



OPEN DOOR  
BAPTIST MISSIONS



December 2019

## Focus on the Fields

Our minds look back over God's rich blessings in 2019. As we renewed our visits to 18 supporting churches this year it gave us many reasons to be thankful as we remember how you have stood with us throughout our transition to the Open Door Baptist Missions. For some of you, it has been over 40 years that you have stood with us and prayed for us. How can we even begin to thank you!

The need to return to Paraguay to sign documents for the sale and transfer of mission properties is ongoing. There have been some delays, and we wait for word to signal our return to complete these tasks and then close the mission incorporation.

We maintain communication with church leaders in Paraguay and are encouraged how the ministries continue. They will always have a very special place in our hearts. We now attend some of the Spanish services here at the Morningside Baptist Church where we enjoy warm relationships with our Hispanic brethren.

Part of our ministry at the ODBM has been to meet with college students who show an interest in missions. We share the needs and possibilities where they can serve here and overseas. Two Bible colleges have given us opportunities to share our testimonies as veteran missionaries. We pray that our love and joy in serving God will be obvious to those who may wonder if it is worth it!



It gives us joy to meet the missionaries that are part of our mission. Some have visited us here at the office, we have had meals together with others, or we've just talked about their time on furlough and the needs awaiting them back on the field. Recently one came to give testimony of losing his wife to cancer. What a privilege to listen, encourage, shed tears, and pray together.

**Pray for Paul who will travel with our director Dave Smith and a seminary student intern to Myanmar for on January 2<sup>nd</sup> for 12 days.** They will be speaking to college and seminary students. Later they will travel to rural areas to encourage the pastors who minister farther out in restricted areas. Pray for good opportunities to preach, teach, and serve alongside of God's choice servants in that country. January 20-24, 2020 we will meet more ODBM missionaries during a Church Planter's retreat. We look forward to connecting and hearing each missionary's ministry burdens and joys.



The "Fields four" (Steve, Paul, Barbie, Sandy) got together for a weekend in Georgia. We live only a few minutes' drive from Terry and Sandy Washer and eat together often as we make up for years of living on separate continents.

We enjoyed an early Thanksgiving meal in our home with all our kids and 10 grandchildren. We are hoping to enjoy their presence again this Christmas. Jim and Jenna Wright have almost 90% of their monthly support as missionaries with Bibles International. Arnaldo and Shellie Silva have recently started a new Hispanic church in the Greenville area. Ben and Sabrina continue serving in their church and in their careers. We thank God for our family.

We continue to pray for you who support us both in prayer and financially. Our prayer journals list your names as we ask the Lord to bless and keep you in your service for Him.

*Merry Christmas with Thanksgiving,  
Paul and Marla Fields*



*Jesus is the greatest gift*

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