Helping train third world missionaries

November 2021

Reflections In The Rear View Mirror



2021 has been a year of major events for our family!

This was the year that God led Robert to the ministry he now enjoys at ProMETA, an online school in Costa Rica, using a lifetime of experience and the gifts God has given him to help train third world pastors and missionaries.

This year Robert also visited the ER four times, and was hospitalized twice for Afib and a large clot in his heart. We are ever so grateful that God kept the clot from causing any harm. It could have been very serious. Thankfully the clot is gone now, and his heart is again beating in sinus rhythm. But his blood pressure still needs help.





My mom who lives with us has had some major events this year as well. In February she celebrated what would have been 70 years of marriage if Dad were still alive. A week later she had a fall that resulted in a head wound, broken ribs, and a trip by ambulance to the ER. In October her health took a rapid nosedive which included increased cognitive impairment. During a three-day hospitalization, an infection was found which solved the mystery of the nosedive. She is home again and recovering, but has moved to needing a heightened level of care. Pray for complete resolution of the infection, and no recurrences. That was not a fun experience! This month Mom celebrates 94 years of life!

Grandson Nathan (13) had surgery to expand his sunken chest, making more room for heart and lungs. He is doing fabulously.

God has been our constant Companion through what has sometimes been a difficult year. **Thank you** to all of our wonderful friends and family who have come alongside us as well, with prayer, finances, friendship, moral support, and practical help. We appreciate you more than we can say!

"Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will not be shaken. My salvation and my honor depend on God; He is my mighty rock, my refuge. Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge." (Ps. 62:5-8 NIV).



Luxuriating in Nathan's embrace. He is a great hugger! At 13 he may be our youngest grandchild but he is certainly not our smallest one anymore!

Happy Thanksgiving! And in case I don't get a Christmas letter out, let me take this opportunity to wish all of you a

Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year

Praise and Prayer

- Praise for a fulfilling ministry that brings Robert joy. Pray for energy to pour into it, and for his blood pressure to be normalized.
- Pray for consistent good sleep and energy for me. Just before Mom's sharp decline, at the suggestion
 of my sleep doctor, I enrolled in a clinical trial for a Cognitive Behavioral Therapy program for sleep.
 Pray that I'll learn enough for it to really be helpful, despite my inability to follow the program as strictly
 now because of Mom's need for more care.
- Pray for our Costa Rican colleagues Manuel and Yorleny Porras, for increased support, and for a good outcome for her November 18th surgery to remove a large benign tumor. Praise God for the miracle of being awarded a surgical appointment ahead of about 500 other people on the waiting list.
 Pray also for God's provision of a home for Manuel and Yorleny with land and space to establish a Bible school for indigenous people.

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