

JERUSALEM EVANGELICAL MINISTRIES (JEM)

2020 AGM Mission Report

by Director Lanny Anderson

We will soon be entering our fifteenth year of evangelical ministry. Throughout the past year, we have endeavored to maintain our Sonora ministry operations in the villages of Cheke' and Escondida. With the assistance of their ministry teams, Maria Porchas, who serves as our Cheke' pastor and 'Missions Co-ordinator', and Arnulfo Vieyra, who serves as our Escondida pastor and 'JEM Intermediary', have consistently given on-site implementation and supervising oversight of all ministry activities. Ministry progress and requests concerning village budgets, approved activities, and financial accountability, have been reviewed on a weekly basis through telephone conferencing between Maria, Director Jim Rathjen, and myself. Matters covering ministry concerns, changes, and proposals were presented to the JEM board for discussion, recommendations, and consideration of approval. Ministry activities have been presented in the form of village pictorial updates and presentations and communicated by email and/or our ministry website to board members and all JEM contacts.

Ministry operations during the past year, have certainly been filled with challenging circumstances, oppositions, and spiritual warfare that have influenced, if not, threatened the survival of our outreach ministry. There has been the continuing movement of desperate migrants towards the Mexican/US border entries from Central America, Africa, and of late, Russia. Amongst these migrants there has been a number of those who have chosen a life of criminal activity to survive. Several of these people have found difficulty in crossing the border into the US and have gathered in populated border cities like our ministry crossing area of San Luis. This has caused a state of social unrest and fear amongst the San Luis residents and surrounding areas as the serious crime rate has increased considerably. It has also resulted in time delays in crossing the border and increased danger for Pastor Maria and some members of her ministry team in their weekly travel schedule. Additional concerns influencing our ministry have been periodic closures of the San Luis border entry, a widening US/Can. exchange rate, international banking failure in transferring

budget funds (no fault of JEM), serious health issues amongst those in key ministry roles, mechanical maintenance of ministry vehicles, and quite recently, the coronavirus which is threatening to cover the entire planet in what they call a pandemic. As I write, this virus has reached the borders of Mexico and Arizona from California and has the potential of being devastating to the poverty stricken third world areas of Mexico which would include the present geographical location of our ministry.

Regardless of the challenges I have mentioned, we are called to walk by faith and are to be more than conquerors through Him who Loves us (Rom. 8:37-39). Knowing this, it is much better to speak of the blessings that have occurred over the year in our Lord's faithfulness. These blessings cover a wide area and include the maturing of village brethren, the weekly consistency of village intercessory prayer groups, new souls being won to Christ, the beginning evidence of the infilling of the Holy Spirit, the development of leadership and various ministries among village believers, healing and recovery of the sick, restored fellowship among brethren, improved educational development of youth, travel mercies for ministry team members, volunteer help ministries, increased donations of goods, appliances, and construction materials from benevolent groups and individuals residing in the border state of Arizona, and, of course, the remarkable fund raising and financial generosity of our Canadian donors.

As I have mentioned in previous reports, the door of evangelical outreach and expansion to village and inner-city ministry in areas of extreme poverty and developmental delay remain open. Several of those pastors, who have served in the past on behalf of JEM in an intermediary capacity, are willing to renew their ministry partnership with us if the opportunity arises. An example would be our faithful friends, Pastor Antonio Duarte and his wife, Betty. Brother Antonio will be visiting San Luis from his church base in Hermosillo. He will be discussing the operations and progress of this evangelical outreach with us and the possibility of sharing that ministry as an intermediary on JEM's behalf. There may also be an opportunity soon to plant an inner-city work in San Luis with a new pastoral/intermediary relationship. I believe

this is a component of our evangelic vision that needs to be re-established in the leading of the Holy Spirit and will be a challenge of faith in the Lord's provision.

In closing I would like to thank our directors, bookkeeper, and all those in leadership ministry for their faithfulness, endurance, and diligent service in the Lord. Also, a grateful appreciation to all JEM members and friends for their prayers and generosity in support of this ministry. You Are Precious! (¡Todos ustedes son preciosos!)

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