

Following the Fridenstines

Cojutepeque, El Salvador

August 2026



Thank you so much for your love for our family. Please forgive us for taking so long to get a letter out. It is not an excuse, but we have been very busy in the ministry. God has given us great responsibilities, and we are trying to administer them well, only through His strength. We cannot do this on our own. It is His ministry, not ours.

We will give an update on each ministry, but first, we want you to know that our family is well, celebrating 15 years of ministry in Cojutepeque this week. Esther and I have been learning and growing, strengthening our marriage during this phase of life. Joel is a senior in High School in his last three months of classes. Micah is maturing and truly learning to love and serve. Isaí is finishing sixth grade and is so excited about playing the missionary in a special drama celebrating missions in Central America during the first week of September. We have had special moments together during these months (Esther took Joel to Camp BIMi, I took him to a pastor's conference and we traveled as a family to minister in Guatemala and Honduras in May and then July). We are intentionally making memories while serving our Savior, while God still has us in the same place.

Serving Jesus, loving the church, sharing the Gospel and living in the center of God's will is the very best life.

Denis, Leanne, and Chloe Corena are ready to take off to the mission field. They are coming to the end of their deputation period, trusting God to bring in the remaining monthly support needed, and are ecstatic to get to the field where God has called them. Esther and I are planning on traveling with them the second week of December to move them to Patagonia, Chile. Please be in prayer for the preparation, process, and the finances needed to get more laborers to the field. We are asking you to consider supporting this Salvadorian family going to Chile, either monthly or with a one-time moving expense offering. You might also consider helping Esther and me as we help them get settled in their new home.



We have had wonderful victories and some of our hardest moments this quarter in the local church. But God has worked through each one.

Esther took the ladies to an encouraging Ladies' Conference in April. We invested in our couples at the beginning of June and celebrated the 17th anniversary of Emanuel Baptist Church on the last Sunday of June. In July, we had an impactful youth conference with missionary Daniel Navarrete as our speaker. We are in a biblical study of singing on Sunday mornings and are growing in our spiritual walk, trying to touch every age group and phase of life. We have seen 58 people receive Christ as Savior since our last letter and have had dozens of visitors in the church. We have a great group involved in one-on-one discipleship, with several getting close to the end of the study and beginning to be involved in serving the Lord.

Other Emanuel Baptist Ministries...



Emanuel Baptist School is alive and well. Our school year is coming to an end, and honestly, it has been one of our best years. There is always a battle against sin and sinful culture, but there has been a much better spirit and openness to seek help and let the Lord work in hearts. Our staff is developing deeper relationships with the students, which in turn is bringing forth fruit. We are looking forward to strong Kinder, ninth-grade, and high school graduating classes in November. Please pray that God works in hearts and calls them to His service.



We had our first official alumni meeting for our Bible Seminary during our youth conference. It was wonderful. Much of our growth has been online, so having an in-person meeting with alumni from years past alongside our current students was a great encouragement to go forward, winning others with the Gospel and investing in them. We are looking forward to our graduation at the end of October, sending 10 more graduates into the harvest.

Please be in prayer for us as we seek God's will about expansion and future growth.



The mission board—ABIL (Agencia Bautista Internacional de Latinoamérica)—is alive and well. It has been under the leadership and legal oversight of the church, but in these days, we are signing papers for it to become its own entity in order to expand and better serve our missionaries. Our missionaries are expanding into new countries with three new families for a total of fifteen families, and the local churches supporting them are also expanding beyond just Central America. Please pray for wisdom, protection, and that God will continue to call more laborers to reach the world with the Gospel.

"Faithfulness is not about doing something great once; it is about faithfully doing what God has called us to do, day after day, trusting Him with the results."



Youth Conference, baptisms, couple's get-away, Camp BIMBI, church family on anniversary Sunday, investment in men of God, loving the elderly, Abby Fies with us