

# JOSHUA & AMANDA ALLRED MÉRIDA, MEXICO



January/February 2019:

Dear church and friends,

“Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.” As we hear reports from the United States of new abortion laws and an ever-increasing anti-Christian sentiment, we are reminded of the importance of the work you do to fulfill our Lord's Mission in the USA. We appreciate the difficulties your ministries face and are grateful for those of you who continue to serve faithfully in spite of growing opposition to God and His Word.

Here, the work has not slowed down! In February, the North Mérida Baptist Church held its annual Missions Emphasis Month. We were excited to see a substantial increase in our Faith Promise giving this year! The other three churches are holding their Missions Emphasis Months in March.

During our Missions Emphasis Month, the North Mérida Baptist Church officially adopted a new missionary family and is now their sending church. José Luis Mares, his wife, and three children are missionaries from Mexico serving in Argentina. They have been in Argentina for about fifteen years, have planted four churches, and have started a Bible Institute. The Lord is using this family in a mighty way! Our church has supported the Mares family for many years. Recently, their sending church and mission organization both changed their philosophies and the Mares were forced to change sending churches. We are honored to have them as our missionaries! After evaluating their support level and the cost of living and ministering in Argentina, we strongly recommended that the Mares raise additional support. They have national pastors in charge of the four churches in Argentina and will be spending the next year raising support in Mexico and the United States. If you would be interested in supporting this family and their ministry, please let me know. I would love to put you in contact with them!

Also in February, we were blessed to have Bro. Jeff Johnson visit and give a week-long conference on prayer. All four churches came together for the conference and we were all challenged to commit ourselves to a more disciplined prayer life. We never underestimate the value of your prayers for our ministry. Here, we must be faithful to pray as well!

On a personal note, we are excited to announce that we will be adding one more member to our family this August! Amanda is about eighteen weeks pregnant. Please pray for the baby's and her health during the pregnancy and delivery.

As always, we are grateful for the part you play in our ministry. It is infinitely encouraging to us to know that you are not only supporting our family and ministry, but also praying for us and working alongside us in the country God has given you to reach. As we await His return, may our hearts and minds be focused on proclaiming the Gospel to every creature in every nation! May the Lord bless you richly and give you abundant fruit for your labor.

Yours in Christ,  
Joshua, Amanda, & the kids