



NICARAGUA JOURNAL

NEWSLETTER OF MISSIONARIES DANIEL, BEATRIZ, MIA & JAMES KLAEHN

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Meeting Nicaraguan Students at General Council (USA)

Daniel and Beatriz spent time with some former Central Bible Institute students while at General Council this year in Columbus, Ohio. Pictured with us above is Central Institute graduate Michael Cruz (right), his wife, Jessica (left), and Juan Victor (center), also a former student at the school. Rarely do we get to attend General Council, but since it was in the Ohio District this year, and since a new World Missions Director was being named, we were encouraged by leadership to go. But as we are getting ever so close to breaking ground on the new Bible Institute facility, it was nice seeing some of the reasons why we are doing what we are doing: the fruit.

Michael and Jessica now pastor a Spanish work in Bismarck, North Dakota, where Juan Victor has joined them. They are all awesome servants. As we await our final approvals for our Bible School Plans, we recall that what began as a promise and a piece of land in 2012, has as its goal the training and forming of new pastors all throughout Nicaragua. Many more Michaels and Juan Victors are out there ready to fulfill God's call on their lives. And although civil unrest and Covid-19 paused our work a

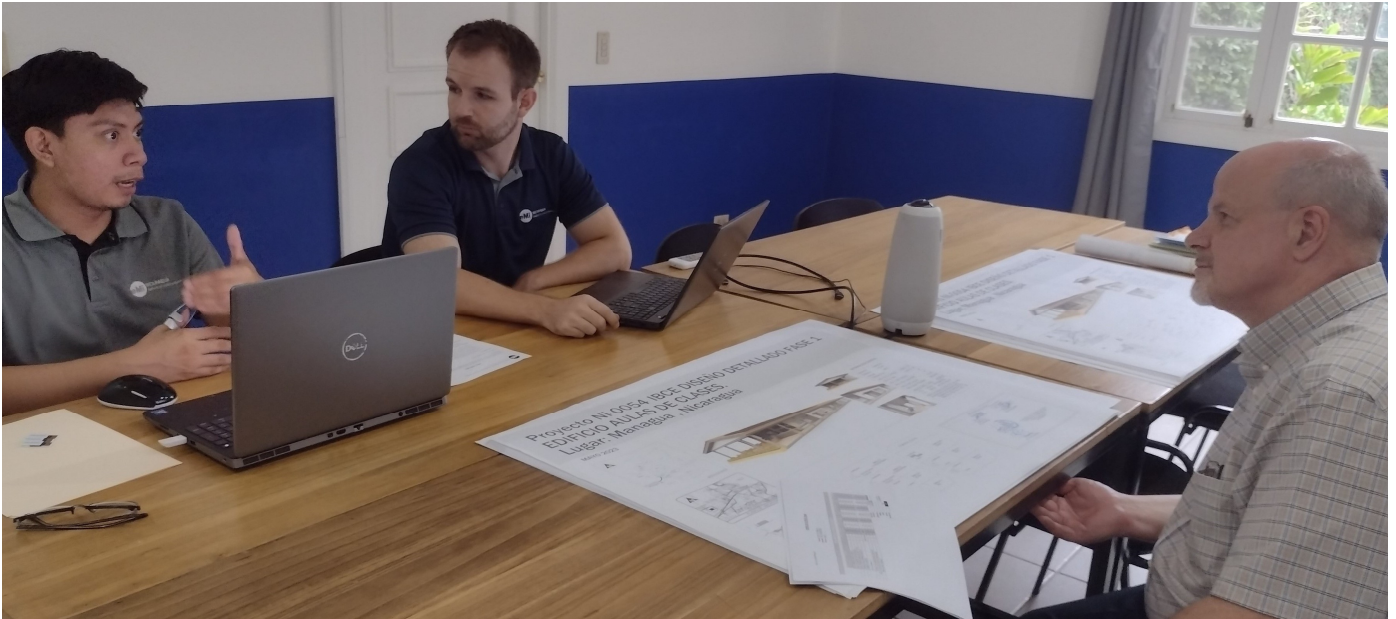
bit (the Project stood idle for five years), upon our return last year we found that we are back on track to starting, and completing, this needed facility.

We know we are not alone in our work in Nicaragua: we know you are there with us. And we are grateful for each of you, our friends and supporters, as you have encouraged, prayed and supported us in our work. Thank you for your encouragement, prayers, and support, and for your faithfulness to this ministry. "Thank you" and may the Lord bless you.

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Plans Submitted for Phase 1 of the New Bible School



On July 5, Daniel received from EMI (Engineering Ministries International) the complete set of Architectural Plans (Structural, Electrical and Water) for Phase 1 of Central Bible Institute. **Below is the artist's rendering** of the Institute as designed, the Classroom Building in the foreground on the left. **Phil Iekel and Jan Martinez of EMI (above)** explain to Daniel the details for the Mayor's "Permit" process in their office. Anticipation is mounting as we prepare to grade the foundation and await the Mayor's final approvals.

A quick shout-out to the EMI for helping guide Daniel through Phase 1 of the Project. If you've never heard of EMI, they are an international ministry of Christian engineers serving the church through the training and discipling of young Christian architects and engineers in world standards of design. They began working with Daniel back in 2017 and have gotten us this far in the vision. We thank the Lord for EMI and are grateful for their humility and design work on behalf of the Central Bible Institute.

From this point on, Builders International (BI), a ministry of the Assemblies of God USA, is taking a larger role in guiding Daniel through the rest of the Project. We anticipate wonderful things as BI has already directed us to a Nicaraguan Project Manager who will carry the "baton" and begin the physical part of the construction. We will have more details about this new relationship for you in the future.



ISUM Comes To Nicaragua



In July, ISUM came to Managua and invited Daniel and Beatriz to teach a class in Missiology. ISUM (Institute for Advanced Ministerial Enrichment), is a traveling school focused on helping active ministers supplement their biblical and theological knowledge. Because many pastors cannot afford full-time classes for years at a time, ISUM offers intensive studies for a month each year to help better prepare themselves. Students of ISUM are pastors, presbyters, laypeople, from urban and rural areas desiring more of God.

Although we have taught Missions annually at our Bible Institute for many years, this class specialized in Cross-Cultural Communication and took a bit more preparation. And, since ISUM is a higher degree, we needed to add more in-depth material which, in the end, seemed to serve our purposes well. It was nice.

What did we teach in this class? We taught about *ethnocentrism*, or the quality that each culture thinks of itself as the basis for judging other cultures (something common to ALL cultures). We also taught about the basic models of *Communication*, for instance, how it works in practice. *Communication* begins with a *Speaker* who *Encodes* a *Message* to *Respondents* who *Decode* the *Message* while working through *Noise* and then offering *Feedback* to the *Speaker* so the *Message* is understood as intended. When missionaries cross cultures to share the Gospel, they speak a message to a different people than themselves who might not view the world as they do and might not understand our worldview. Although there are many things cultures have in common, there are hidden things that often do not translate from one culture to another.

The high point of the class, however, was the study on the *Translatability* of the Gospel and the *Kerygma*. The *Kerygma* is simply the core Gospel message that the church proclaims to win souls for Christ. It is the message that has been proclaimed since New Testament times. *Translatability* means that God, in His sovereignty, made it possible for the Kerygma to move from culture to culture and be understood and effective as it moves. Interesting to this process is that once the Gospel is received by a culture, it takes on aspects, or clothing, of that culture in order to transform it. When the Gospel crossed from a Jewish audience to a Greek one in NT times, it answered questions about God that were unique to the Greek world. The Gospel then, on entering the culture, began transforming it from a pagan one to a holy one. Many early questions about God, His nature, and the relationship within the Trinity, all came from Greek interests.

Today, missionaries communicate the Kerygma to a new host culture every day: Jesus saves and delivers us from sin and unites us to Himself for His glory. The miracle of missions is that God uses finite and fledgling missionaries to carry that message, that Kerygma, to other parts of the world without changing it or diluting or destroying it so that message can retain its power to change and transform lives.

Leadership in Matagalpa At The Bethel Bible Institute



Upon our return to Nicaragua last year, our ministry responsibilities, although revolving around ministerial preparation and education, have changed some. Our priority is the Central Bible Institute's new Building Project. What we have not shared much about, however, is how Daniel is starting to travel throughout Nicaragua with the National Director of AG Bible Institutes, **Carlos Rocha (third from the left)**, to present seminars and practical teachings to pastors and teachers outside the capital. This is a wonderful opportunity and we feel it is the Lord giving Daniel more exposure among those in leadership not in Managua.

On a recent trip, which was more exploratory in nature and not teaching, Daniel took **John Sims of Builders International (fourth from the left)** with him to investigate the physical needs of the Bethel Bible Institute in Matagalpa. The school, located about three hours in the mountains, is supervised by **Executive Presbyter Terencio Blanco (middle in blue)** and his leadership team. Daniel has known these men from our years of service in Nicaragua. What he did not know was the extent of the needs of this school's buildings. Bethel has solid infrastructure but the school was really never finished and also, presently, is in need of a lot of renovation. Since the civil unrest of 2018, Covid-19 and economic downturns here, the school has been left at a standstill without funding. The Lord has put it in Daniel's heart to help with this work.

So, what are we asking? For smaller teams to come help with smaller, mini-projects. For example, the school has buildings (classrooms, dorms, etc.) with cement floors, but without tiling; the buildings have slots for windows with security bars, but no window units; the buildings have proper roofs, but the rooms have no drop ceilings or light fixtures. These are just some of the smaller jobs small teams could help with.

Without take away from our work at the Central School, Daniel feels the needs of the Bethel Institute are worth investing in. In this regard, there is no pressure to perform big acts of heroism for teams if they were to come to help in Matagalpa. There is just an opportunity for helping the school in practical ways.

The following links (you might have to type the address in your browser), take you to videos of Daniel and John in Matagalpa. The first is Daniel's invitation to come help <https://youtu.be/zhEYqda46mg> ; the second, in Spanish, is a greeting from the Nica Regional Leadership Team <https://youtu.be/gYMM-jxLacE> .

Pray about coming to Matagalpa. You and your small team would rub shoulders with your Nica brethren and see firsthand how Nicaraguans live, struggle, yet worship the Lord with His joy. You would be blessed.



James Johannes Daniel

Above: James and Mia visiting a virtual reality exhibit on Missions during General Council in Columbus.

James is 13 years old and interested in so many things. At General Council in August, he and Mia found a World Missions exhibit that took visitors to other lands via a headset and eyewear. They loved it. James has so many different interests, one is computers and gaming but he moves seamlessly from one thing to another. In school he just completed a wood-working class where he made wall boxes, but he also enjoys subjects like history and the Bible, he likes maps and memorizing countries with their flags and capitals. James likes natural things, too, like birds and wildlife, etc. He learns much on the internet and through YouTube and as crazy as the internet can be, he has found ways to use it for good. We pray God helps us guide and guard him in all his activities.

Prayer Request: Pray for our good health, protection, and the kids' future plans in their lives. Pray for forward progress in our Building Project. Pray for the economic needs among the Nicaraguan people. And pray for hope in Nicaragua as almost 1 million people have left the country for greener pastures.

Looking To Travel?

We invite you to come to Nicaragua to help us in our Construction Work. If your church would like to bring a Work/Construction Team, please contact Daniel at: danielklaehn@gmail.com. You can also call him on our U.S. phone line: 1-440-625-1224.

Mia Gabriela

Mia turned 16 years old while in the U.S. and had a party with her extended family in Ohio. Aunt Kathy and Uncle Mark Rymer were gracious in hosting and inviting as many uncles, aunts, and cousins as could come. Grandma and Grandpa were there, too. What a blast seeing all the young ones running wild.

And now that Mia is a high school Junior, she is eyeing college possibilities. Mia enjoys music, art, and psychology, so it was nice to see all the AG university exhibits at General Council in one area. Presently, she's considering Evangel University, Southwestern, Trinity, and North Central. Pray for Mia as she will soon make an important decision for her future.

Below: Mia visiting Evangel University's exhibit at the General Council in August.

