



April - July was a fast moving time for us. This photo is from a quick get away to see our daughter in Utah. Read on for an overview of the past few months.

BARNABAS INTERNATIONAL

SSTAR

Every couple of years, after BI takes on new workers, they host a School of Shepherd Training and Renewal (SSTAR). In late April, we gathered in Sevierville, TN with other new staff to focus on a theology of shepherding and to spend time developing relationships. It was a wonderful experience where deep discussions led to deep relationships.

STAFF

In July, we were blessed to escape the Texas heat for our annual staff meeting. Our leadership called us to shepherd missionaries and live in the light of eternity.

Recently a close friend said, "I have never heard you say anything negative about Barnabas." I believe he is spot-on; we love BI and have been richly blessed in our new ministry.

"SOUTHERN CONE" TRIP

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA



(Above: small group assignment during a workshop in the church.)

This was our first trip to Buenos Aires where we worked with a young team that has assembled around Jonathan Hanegan, a former Venezuelan missionary. The mission is very relational in nature and has connected with a high number of young people and Venezuelan refugees. We felt right at home with the church since we knew many of the refugees, their families or their churches. Most of our time was spent in serving the six person team which is facing numerous decisions in the near future that will have major implications for the long-term future of the work.

CONCEPCION, CHILE



(Above: Saturday morning workshop for church leaders.)

The work of the team in Concepcion, Chile has been a joy to watch. They are now at a key moment in their development as they nurture, resource and publicly designate leaders. We spent a great deal of time with the team brainstorming what the transition and its timeline could look like. We also were blessed to spend time with the church giving a workshop, preaching and in smaller groups. Of course, my Sunday preaching was abbreviated in order for the church to watch the finals of the World Cup together!



LEADERSHIP RETREAT (not Southern Cone . . . but south of Abilene)

In May, I (Gary) spent three days with Hispanic ministers brought together by Great Cities Missions. The theme was leadership but rather than focus on methods and strategies, we dedicated time to reviewing the heart of Jesus' leadership and Paul's prayers.

FAMILY NEWS AND UPCOMING PRAYER NEEDS



In May, we celebrated a "two for one" special day as Lucas and Abbey both graduated with honors from ACU. Both will continue at ACU. Lucas will pursue a Masters in Theology while Abbey pursues her Masters in Social Work. We are so proud of this young couple.

Please keep us in your prayers; activities for the next two months include . . .

- > Our survey trip to Colorado to determine where to relocate in 2019.
- > Both of us leading weekend retreats to prepare teams for conducting larger retreats.
- > Gary speaking at a weekend missions seminar in Chattanooga, TN.
- > Gary conducting a retreat in Guatemala.

If you would like to contribute to our work / travel fund, you may do so at <https://www.barnabas.org/give> . All funds are used for the reimbursement of ministry costs.