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#### August 2017 REPORT

September 8, 2017

**Beach Street CHURCH OF CHRIST** Fort Worth, Texas

### To the elders and saints at Beach Street:

Dear brethren,

We are deeply grateful for the prayers you and many other Christians have offered up to God on our behalf during these trying and dangerous days. We are honored by your and many other Christians' concern and willingness to come to our aid and to the aid of needy Christians. We do have minor issues and will continue to have them in the weeks and months to come. Please keep all of us in your prayers.

At *Fry Road,* several families were affected, one in a major way. The adjuster has not been able to view their house due to the standing flood waters that still remain in the house. We are attending to their immediate needs.

Flood waters also entered the church building causing major damage. A restoration company started working in cleaning up and preparing first of all the auditorium. We were able to meet for worship Sunday morning, September 3rd. For now, we are planning to meet just on Sunday mornings and then on Wednesday nights. We estimate that it will take several weeks to restore the damaged part of our building.

## ≈ MEXICO CITY & XONACATLAN ≈

The third week in August I visited and preached with two of the oldest congregations in **Mexico**. In **Mexico** City, the church in the sector of **Tacuba** was started by Zaragoza Algara and his family back in the early 1960's and later he was instrumental in getting the work started in his hometown of **Xonacatlán** (about 45 minutes west of Mexico City). Since the beginning of these two congregations, I have had a very good working relationship with them.

*Daniel Martinez* is the local evangelist since 2012. He continues to do an excellent work. Attendance was in the 50's. The church owns their own building and is located in the sector of *Tacuba*, easy to get to from any place in Mexico City.

*Severiano Solis is* the local evangelist at **Xonacatlán**. Severiano and his wife, Marta, are devoted servants. The church is probably the largest of the churches among Spanish-speaking churches with over 140 in attendance.

Both churches publicly expressed their thanks to God and to all of the brethren that have a direct or indirect part in my work with them.

## ≈ RACE RELATIONS FORUM AND CONVERSATION ≈

The following statement (taken from their web page) speaks of the upcoming open forum at the *Westside* church in Irving, Texas:

"On Saturday, September 16th Westside is bringing together five gospel preachers to talk about the Gospel and race relations. The panel will talk among themselves for the first hour, considering what the Bible says on this important matter. Then the conversation will be opened up to the audience. Those in the audience will be able to submit written questions to the panel for consideration and comment."

When man's heart turns from his iniquities to God (Acts 3:26), man has been redeemed from his "aimless conduct received by tradition" (1 Peter 1:18) from family or society in general. Our private and public dealings must be governed by God who created all people, regardless of our personal likes and dislikes. Jesus said "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). It is our love for God, the first commandment, that facilitates our love for mankind. These fundamental and powerful truths are part of the gospel of Jesus preached to all nations so that every creature may believe in Jesus through the gospel and "that all may be one" as God and Christ are one. This was part of Jesus prayer to God (John 17:20-26).

Evil has been on earth since the creation of mankind and will continue until the end of time. It is not our intent to try to do the impossible — obliterate evil on earth.

#### ≈ SPAIN ≈

As I reported in one of my prior newsletters, I am scheduled to be with the churches in *Seville, Dos Hermanas,* and *Badalona, Spain* the second and third week in October. Roland Amador (our son) and I will be making the trip. Please keep our plans in your private and public prayers.

#### $\approx$ FINALLY $\approx$

Thanks for your prayers and faithful support. Thanks for your continued concern for us. My family and I are deeply indebted to you. May God's full and total riches be upon you, your loved ones and the work at *Beach Street*.

In Him, Ruben C. Amador