



November 22, 2023

Dear Friends,

We pray this Thanksgiving finds you and those you cherish enjoying time together. Every year we like to take time to express our gratitude for the many blessings we have experienced during the year. This year has been one of many ups and downs, yet we have witnessed God's faithfulness through it all. We would like to say Thank You for the following:

Grateful for the reopening of the Wesley Medical Clinic. This year we were able to open the clinic on a more consistent schedule. We held 9 clinics throughout the year with doctors from both the States and Costa Rica. We are anticipating scheduling additional medical teams and having the clinic open more often in the coming year. Plus, we have received word of a new ultrasound machine coming our way!

Grateful for continued growth at the Methodist Seminary and Methodist High School. The Seminary continues to grow with 90 fulltime students. Ray was extremely happy to teach in person; he will continue to teach online as well, but having personal contact with his students was a tremendous gift. There was a profound movement of the Holy Spirit among the students at the high school throughout the year. It was the most extensive spiritual growth we have experienced in our 30 years of ministry with the school. Three of our students were called into fulltime ministry!

Grateful for the Methodist Children's Home. We are in a new season at the Home; we have more teenagers than in previous years. It is challenging and has certainly kept us on our knees. This year we passed a milestone by having received over 150 children since our opening. In addition, we celebrated a successful academic school year, many of our children prayed to receive Christ as their Savior, and we celebrated Joshua's 18th birthday and his transitioning to life outside the Home. We also experienced some of the most difficult days since we opened the Home; this has brought the staff together in prayer as never before.

Grateful for the mission teams. Every year the number of teams (since Covid) continues to increase. This year we welcomed mission teams at the Children's Home, Wesley Clinic, El Tigre Church, Guapiles Church, Loma Linda Church and the new church plant in Limon. We are grateful for each of you who ministered alongside our local church families. We have a great deal of work still to do on each of the churches. So, we have begun scheduling teams for 2024 and would love for you to come and join us!

Grateful to each of you. We are grateful for your partnership in ministry with us. Thank you for covering us and our ministry with your prayers and supporting us with your financial gifts. One of our hurdles this year has been the devaluation of the dollar; it has lost 30% of its buying power, plus the cost of ministry in each of our areas continues to increase. We would like to ask you to prayerfully consider making a Christmas or year-end financial gift to help us finish the year well and begin the new year strong.

Grateful to our Lord and Savior. As a family, we are grateful we all have enjoyed good health this year. We are grateful for God's provision which allows Sarah and Emma to continue to study at Baylor. We are grateful for the opportunities we have had to spend time with the girls this year. We are grateful for the many new opportunities we continue to experience in ministry. And we are grateful for you our dear friends and family for making it possible for us to minister (30 years) in Costa Rica.

You, dear friends, have been God's instrument of blessing in our lives. God bless you this Thanksgiving, and may your home be overflowing with love and gratitude.

In Him,

Ray and Lidia