



GOD'S AMAZING JOURNEY

Turner News | June 2021

Dear friends and family,

After three years we are finally here!

It is hard to believe it is over three years since we began the process of moving to Guatemala to serve as full-time missionaries with HIM. While many times we wanted the timeline to move faster, God knew best the timing and what we needed. Even during the past couple of months, we could see His hands guiding and directing us as we made our final preparations. Our departure was bittersweet as we said our goodbyes to family and friends. While we were excited for the day to finally be here, it was very hard to say our final farewells. Expressing all the emotions we both experienced leading up to and the day of our departure is hard.

We arrived in Guatemala City on April 21, and after a smooth transition through customs we were greeted by the Kuhns family. During the next nine days we were blessed to have Eric, Hannah, and the boys help us get situated in San Pedro La Laguna. Words cannot express our gratitude for their assistance and willingness to help us as we began the next chapter in our lives.

Oh dear...we are on our own!

The first nine days seemed like a whirlwind as we worked to find a place to live, setup house, and get a basic lay of the land for water, food, and other services we might need. After we were able to accomplish all of this in short order, the Kuhn's family departed to visit some of the pastors here in Guatemala.

Now another set of emotions set in. It is safe to say there were a few times when we looked at each other with blank stares...oh boy, now what?! All the questions started to arise: Now who were we to call for drinking water? Where was that number for propane for the stove? Kandis, do you remember...?

While it would have been easy to stay in our new home for the next couple days until we started language school, we thought it would be best to get out of the house and start the acclimation process. We ventured out for walks, groceries, and other needs when they arose. Though we were aware of the importance of learning the language, these first few weeks have proven time and time again the importance of getting a good handle on the language.

An area neither of us had thought much about was the assault on our five primary senses! Boy, did we underestimate that and the amount of mental energy it would take just to get through a day. The adjustments to no hot water, new smells, tastes, power outages, and advertising with drive-by loudspeakers and horns were all new to us. While we were trained on the topic of "culture shock," it has become real. We thank the Lord for His help in adjusting to a new culture and way of life.



Street scene in our town



We live close to this lake



Kandis learning new ways to cook

New beginnings and new friends!

One of the many blessings the Lord has provided was to bring several new people to us during the past month. Our landlord Rudy has been a great resource for all things Guatemala as well as an encouragement to us as we learn Spanish. The Lord has also brought a wonderful family into our lives from the first few days of our arrival. Oscar and Ester have been a wonderful blessing to us and have told us that they have “adopted” us as part of their family while we are here in San Pedro. During an evening visit with them, Ester cooked a delicious traditional Guatemalan meal called *patín*, and their daughter Andrea cooked a special carrot cake for dessert. Kandis and I are very thankful for all the new friends and their willingness to welcome us to San Pedro.



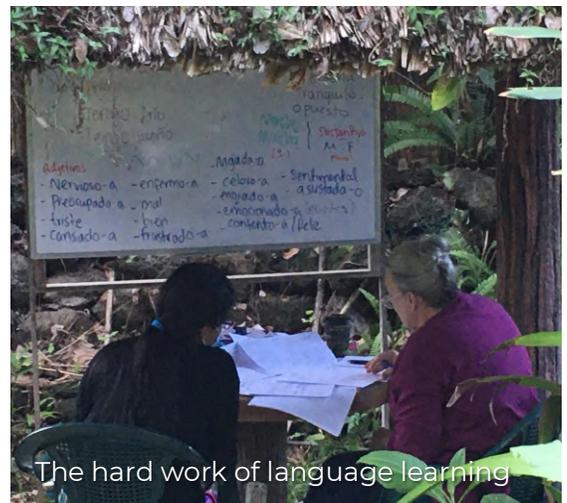
Delicious carrot cake



A meal with our new friends Oscar, Ester, and Andrea

Back to school? Are you kidding me?

While we were eager to begin our language studies, we both soon realized we started too soon without taking some time to adjust to our new surroundings and life in Guatemala. After our initial visit with the director of the school, we began our lessons with individual instructors. It became clear in a couple of weeks that this was not working for us—we were not able to review or study together in the evenings due to different topics. After a brief discussion with the director, we began studying together with the same instructor. While there are still several challenges as we strive to learn the language, being able to study and work on the same area has been a welcome change.



The hard work of language learning

Until Next Time...

We want to thank each of you for your prayers, encouragement, and support. It is a comfort to know we have others lifting us to His throne of grace and joining with us as we continue to walk the journey He has prepared for us. Serving our Savior Jesus Christ is truly an honor.

We would appreciate your continued prayers for our health, learning the language, and His help as we adapt and adjust to a new culture. Most of all, it is our prayer that He will use us for His Kingdom.

Be encouraged!

On *His* Amazing Journey,

Rick & Kandis

SUPPORT ADDRESS

Hope International Missions
PO Box 1065
Hobe Sound, FL 33475

WEB PAGE

feaministries.org/missions/turner

EMAIL

turner@feaministries.org

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/RickKandisTurner

Mark Support for
The Turners in memo



Hope
International
Missions
A DIVISION OF FEA MINISTRIES, INC.

FEAMINISTRIES.ORG