# The Williams Family - Harvest Baptist Missions

Ministry Update / Prayer Letter

June 2019

Dear Praying Friends,

I Cor. 10:13 "...but God is faithful..."

#### **Twenty Years and Counting**

Upon graduating from college in 1986, I moved to Cleveland and started working for the Ohio Bell Telephone Company. I quickly began to really enjoy working for such a great company and initially thought I may work there for the rest of my life. After thirteen years at OBT/Ameritech, the Lord "changed my orders" and called me into the ministry. Harvest Baptist Missions was officially launched in 1999. Twenty years later, God is still working through this ministry and we feel so blessed to continue to



First Prayer Card - Circa 1999

be a part of it. Dozens of churches have been started by our HBM missionaries and thousands of lives have been impacted for the Cause of Christ. What a privilege to



serve our Great God! While I enjoyed my time in the secular working world, I am so thankful He "changed those orders" in the late '90s and continues to give me the great privilege of serving Him in full time vocational ministry. To God be the Glory!

#### **Our Friendly Visitor From Togo**

In May, we had the great privilege of hosting Raphael Guegue, one of Bro. David Laodima's co-workers from Togo. He came to the States for a training seminar and we enjoyed the thrill of participating in many "firsts" for Bro. Raphael - first f light, first trip to the USA, first hotel stay, first hamburger (hot dog, pizza, etc.), first time preaching in English, as well as many others. I have visited with Bro. Raphael on two different occasions in Togo and have preached at the church he pastors. He is a good man and a hard working minister of the Gospel. While he enjoyed his time here, he was definitely excited to get back home to his wife, three boys, and the folks that God has given him the privilege to pastor. Please pray for him as he faithfully serves the Lord in Togo.



### Pray For David Laodima's Planned Visit to the U.S



Speaking of visits, the Laodima family have a desire to return to the U.S. for a short furlough later this year. Please be in prayer as they apply for visas - that the Lord would give them favor and that His perfect timing for a return visit would be realized. There are so many great things happening in Togo and it is their desire to share these blessings with the many churches who have faithfully partnered with them for so many years now. In this picture, David and Justine pose with a large supply of vitamins and pain relievers that we sent with Raphael on his return to Togo. We are grateful that everything made it through customs ok ... even after Raphael was detained, drug tested, and interrogated because of the high volume of medicine he had in his possession. In the end, everything proved legit and the meds were admitted and are now able to assist David and his team as they minister to the people of Togo.

# **Catriz Family - The Philippines**

In spite of numerous economic challenges and natural disasters in the Philippines, the Catriz family continues to press forward in their efforts to reach their country for Christ. Manny and Violy have continued to faithfully serve for many years now. Pray for their continued health, strength, and vision to move forward. They have recently been raising funds to add A/C to their church in Subic. If you'd like to help with this project, you can send funds directly to HBM, marked Catriz A/C Project.

Kris and I continue to stay very busy in the many responsibilities the Lord has given us. In addition to the work of HBM, we are involved in biblical counseling (Restore), choir, Master Clubs, Youth, and many other "pastoral" responsibilities at CRBC. God has been so good, allowing us to work with the ministry of Harvest Baptist Missions for these past twenty years. We are both looking forward to many more years laboring together in the Lord's great harvest field.

# **Family Update**

So much has happened since our last update. In January, our 3rd grandson was born to Tyler and Ashli - Travis Stephen Williams. We were able to make a trip to

OKC at that time and meet the little guy, as well as catch up with the rest Tyler's family. In February, Corey proposed to Torry Young - and she accepted! We are thrilled to add this wonderful young lady to our family next month! The wedding is coming quickly because Corey is starting med school at Ohio State in August (he graduated from OSU in May with a BS in Biology / PreMed) and they wanted to take advantage of an open window before the craziness of med school begins. I will be officiating the wedding in Pennsylvania on July 21st. We are looking forward to a wonderful day as they start their new lives together. Abbey is enjoying summer break as she finished her



Corey & Torry on his graduation from OSU

freshman year at First Baptist. In early June, we were able to spend a wonderful week with Kris' family in the Poconos. All together we had 31 in a attendance at the



Nana & Pa with Anah, Evan, & Travis

All together we had 31 in a attendance at the reunion of her parents, brothers, and all their kids and grand kids. It was truly a blessed time of spending time with the ller family. As you can see, much has happened in the recent months to keep us moving - and we are thankful to our God for all He has been doing in our midst.

As always, thank you for your constant care for our family. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

The Williams Family (Steve, Kris, & Abbey)

