

Clemente Newsletter

July 2022

David leaves for Asia this July 25, 2022. Sarah and Jacob will stay behind here in Macomb, Illinois for Jacob's Senior year of high school. In August, Carmen will proceed to Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky for her third year of college. So, for four months, the Clemente family will connect through Zoom or FaceTime. Aren't you glad we live in a modern world of video streaming and wifi connections?

Review: "A Prayer For a Country"

I (David) will be in Country-IA this summer 2022. There is a group called GMMI that has existed since the early 1970s. It is only now that the leaders have expressed the desire to connect with the Free Methodist global family. I will travel there this August to represent FMWM and meet the GMMI leaders in person.

Pray that FMWM-Asia will be able to make meaningful connections with God's people among the many indigenous churches in the country. (GMMI is only one of the groups that I will meet.) Pray for safe travel and protection from the elements.

Recap: "A Prayer For Each Month"

The following are summaries of the prayer requests I have shared from our April and May newsletters. Thank you so much for joining us in prayer. These summaries are also short travel descriptions: August is Country-IA, September is Philippines, October is Australia/Oceania, and November is Thailand.

Summary:

- 1.) Pray for God's discernment as David explores partnerships in Country-IA this month of August. (Please see the description above.) David will visit a dozen or so local churches and sit down with leaders for vision casting and prayer.
- 2.) Pray for God's wisdom as David teaches Filipino missionaries in the Philippines this month of September. (Please see description below.) Philippine General Conference (PGC) has 26 cross cultural witnesses or missionaries scattered in the country and around Asia. David and Darrell (Whiteman) will share at this conference.
- 3.) Pray for God's encouragement as David consults with leaders in Australia, Fiji, and New Zealand during the month of October. David will meet up with Pastora Emma, Pastora Beverly, Pastora Marianne, Pastor Tonga, and other pastors from Australia. He will fly to Fiji and meet up with Pastor Samisoni and his leadership team. Then, David will fly to Auckland, New Zealand to visit with our church planter, Pastora Joy. Pray for a time of connecting with the Spirit of God.

4.) Pray for God's presence to be with the Asian leaders in Thailand as David participates in the BTC22 conference this November 6-8, 2022. BTC22 is Better Together Convergence where FM leaders from various countries and regions in Asia gather for enrichment in the word and fellowship with one another. Pray for safe travel for all the participants who will be coming to Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Report: "Prayers On The Move"

Thank you for praying for the Mission Training Conference (MTC2022), this September 13-16, 2022, at Butuan City, Philippines. Below is a description of the conference and some questions the participants will be facing. Dr. Darrell Whiteman of the Global Development is the resource speaker for the conference.

MTC2022 is a three day training conference designed to help cross-cultural witnesses connect the Gospel and biblical values to the deepest part of the worldviews of people who are culturally and religiously different from themselves. Our goal is to help missionaries, church leaders, and international workers become more effective as they cross cultural barriers with the Gospel.

Some Questions For The Participants:

- a.) How do we connect the Eternal Word with a changing world?
- b.) Just like Jesus, how do we relate to people who are different from us?
- c.) How can we help people discover the Gospel?
- c.) How do we deal with cultural diversity?

Our fundraising for this event is doing very well. Many thanks to those who gave generously. We still need about \$1,000.00 more to make the conference work smoothly. If God is touching your heart, please write me a personal note and I can send you the information for sending your donation. God bless you!

Reflection: Prayer and Silence

Adele A. Calhoun shares "silence invites us to leave behind the competing demands of our outer world for time alone with Jesus. Silence offers a way of paying attention to the Spirit of God and what he brings to the surface of our souls" (Spiritual Disciplines Handbook. 2015:122).

"But the Lord is in his holy temple. Let all the earth be silent before him." (Habakkuk 2:20, NLT)

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