

Josué Pineda
2020 Annual Report
of a member of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley serving out of bounds in
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear brothers and fathers of the Presbytery of Mississippi Valley,

The following is a report of my labors since February 2020, when I was welcomed by you as a member of the PCA.

Iglesia Presbiteriana Gracia Soberana

Sovereign Grace Presbyterian Church

As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic affected the way we physically relate to each other. Honduras has been no exception to this. And if we add to this a weak health system, it is easy to understand the quarantine measures on the part of the government that have led to the closure of the country's main cities, giving each person permission to leave only one day every two weeks according to the last digit of the ID. And this is only from Monday to Friday. This has resulted in a change in the life of the church and in the way I serve within it.

Sunday services have been transformed into online transmissions, seeking to maintain, as far as possible, the same elements of worship, with the exception of the Lord's Supper and Baptisms. And while the lockdown has taken away some of the tasks I normally did before COVID-19, it has now led me to adopt new ones, such as preparing for the broadcast of our live services via Facebook and YouTube, developing online invitations that are easy to spread and that make it easy for people outside our congregation to connect to hear the Word of God preached.

Home visits to church families are limited by the above restrictions. However, I have tried to use the assigned day to run errands to bring supplies to these homes, spend time with them, and pray with them. Much of this work has had to be done through phone calls or social networks.

However, there are some things that remain the same, such as the weekly preparation and preaching of sermons and the teaching of Bible studies. Aaron Halbert and I preached alternately on 1 Timothy, but when the lockdown began we decided to switch to Ezra/Nehemiah, which has been preached mostly by Aaron. During the Sunday night Bible study time Rudy and Aaron were teaching on the Apostles' Creed and, for a couple of months now, I have been teaching about the Tabernacle. Also, the prayer meeting, in which we are teaching the church to use the psalms to learn how to pray, has been kept. The difference is that now we are broadcasting it live, encouraging each family to pray in their homes following the direction given through the broadcast. So far we have moved up to Psalm 91 from almost two years ago when we started with this approach.

Conferencia Doctrinas para la Vida 2020

Doctrines for Life Conference 2020

From June 22 to 26, we had our annual conference and, again, due to COVID-19 we had to improvise some changes, such as the fact that, as it could not be done in person, it was done live online. We were blessed to have four brothers: John Edgar Sandoval from Colombia, Alonzo Ramírez from Peru, Israel Guerrero from Chile and Nathaniel Gutiérrez from the United States. They spoke on the theme "Contemplating Christ in the Old Testament," which was a great blessing not only for the Church in Honduras, but also for many people in the Spanish-speaking world who connected each day to hear about the unity of the message of Scripture.

The work for this was more of a logistical nature, preparing invitations, videos of pastors planting churches in other parts of the Spanish-speaking world, facilitating access so that the broadcast could be easily disseminated, and at times leading the conference together with Aaron Halbert and Rudy Ordoñez.

Prayer Requests

I appreciate your prayers for the team in Honduras and for our families, and I ask you to please pray asking God to grant us wisdom in decision making, a way of life worthy of the gospel of Christ, and that the light of Christ will transform this nation through the clear and courageous preaching of the gospel.

Petition for Extension of OOB Status

I am grateful for PMV's permission to work out of bounds for the last 4 months. I respectfully request that PMV grant me permission to continue working out of bounds as an Evangelist in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

In and for Jesus,

Josué Pineda