

To: **Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley**
From: **TE Nate Bonham (MTW)**
Date: **May 28, 2019**
Subject: **Out-of-Bounds Annual Report (2018-2019)**

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

It is great to be able to greet you once more in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May He be honored by this brief ministry report.

The Local Church. I have shared with you in past reports about our work with Iglesia Presbiteriana La Roca, a local church in Arequipa, Peru. With the wisdom of the presbytery that we helped to establish, we have made the difficult to decision to close this particular work. When we originally began working with this local congregation in 2014, the work had already existed for over 11 years with only 10-12 people involved. The bottom line is that this group had a broken foundation, one in which we labored to break down and build anew, but without success, humanly-speaking.

Although this was one of the most difficult decisions we have made, the Lord has affirmed and blessed that decision. Our ministry reach is exponentially wider than it was before. We are helping one Presbyterian church plant get off the ground, another Presbyterian church in revitalization, and another large church leave the Charismatic and “Prosperity Gospel” movement to become a Reformed church. We are helping them adopt a confession of faith, mentoring their leaders, implementing church membership and discipline, and counseling them regarding church government.

Between the work of the Seminary (see below) and involvement in a few local churches, I teach and preach weekly. This past year, though, I have not been able to have much involvement in administering the sacraments. For the churches we are working with, the administration of the sacraments is pending the implementation of membership, discipline, and church government. You don’t realize how easy it is to take the Lord’s Supper for granted until it is no longer an option to participate.

Seminario Bíblico Reformado (Reformed Bible Seminary). Since my last report, we have seen SBR grow by leaps and bounds. We are close to 200 students in four countries (Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, and Spain). The ministry has reached across denominational lines, but mainly serves Presbyterian and Reformed Baptist churches. We partner with Third Millennium Ministries and Birmingham Theological Seminary. In June, we will complete our first full cycle of curriculum and have our first graduating class.

MTW Leadership. In November of 2018, I was named as the MTW Regional Director of South America. We have nearly 70 missionaries serving in 6 countries, and this role affords me the opportunity to serve and care for these faithful brothers and sisters. Please pray for this ministry and these servants.

Transition. Although I do not have the space to explain fully, later this year we will be leaving Arequipa, Peru, returning to Jackson, MS for a 6-month Home Ministry Assignment (HMA), and then transitioning to Medellin, Colombia. This is to meet the ministry demands of the seminary, future church planting work, regional MTW responsibilities, and the developmental needs of one of our sons. Please pray for Nikki and me and our three boys as we live in transition over the next year. I would also love to share more with you all during our HMA.

Partnership. We give thanks to God for the churches of the PMV that continue to partner with us: Madison Heights, Highlands, FPC Louisville, Pear Orchard, Providence, Pearl, and Trinity PCA. If your church would like to partner with us, I would love to talk to you. You can find more information and sign up for our regular newsletters at: www.TheBonhamLine.org

Laboring Out-of-Bounds. Brothers and Fathers, again I thank you for the privilege of laboring out of bounds with Mission to the World as we complete our 7th year in Latin America. I would also ask that you would allow me to continue serving out-of-bounds with MTW in South America. I hope that you would use this report to know how you might be able to pray for us. To be sincere, it is hard not having close fellowship with you all, but knowing you pray for us and think of us does give much comfort. Please know that I pray for our Presbytery and the PCA.

Bendiciones,
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