

Hello, once again, from the Elmores! Since our last update, both Pam and I have rolled over another year--had birthdays, that is! Without being too specific, we have exceeded 62 but not yet reached 64! Go figure! (literally!)

Family News: Pam and I finally were reunited on August 27, after being apart for more than a month. We both were surprised by the depth of the fatigue caused by the move from Costa Rica back to USA. The sale of the house was extremely exhausting, and contributed a great deal to our sense of being drained. In the midst of what became our revised daily routine, we continued in the ministries in both Costa Rica and Cuba. It has taken about three weeks since returning home to feel "back to normal." But we have survived! Let me tell you some of the details.

House sale accomplished! What a relief! What a surprise! Our Lord keeps showing Himself faithful in the midst of our despair. As you may remember, I returned to Costa Rica without Pam around July 25 to expedite the showing of the house and continue teaching at ESEPA Seminary. We had been on a roller coaster ride with would-be buyers who recanted at the last minute, or suddenly wanted to change the terms of the sale agreement. When the last "good lead" we had walked away, I was really down in the mouth. Then on a Friday at 4pm, another couple called for a showing...should I do this AGAIN with another client after a frustrating week of what seemed merely curious, but not serious, people?

We did show the house...this time two Russian pianists came to call. Then they called back on Saturday for a second look on Sunday and made us an offer. On Monday the attorneys arranged the paperwork and on Tuesday we closed--cash sale! Now THAT is close to miraculous! This couple came to Costa Rica when the Berlin wall fell and the USSR had its major regime change. World-class pianists and piano teachers now have their two full-size pianos in our former living room!

When we are staring at the "I don't know what more I can do" place, God steps in with a gracious, spirit-lifting answer to our desperate cries for help. I came home the following Saturday after finishing my class at ESEPA Seminary on Thursday! Thanks so much to those who faithfully prayed for the sale of our house.

Let the home field ministry begin! Hard to believe, but it has been FOUR WHOLE YEARS since we first left on our mission for Cuba by way of Costa Rica. Our relocation to Fort Mill, South Carolina, will not only facilitate our outreach into Cuba, but also will give us a platform to reconnect with our USA supporters. What used to be called "furlough" year among missionaries is now more commonly referred to as "home field ministry." This captures much better the essence of what we will be doing. Our location, our home base has changed, but the ministry remains the same. Let me explain...

The teaching ministry in Cuba will continue. In fact, in November I am scheduled to travel to Las Palmas Seminary near Pinar del Rio to teach the book of Romans to about 22 eager pastors and lay-workers. Although I should have been in Cuba last week for the Institute of Excellence, visa difficulties for many travelling from other countries to participate in the conference caused

the whole project to be cancelled. Unfortunately, I received news just two days ago that the envoys from Overseas Council who went to Cuba last week to try to iron out the problems were not successful. So for now the Institute for Excellence in Cuba is on hold. My visa had been approved, however, and it is good until November 11. This allows me to enter in early November for the Seminary class module. Pray for no further complications in an already complex matter. And pray for the scheduling of classes and with the right professors for 2012. We have much to do at both the B.A. level seminaries and with the M.A. program close to finishing with its first cohort of students.

The Elmores are available for church ministries. We will be contacting all our supporters soon about scheduling a time to visit and report to the churches concerning the work of the last four years. Pam is available for women's conferences, special weekend retreats and such ministries as you may want. Floyd will be available for speaking at missions and Bible conferences as well. We are here to serve. From our new home base near Charlotte, we can reach the Caribbean region quickly and easily as well as connect with churches and individuals in the USA.

The Indian Land Public Schools have invited us to assist in after-school "Character Club" teaching! What a surprise to connect with others living in our area and discover the new opportunities God has presented to us. It seems that the Elementary School principal has sensed a need to educate the children in character-building values. Teaching the Bible after school, with children attending on a voluntary basis, is completely acceptable! I have been asked to do a "Walk thru the Old Testament" for kids to give them a history highway on which the great stories of the Bible can be told as illustrations of character values. With the assistance of about 15 retired teachers and other school workers, I will be giving a Walk Thru every Wednesday afternoon after school for 5 Wednesdays through October and to November 2. Other story-tellers, will build off the Walk Thru in their small group time to flesh-out key Bible stories. The Character Club will continue as a weekly event throughout the school year. Pam and I hope to connect with many from the Hispanic community whose children are in school here. We have already made several good contacts with Spanish-speaking workers on construction crews around us, and even in the local Mexican restaurant. We pray that through the children we will be able to reach out to the parents who may need a helping hand. Pray that we will be mediators of the "blessing of Abraham" to the various "families of the earth" that God has brought together to live in our new home environment.

Contact Information: For any who may be interested in having us assist in your church's ministry, you may reach us in these ways.

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