really are grateful for the help from our interns, Matheus & Silvia, as they have even done grocery shopping for us, to help minimize risk for us.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgSAFHgI5Ps>

Marta Perez – Belize

We are good. We are working at home, we have meetings, Bible Clubs and prayer meeting through zoom too, calling people, praying for them, those are a good tools.

It is a different time with people. Pray for protection for wisdom and creativity in every situation.

Jeremiah & Anna Davidson – Many Witness – Brazil

These are indeed challenging times. We are well. Basically, much like in the US, we are all in our homes with the exception of necessities. All "non-essential" business is shut down. There is talk of less affected cities lifting the quarantine in the next couple of weeks.

At the Pastors School we moved to an online format for classes, and are keeping up with the students over the phone. The Preach the Word workshops for this semester have been cancelled. I think the biggest challenge for me personally is just understanding what faithfulness looks like in this new scene.

Ana, Manuela and I are well. We are grateful for many wonderful blessings and lessons learned in this time. God is certainly working on our lives in new and deeper ways to transform us into the image of his Son.

I have all but given up about travel to the US for our May/June plans. It seems unlikely that international travel will be back up and running. But, we'll have to wait and see, trusting that God knows the perfect time.