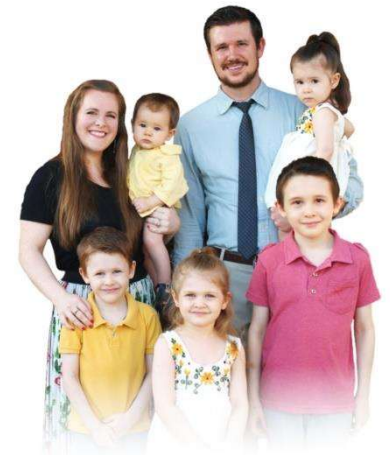




JOSHUA & AMANDA ALLRED MÉRIDA, MEXICO



January/February 2026:

Dear church and friends,

Greetings from Mérida! We are safe and continuing the day-to-day work of the ministry. We have received messages from many of you concerned for our safety. Thank you for reaching out to us! The news has been reporting drug cartel violence erupting across the country after the death of “El Mencho,” one of the most powerful drug lords in the country. There has been an increase in violence in many states, especially directed at the government, military, and police forces. Thankfully, we have had no criminal attacks in our state. The military bases in Mérida have been on high alert and check points entering the state have been built up. Please continue to pray for our government leaders to establish and maintain law and order. Please especially pray for Santiago and Juan Daniel, two of our church members in the military who are temporarily stationed at bases in other states where they could be in greater danger.

Please continue to pray for our construction project. We have completed the foundation and most of the flooring for the new church building. Most of the steel structure is in place for the auditorium and we are about to begin erecting block walls for the classrooms. The Lord has provided the funds we need as we go to keep the work moving forward up to this point. The next stages will involve greater expenditures. Please continue to pray for the Lord’s provision. Also, pray for some resistance we have been encountering. A small group of Catholics showed up at the urban development office to protest our project. This has caused the government to be less cooperative and has made it more difficult for us to get electricity run to our location and paperwork approved as we advance. We feel like Nehemiah, having to fight for every inch of ground as we build! We know our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, powers, and spiritual wickedness in high places. We are confident that the Lord will see this work through. We have been amazed to see His hand at work all along. But, we’re in a spiritual battle and covet your prayers as we move forward.

In the meantime, we are in the middle of our missions emphasis month at South Mérida Baptist Church. We will be working with pastor José Yam and the San José Tzal Baptist Church to do an outreach event in a Mayan village on March 28th and hope to see our church’s faith promise giving and impact on global missions increase this year. We will be making our faith promise commitments at the end of March.

Juan Daniel is a soldier stationed at a military base close to our church. His wife, Olivia, and three children, Ángel, Miguel, and Daisy, attended our VBS last summer. Olivia was already saved. Ángel and Miguel got saved and invited their dad to come to church with them. He came, got saved, and went to the men’s retreat with us in November! Daisy is still very young, but we are praying for her salvation at an early age as well. In February, Juan Daniel, Olivia, Ángel, & Miguel all got baptized together. The whole family is attending faithfully and taking discipleship classes. Juan Daniel was sent to a military base in another state for a few weeks, but has been continuing his discipleship classes over the phone! Ángel & Miguel are currently racing their parents to memorize the books of the Bible. This Sunday, the boys were in the lead!

Thank you for the role you play in our ministry! We greatly appreciate your prayers and support. We pray for the Lord’s blessings upon you as we work together for His Kingdom!

Yours in Christ,
Joshua, Amanda, & the kids