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FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER

Introducing the Northern Triad Area

After the release of our June newsletter, titled "Unfinished Business in Mexico City," several people asked if our role in missions was changing. At the time, we reassured them that we were only leaving the field to start itineration. Little did we know how accurate their suspicions were—our role is indeed changing, dramatically.

On Friday, June 19th, our Regional Director, David Ellis, pulled us into the storage closet of the Latin America Caribbean (LAC) Satellite Office (for lack of a better meeting room) to ask us if we would be willing to serve as directors of a newly formed area that would join Mexico with Cuba and the Dominican Republic. Of course, the question caught us completely off guard. At the time, we were preparing to teach the Bible to the nearly 200 global workers (GWs) who had gathered in Springfield, MO for Pre-Field Training. We certainly hadn't contemplated a regional restructure of this nature!

However, as the reasons for the change were explained, our reaction

shifted from speechlessness to agreement. Throughout his tenure, David Ellis aimed to restructure the LAC to eliminate one-country areas like Mexico in the interest of fostering cross-country collaboration and fellowship among GWs. However, the right configuration eluded him until this summer when Caribbean Area Directors, David and Kristen Speer, proposed merging Cuba and the Dominican Republic with Mexico. This would enable them to focus on opportunities in the 29 non-Spanish-speaking nations of their area without neglecting the important work in those Spanish-speaking islands. With our yes, the Northern Triad Area was conceived.

We say conceived because we're still in the birthing process. While we've spent 18 years in Mexico, we're still students of the people and their culture. Now, extending our leadership to these additional countries, virtually unknown to us, we feel a

tremendous responsibility to learn and grow for the sake of the GWs we'll be leading and the national churches with whom we'll be collaborating. There are still many meetings to attend, teams to integrate, and relationships to form. The new structure will be formalized on October 1st, but the work will have only just begun.

Although we feel the burden of this new role, we're not overwhelmed because we sense God's direction and the backing of colleagues and friends like you. We're confident that as our responsibility increases your prayers and support will rise to meet our needs in this critical season.



Dave joined LAC Regional Director, David Ellis (right), to discuss the Northern Triad Area with Mexican Superintendent, Enrique Gonzalez, during a special trip to Mexico last month.

Continuing

education: As we prep for another in-person pre-field training



event in October, we're also creating a new online Bible in Ministry module. This will be the entry point for a three-year development plan for all new GWs.



Launched into ministry: Moving to Santa Cruz, CA this summer, Luke is now a youth pastor at Christian Life Center and Rebekah teaches ESL with the International Rescue Committee.

We need your help!

Extending our leadership means extending our resources. Use the link or QR code to help us with a special gift or increased monthly support <http://s1.ag.org/137r!>

