



Notes from the
in Mexico
Cottrills

6th Anniversary:
Path of Life Bible Church Las Palmas
On the 6th of November, our church celebrated 6 years of God's faithfulness! In the background photo above, you can see banners from 5 past anniversaries being put up. In the centre is the banner for this year, the theme chosen by the preacher (Ezequiel) – Mat 28:18-20. See some video clips from our celebration here:
<https://bit.ly/6ann-fd>
To the right – part of the weekly procedure of disassembling our sanctuary. :)



Practical Matters
October/November were full of a lot of catch-up! Doctor's appointments, legal paperwork – these in three different cities – and various repairs/maintenance for our van. Time-consuming, and money-consuming!

Sundays
In November we finished two separate sermon series. Over 2022 we did a monthly series on **the family**. And we also finished the amazing book of **Exodus**, after just over a year. How wonderful to see God fulfill His promise to be with His people, and be their God (Exo 6:7) (and to see – He is *still* with us (Mat 28:20)!

Project: Help our Leaders!
One of our main goals in ministry is to **train and equip local Mexican leaders** for the church. We hope to provide our leaders with resources, opportunities for retreats (for rest and special training). The not-so-creative name for the project is: **"Retreats and Resources for Pastors"**. Our goal is to raise USD\$4999 by August. If you would like to give, simply go to the site below and enter the project number (on the right): **71969**
<https://avantministries.org/give>

Nathanael
Please pray especially for Nathanael as he completes his **grade 12** year – a lot of work, as always! He is thinking about going to Canada after high school – to work, or look for an apprenticeship, or further his education – we're not sure what the Lord has in store! So please pray for special wisdom, and that God would provide opportunities in His time.



Edgar
On the 22nd of October, walking over to a men's Bible study, our friend Edgar collapsed, and only regained consciousness in the presence of Christ. He was 42. Edgar was preparing to be the first deacon of the church, and was already serving the Lord in many ways. He was an example to many.
Please pray for Edgar's family. We praise the Lord for the testimony they have had to the church, and to the unsaved around them. But they have been facing many challenges in this time, in addition to their loss.
Your prayers and support have meant a lot, and they have told us so! Those of you who receive our email update were kept up to date during this time. This past Sunday, Edgar's wife Violeta gave thanks to the Lord, saying that the 6 years in this church had prepared her for this time. Praise God for working through His people! And thank you for being a part of this work.
For more about Edgar, visit this link:
<https://bit.ly/edgarfd>



Mexico City Circuit
The "circuit" is a group of **Bible churches in the Mexico City area**, which plan events together and provide mutual support. Praise the Lord that leaders from several churches were able to meet after a long hiatus. Jim led the meeting, and they were able to pray together and plan some regular meetings and at least one tentative event for 2023.

Church History Class - Completed



On the 24th of September we completed the 5th semester of **institute classes** with the Church History series! Men and women from four churches were involved in the class over several months.

We would appreciate your prayers as we decide where to take the institute from here. We may focus in on pastoral training for a while, starting with a class on homiletics (preaching).



Graduating Class September 2022

Surprise!

When our coworker Mayra took Shari out for coffee – she didn't! Instead, she took her to a **surprise birthday party**, with women from both the Las Palmas and Jesús María churches (right). It was wonderful to reconnect on this special occasion!



Nathanael's Visa

We travelled across Mexico City, to our state capital (Toluca), stayed overnight, and were ready to go to the government office first thing in the morning. But our lawyer called, letting us know: one official who needed to check the documents simply hadn't shown up that day.

So – another trip across the city, another overnight stay – and – success! Nathanael now has his **permanent residence visa** for Mexico. And according to the card, it expires in the year 2999. That should be enough time.

Thanks!

Thank you to so many who donate financially to this ministry. Donations to our personal ministry support in December are very important for stabilizing our support over the following year. To donate, use the enclosed slip/envelope, or visit:

<http://bit.ly/cottrill-donations>

Wedding

On the 13th of November, we were privileged to attend the wedding of our friends **Lalo and Lucy** from the first church we were involved in here (*Path of Life Bible Church Santa Barbara*). We were so blessed by their testimony as believers. In fact, after the main service, the new husband stood up and shared the gospel, with many unbelievers hearing God's Word.

Notes of Prayer and Praise

♪ Praise the Lord for continued growth in the church, in difficult times. God is working!

♪ Pray for wisdom and direction for Nathanael as he plans for life after high school graduation.

♪ Continue to pray for Edgar's family – his wife Violeta, and children Frida and Pablo.

♪ Pray for health and strength in these busy and challenging times.

♪ Praise the Lord for time together (Lord willing!) as a family over Christmas.

♪ Pray for continued provision financially as we enter into 2023.

Christmas

We're looking forward to some special services and times of fellowship over the Christmas season! Jim is preparing for upcoming sermons. And we are especially excited that the four Cottrills will enjoy their first Christmas together in four years – that's right, *Hannah is coming to Mexico!* ❤️

Baptisms

We are hoping to have a **baptismal service** on the 11th of December! We will be going to a public place for the morning/afternoon, for a time of celebration and fellowship. Please pray for those who desire to obey the Lord in baptism.



More on Side A

Sunday School

While we were in Canada, the church started up **children's Sunday School** again. Our friend Viri is in charge, and Shari is one of the teachers (in a rotation of teachers and helpers). We're using the Generations of Grace material, which tells the story of Christ from Genesis to Revelation. This past week, Shari taught on some of the prophecies of the Christ in Genesis. (Pictured right: learning the books of the Bible)



The verse on the cassette – **Col 3:16** – has been a blessed reality, as we have learned to grow together as a church in praise and thankfulness in hard times. May this be true for you!

Grace & Peace,

Jim & Shari
Hannah, Nathanael

To update your address or change other preferences, please visit:
<http://bit.ly/join-change>

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