



# JOSHUA & AMANDA ALLRED MÉRIDA, MEXICO



March/April 2026:

Dear church and friends,

Thank you for your constant prayers on our behalf. This month, we are excited to report that the Lord has been answering your prayers and then some!

After the brief eruption of drug-related violence at the beginning of the year, things have died down. The Lord kept us all safe. Santiago and Juan Daniel both returned home. Thank you for your prayers!

Our missions emphasis month went well at South Mérida Baptist Church. We worked with Pastor José Yam and the San José Tzal Baptist Church to do an outreach event in the Mayan village of Dzununcán. Our church people were very encouraged by the event. We hoped to see an increase in our faith promise giving this year. After tallying up the church's commitments, we rejoiced to see that our faith promise more than doubled! Thank you for your prayers!

The construction project for the North Mérida Baptist Church continues to move forward. The Lord has continued to provide step-by-step. The urban development office was holding up some paperwork we needed approved without giving us a clear reason. We found out that there was one person in the office causing the problem due to religious discrimination. We were able to speak with his director about the situation. He was reprimanded and our paperwork was approved. Thank you for your prayers! Please continue to pray for the new building. We have started erecting the block walls for the classrooms. We have made much progress, but still have a long way to go. We are still working to fully fund the project.

In April, we celebrated Kids' Day with a special event at South Mérida Baptist Church. Dana, Gabriela, and Antoine are young teenagers who live around the corner from our church. They came to our Kids' Day celebration and VBS last year and a few special events since then. We have invited them to our weekly services on several occasions, but they have only come for events. They came for Kids' Day this year and have been attending on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights since then! Please pray for their continued attendance and spiritual growth.

We celebrated Mothers' Day on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Socorro, one of our faithful church ladies, brought her adult son, Marvin, to church with her. He prayed to receive Christ and told us that he had recently joined a soccer team in an effort to make connections with other men and build friendships. We invited him to our next men's meeting this week. Please pray for him to come and get plugged in to the church!

This week, we wrap up another semester in the seminary. Our children finished homeschooling last week. Over the summer, we will be working hard to prepare for the next school year. Please pray for us as we make plans. Pray especially for Amanda as she homeschools the kids. They will be moving up to 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grades. It's hard to believe that we will already be parenting a high schooler! It is just dawning on us that we only have four years left with Gabriel before he graduates. Pray for the Lord's wisdom and guidance as we help him prepare for adulthood! Michael graduated from elementary school and will be moving up to the youth group next week. He'll be attending youth camp this summer. Please pray for this new stage in his life as well.

Thank you for your prayers and support! We couldn't do what we do without you! May the Lord richly bless you!

Yours in Christ,  
Joshua, Amanda, & the kids