



The Shue Family

~ Serving with Valley Independent Baptist Missions ~
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Dear friends & co-laborers,

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“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” Jeremiah 33:3

Wow! This year is flying by! We are so excited to see God’s hand so mightily already in just the first six weeks of this year. We entered the year with great anticipation for what God was going to do in and through the ministry this year and He is not disappointing us! It is such a privilege to serve Him in such a small way here on the Texas/Mexico border. We stand in awe of what a mighty, all-powerful God that we serve!

In the last letter, we shared our burden to continue to “press [forward] toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:14) The needs of God’s servants across the border are not diminishing, but are seemingly increasing daily. I am sure that many of you have heard the national news reports of the missionary’s wife who was shot and killed. Every missionary who has come through recently has shared personal reports of violence that they have seen. They are in need of much prayer for God’s protection. So please remember them in your PRAYERS!

Jeff’s heart procedure went well (even though he experienced a few “minor” hindrances/delays). He is still within his 6 weeks of restricted activities (i.e. no driving, no lifting over 10 lbs, no excessive movement, pushing or pulling of left arm, etc). He goes back on February 22nd and we anticipate those restrictions to be lifted. Then he will be set up for quarterly visits. He really is doing quite well. Several have commented that he is looking like he always did — and truly other than having an incision and slight bulge in his upper left chest, you never would know he even had a procedure done. So, we PRAISE the Lord for that! Please PRAY though for the medical expenses. God has given us peace and we know that He is going to provide. But, in honesty, we were a bit shocked to hear that the hospital bill alone is \$199,837 and we were informed by our insurance that it could take up to 2 months for them to “process” this large of a bill. We are not anticipating any problems, but it still makes you a bit nervous to think that they could possibly deny it.

Our annual board meeting went great! The fellowship is always so sweet with those that God has seen fit to “walk along side” in the calling that God has given us. We are excited about the board’s decision to institute a subsidiary board called the “Board of Representatives” to help us get the word out about what God is doing here. We feel this will take a tremendous burden off of us; yet, at the same time, give us a wider range of outreach. In addition to that, be watching for the launch of our new fund “Handfuls of Purpose” that we will be sending information out about in our next prayer letter (or visit www.vibm.org).

As you know, the annual property taxes have been such a financial burden to us each year. But, we want to PRAISE the Lord that we just finished paying off last year’s taxes! In addition to that, we want to thank you for your PRAYERS for wisdom in trying to get this taken care. God has been answering and opening doors that were not open before. Please continue to PRAY as we go through these doors that God will bring to fruition what He has begun. We claim I Thessalonians 5:24 “Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.” God has definitely called us here, and HE will “do it!”

Please be in MUCH PRAYER for the up-coming 1st annual Pastor’s Conference April 7-9. More funds are needed to purchase some basic literature for packets for each pastor to take home — there are right at 30 pastors on the invitation list. We are also needing to purchase food for the 2 lunches for the pastors, plus other meals for those who are traveling in from out of town for the meeting. Pastor Julio is needing to complete some bathrooms and put in electricity in the upstairs (SS rooms) of his church to be able to house those coming from out of town and still needs several hundred dollars for that. If God would lead you to help with any of these needs, please designate your check “Pastor’s Conference” and send to VIBM, PO Box 908, Donna, TX 78537. To view the flyer (sorry — Spanish version only) for the conference, go to the top right of our home page at www.vibm.org.

We do not want to close without THANKING each of you who have so faithfully prayed for us and this ministry, for those who have made the commitment to give financially each month and for all those who have given extra “handfuls of purpose” throughout the years and especially in the past 2 months. From the bottom of our hearts, we THANK YOU!! If no one ever knows what you have done, God does and He will reward you for what you have done for His honor & glory!

Gratefully His,

Jeff, Bettina & Meagan Shue