



The Shue Family

~ Serving with Valley Independent Baptist Missions ~

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Dear friends & co-laborers,

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It is hard to know where to begin this letter as we have been moving full speed ahead these past couple of months. God has been opening doors left and right — almost faster than we can keep up! But, we PRAISE His name for working and making Himself real to us in these days.

The violence in Mexico has really escalated the past few months. We have heard some very sobering stories. Please help us uphold God's servants in PRAYER in Mexico! Along those lines, we want to PRAISE Him for safety as I went across last week Thursday, Friday and Saturday for the first annual Pastor's Conference. We didn't know what to expect, but God put His hand of protection around us (even though we needed to travel at night). God brought to us the main speaker, Missionary Tim Hendricks. We are thankful for God's wisdom in choosing him to come encourage the pastors. The last day many testified of God's blessings through the conference. We look forward to what will be accomplished in the 18 pastor's lives and ministries this year through this!

Due to violence, many of the American missionaries are choosing not to come to the border unless absolutely necessary. So we have seen a drop in the housing. Yet, God has given us many opportunities to minister to those who have come through. It was a special blessing to have a single missionary lady from Mexico who is a missionary to the Jews in Mexico, Sister Maricarmen Gonzalez, with us. We also had a Hispanic family from Mexico stay twice who are on deputation to go to China as teachers. We have also been able to house many nationals who were in the area for a mission's conference at a Spanish church near here.

God also let our paths cross with one of the representatives, Bro. & Sister August Rosado, from the Roloff Homes in Corpus Christi. What a blessing to hear Bro. Rosado preach on prophecy and to fellowship with them. The home was founded by Bro. Lester Roloff in 1958. He was killed in a plane crash in 1982. Many do not realize that the home is still fully operational (to those 17 1/2 years or older). They have a real burden also for the staff who carry a heavy load. God has impressed us to "give what we have" and so we have offered their staff free housing to come get away for a day or two. We housed the first couple, Bro. & Sister Jesus Padilla, last week. We look forward to meeting more of them in the coming months!

Another door that God has opened to us is for our family to actually go on a "normal" furlough. We have been on the field 12 1/2 years and have only been able to run out for a few weeks here or a month or two there. The Krehls who joined us 2 years ago next month have proven their capabilities in keeping up with the responsibilities here. Plus, Bettina's parents who spend 2-3 months each year will spend 7-8 months helping out. God has not only provided capable ones to cover for us but has opened the door for us to live in a Christian couple's house in Richfield, NC while they are in Papua New Guinea on a short term mission trip. We will be working our way up there the last week of July and will be staying through the school year (to allow Meagan to be in one place for school). We are trusting to be able to visit some supporting churches, but will make a big push for new churches as we work toward bringing the support level up more to where it needs to be. We will be available for meetings, mission's conferences or other ladies meetings that Bettina could speak at. Please contact us at (956) 457-0853 if you would like to fit us in your schedule.

We are very excited about other doors God has opened as well! We just voted in some new board members — Bro. Richard Aguire and Bro. Eric Hammett. Both of these brothers bring a lot of personal experience with them — Bro. Aguire has a strong background in the area of law (with non-profit experience as well) and Bro. Hammett in the area of missions.

Some other open doors that we ask PRAYER for:

1. The fall ladies retreat in Mexico (Bettina is doing the preparations and will then turn it over to the national pastor's wife).
2. We are in the process of "jumping" through all the hoops to get the property tax exempt.
3. We are "jumping" through other hoops to be able to have a consistent food supply for the missionaries on the property.
4. We have been asked to help do V.B.S. in a Spanish church in Roma, TX (classes in English) mid July. The pastor has been there less than a year and they are crying for HELP!! We would love for you to come be a blessing to this pastor and church!
5. This same pastor's wife has such a burden for their ladies and has asked Bettina to help her plan a ladies retreat in their church in the next couple of months. So, please PRAY for this as well.

THANK YOU for letting God use you to give "handfuls of purpose" to our family and the MANY that He allows us to reach out and minister to!! Only eternity will tell the extent of what you have so sacrificially done! May God richly bless each one of you!

Gratefully His,

Jeff, Bettina & Meagan Shue