

"Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

The Leungs' Update from Panama – December 25, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,



Christmas Season Blessings and Happy New Year 2021!!!

Below is our 'long overdue' news update (thank you for your patience 😊) ...

Online Ministry with the Venezuelan and Panamanian Congregations

"We haven't had electricity the entire day, but THANK GOD, it just came back!" or *"so and so won't join our worship today because their area is without electricity..."* These are common words we hear from our Venezuelan members. Thank God indeed that despite countless challenges, they continue to wait on the Lord. **PRAY** for them. May they live in the light of Jesus amid dark and challenging times.

Thank God for the Venezuelan youth attending the weekly Bible studies and those taking the baptismal class. The church needs to figure how to baptize them during this time of restrictions. **PRAY** for those graduating from high school this year. May they hear God's direction for their future and may God provide for their needs. **May God's Spirit illumine them with wisdom and faith to choose wisely.**

Like many of you, our church meetings have been online since March 2020. Many of the Chinese speaking members are feeling disconnected because they are not used to virtual meetings. In addition, approx. 10% of our Panamanian church people have contracted Covid, thank God they have all recovered! Yet, many have closed ones who have passed away. **PRAY** for heavenly discernment and wisdom to engage those who feel lost, and for God's Spirit to restore lives and enlighten them with the Truth through the ministry of His Word.

The Field Leadership Team (FLT)'s 2021 Ministry Plan

Plans are underway for the yearly retreat of all Alliance churches in Panama (Feb.16, 2021). We are also working on the Panamanian C&MA Constitution. **PRAY** for the FLT as we discern and decide on the ministry plan for 2021, our annual retreat, the needs of coworkers, national church development and related matters.

Spanish Bible Institute in Panama

Thank God for the 20+ students registered in the bachelor's program, most of them are second-generation Chinese engaged in church leadership. Rosa's just finished teaching the last course of 2020. And God willing, the Institute will have its first graduates in 2021. **PRAY** that the students will seek God's direction and follow His calling. They love God and are active in ministry, may God show them how to lead the emergent generation in a globalized, yet 'socially distanced' world. Also, **PRAY** for the drafting of the first Student's Handbook.

PRAISE THE LORD, on Nov.20th, our youngest son Raphael and his wife Sheena welcomed their firstborn: Oliver Lawrence. We are officially grandparents! **May God give them strength and wisdom in learning the ropes of parenthood.**

We are deeply grateful for your faithful and sacrificial giving to the Global Advance Funds amid so many challenges. **May the Lord provide for all your needs according to His riches in glory!**

Shalom and Grace in Christ,
Rev. Stanley & Rosa Leung