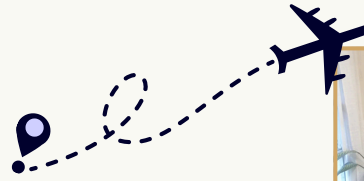




TEPIC, MEXICO

Rev. Matt & Anne-Marie Van Dyken



Greetings from Tepic, Mexico!

May the Lord be with you. No doubt you will have heard about the narco-violence that occurred on February 22 in Puerto Vallarta. We had our own share of the violence, though not to the same extent. Something like 10-15 cars and buses were burned here in Tepic. It certainly generated a lot of smoke and uncertainty. While things have for the most part returned to normal life, people here are hopeful that the violence is over yet understandably still go about their business with extra caution. These recent events contributed to the fact that we will not be able to host the CCMT program this year, which is a disappointment. But we trust God's sovereign hand in this also.



In the meantime we have been preparing to leave the field (May, 2027). The goal is for Pastor Wilfredo to be supported 100% locally, and for our supporting

church Brampton to provide spiritual oversight. This has meant the local church has had to step up in terms of their tithes and offerings. Lots of practical questions to consider! But one sister said it well. For many years, we (Tepic) have had so many blessings gifted to us, free of charge. Now it is time for us to realize that those blessings come with a cost and so commit ourselves to the work.

If you have been following my updates, you will know that we are in the process of calling a local Mexican pastor and handing off the work to him. I am delighted to report that that is going very well. Wilfredo has now been an intern pastor for the past year, and we are looking forward to his colloquium doctum taking place on June 19. Then a call can be issued the Lord willing and he would be installed soon after. In the Lord's providence, the installation will coincide with our 25-year anniversary as a church. What a testament to the Lord's faithfulness!

We are also in the process of buying and building as a church, with most of the funds coming from past outside building funds. We found one great option in the center, very close to our present building. For Anne-Marie and myself, we will have to sell the house, lot, and probably most of our earthly possessions. A lot of missionary life during transitions is dealing with stuff. But we are reminded that as Christians we have a better inheritance. In the end, we are just passing through. We have a better country!

God's blessings in Christ, Pastor Matt and Anne-Marie Van Dyken.



SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA

Rev. Bill & Aletha Green

The Reformed mission in Costa Rica has three areas of ministry: church planting, a Christian grade school and high school (CECRE), and printing / conferences (CLIR). God continues to grant mercy upon all three efforts.

Our seven churches and missions have experienced growth both in numbers and leaders. We've ordained three new elders in three different churches in the last couple of months - praise the Lord! Our William Farel Seminary provides continued training, and presently Rev. Green has some 20 students in a pastoral course on biblical counseling.

The Christian school (CECRE) has begun its new school year (February to November) and is in full swing. CECRE is established on the foundation of Jesus Christ as Lord of life, knowledge and society. School classes are designed to prepare our students to acknowledge and serve Christ and His kingdom.

Costa Rica is experiencing a severe population decline from extremely low birth rates. Our enrollment has dropped to a minimum, creating a very difficult financial condition. We have only 182 students with 35 paid personnel and an infrastructure to maintain. There is a Student Tuition Assistance fund that donations can be sent to in order to help offset school costs.

The CLIR ministry (printing, conferences, other) has been richly blessed with a very committed work team, and with more opportunities for ministry than we can meet! From January to March the print shop produced 40 books and booklets! These have been shipped from Canada to Chile. We continue to receive requests for conferences and materials. We praise the Lord that CLIR is looked to as a resource for confessionally sound literature and guidance.



from Canada to Chile. We continue to receive requests for conferences and materials. We praise the Lord that CLIR is looked to as a resource for confessionally sound literature and guidance. CLIR's major project of

producing John Calvin's commentaries on the bible continues forward (20 commentaries completed), along with the translation and printing of many other foundational works on theology. Authors such as Berkhof, Bavinck, Warfield, Machen and Geerhardus Vos are among the 250 titles that CLIR now offers, which also includes many resources for church education, family, children, and apologetics.

The work of translation and printing is slow and expensive. CLIR has an effective translation and editing team dedicated to this task. Your contributions to the CLIR Ministry fund are providing a lasting legacy of theological resources for the Spanish speaking world. We invite you to keep CLIR in your prayers, and join us with your giving.



How can you give donations for Costa Rica?

IN CANADA

United Reformed Missions Association
1100 - 40th Avenue N - Lethbridge,
AB - Canada - T1H 6B7

IN THE USA

Bethany URC
Attn: Joint Venture Committee
5401 Byron Center Ave SW
Wyoming, MI 49519