



December 2020



# Lawrence and Barbara Trumbower

PO Box 1416 • Juana Diaz, PR 00795 • (787) 309-1386

lawrencetrumbower@gmail.com (Lawrence)

ladyforsythia@gmail.com (Barbara/family)

Dear Friends ~

One of the most striking pieces of information you received from us in the memorable past carried the theme of CHANGE ~ Well, now we are carrying that a little further, as that change was again altered by the Covid-19 pandemic which came roaring down the tracks. In mission work we think in terms of going to other countries, but the whole world has been drastically affected; major changes are being experienced everywhere.

It has been my deepest desire to teach the Word of God for most of my Christian life. Even while spending all my ministry years making sure the biblical message reached masses via radio, my own part was behind the scenes making it possible, but not actually being the teacher.

After I was no longer in radio the Lord excited me with the possibility of teaching at Centro Bíblico de la Gracia in Bolivia, where Frosty & Cathy Hansen and Talo & Patty Vergara are ministering. Barbara and I even made an exploratory trip there to see firsthand the teaching and living situations. It seemed to me the perfect ministry fit for us. Then the whole world changed. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in which Bolivia was one of the most affected countries and is essentially closed, our possibility of moving there also came to an end.

As an alternative, GMI suggested I could do short-term seminars at several of our other fields. This could also include virtual classes as the Covid-19 pandemic has affected each field in different ways, to different degrees. Anyway, this is the avenue we will pursue. I will do short and varied teaching sessions instead of a structured semester.

The mission has asked that we transition out of Puerto Rico and relocate in the States. So, before us in the next months are: the closure of our projects on the two mission properties in Puerto



Rico, sorting and packing... getting ready for a move. Not having any idea where we might go in the States presents many challenges. We do have two criteria: it must be a warm place because after decades of living 18 degrees north of the equator, we have been "tropicalized," and secondly, the cost of living must be "mature people" friendly. Being near an international airport also seems logical. Finding a place to live (temporarily at first, while researching a permanent: House? Condo? Townhouse?), acquiring a motor vehicle, ocean shipping, temporary box storage, etc., are the hurdles we're facing in our coming adventure.

We never cease to be grateful and amazed at the levels of support we receive from you; many praying, many giving financially, and in other ways to meet our needs. On that note, if you have any "valuable lessons learned" on finding a dwelling place or vehicle that would be of help to this "young" couple just re-starting out, feel free to drop a line - lawrencetrumbower@gmail.com. For those who might be thinking of sending us a Christmas or other personal gift through GMI, please remember it must be marked "personal gift" or it diverts into the Trumbower ministry account. Very positive images come to our minds each time we see individual or collective names forged by shared moments of face-to-face times with each other in the past, enhanced by the prayers operating between us. Now we look forward to this new and differently productive phase of our lives and service to the one and only God and Savior ~ yours and ours.

As you pray for us, please include:

1. A smooth transition of our responsibilities in Puerto Rico;
2. Sufficient time and means to communicate all of our goodbyes to our many friends;
3. The myriad of details that we must have in place before we leave:
  - ~ finding a shipping company,
  - ~ ground transportation,
  - ~ temporary storage space, preferably near where we eventually "land,"
  - ~ whatever else from your own moving experiences which could be applied to us.

We trust your Thanksgiving was truly filled with the response of the season, and that your CHRIST-mas will be to the fullness of His significance!

*Lawrence and Barbara Trumbower*