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Dear Friends,

Luke 2:4-8, tells about Jesus' birth and how Mary (v. 7): "...wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn" (NKJV). It's a Christmas custom in Spain to set up a Nativity-manger scene. It's called a "**Belén**", which is Spanish for Bethlehem.

Some are very elaborate. Many towns also do one inside the city hall or they do a living Nativity. All of this shows how **Jesus Christ's birth "in a manger"** is still deeply rooted in Western culture. It gives us a chance to talk openly about Him to people around us. May His birth, and being "*laid...in a manger*", give you the chance to talk to someone about Jesus this Christmas season!

**Puebla del Río Church.** The church Annual Business meeting was on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. The church voted for a new elder, a deacon and a deaconess. We approved the 2026 budget with a stipend to help pay a pastoral candidate, once we find the right man. We have a few leads which we've contacted. Please pray for God to help the church and the right man **to find each other!! There are very few pastoral candidates available, and there are more churches searching for a pastor than men called to be in the pastorate.** The men that the church has contacted might be available in 2026, but it's complicated because they are also involved in other ministries. **Thank you for praying for the Puebla del Río Evangelical Church to find the right man to come as a pastoral candidate!**

### Family news.



We all had a special family time with **Sam, Elisabeth** and the kids at **Julen and Nora's combined birthdays on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>** (hers is Nov. 27 and his is Dec. 6) in Granada. **Jonathan, Irene, Sara and Sylvia** also came from Jaén. We'll see all of them again for New Year's Eve and Epiphany, here in Puebla del Río, but they'll spend Christmas at their own homes.

My prostate surgery was Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, and I'm thankful to God that everything went well. I'm now walking 4km (2.5 mi.) 5 or 6 days a week, and feel back to normal.



**Salud** has had some difficult health issues since the summer. Her checkup in Sept. showed that she has an early type II diabetes. So she has to watch her diet, keep walking the 5-6km (3.5 mi.) a day that she has been doing for the past several years, and take a diabetes medicine (half a pill after each meal 3 times a day). In Oct. after my surgery, her RLS really kicked in and for about 3 weeks she had almost non-stop crises of RLS at night, during the late afternoon, in her legs and arms. Thankfully, after the 1<sup>st</sup> week of Nov., her RLS seemed to get back under control, just when she had to go work the Ladies Retreat. Praise the Lord!! **Thank you for praying for us, our health, personal needs and family situations! We're blessed by God from your prayers and encouragement for us!**



### Other ministry.

My ministry load at the church, teaching the seminary Master's history class, and helping with the expository preaching workshops has been the same as prior to my surgery. I did miss the 1<sup>st</sup> Andalucía workshop Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> due to my recovery. But I did do the 2-day workshop in Mallorca, on Nov. 14-15<sup>th</sup>, with 30 leaders from Ibiza & Mallorca. Sunday Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, I preached in the Reformed Baptist church which organized the workshop. On Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>, I taught 2 sessions at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Andalucía workshop in Antequera, Málaga; there were 18 of us, with church leaders from 4 different provinces in Andalucía (see the photo).



**Salud** worked at the annual Ladies Retreat, which had some 200 women. The teaching and other activities went very well, some women saying it was the best ever. But there were many problems with the hotel that they have been using for over 10 years, so it became a problematic time for the Ladies Committee with the hotel management. Salud and the rest of the committee returned pretty burned out.

**We thank all of you who pray for us and support us financially.** May God give you a **Merry Christmas and a safe & blessed New Year 2026!!** **May your message be Jesus**

**Christ's birth "in a manger" this Christmas season.**

In Jesus' love and service, **Frank and Salud**



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