



PEACE AND GRACE FROM THE KRIEG FAMILY

Ministry Overview: Urban Mosaic is a Mexico-City-based development organization, whose mission is to build a multi-faceted and scalable change model, equipping urban communities to work towards their own lasting transformation. As 2017 comes to a close we pause to reflect on God's goodness during these past months. In many ways it has been a sobering and yet courageous year for Mexico. This Fall Mexico experienced 2 large earthquakes in which hundreds of people lost their lives and the destruction of thousands of homes, schools and public buildings shook the country. Unfortunately, this has also been the most violent year within Mexico's recent history, with over 23,000 deaths on record; including the continued suppression of free speech and the killings of outspoken journalists.

Despite this grim reality, this is what Christmas is about; **hope**. Hope that even within these circumstances, life will triumph over death. We are continuously encouraged to see how leaders arise and communities come together to face these challenges. We have been blessed to be a part of a network of organizations working to provide earthquake relief and whose work will continue in 2018 in the rebuilding of homes. Pastors and churches in the Coalition for Peace and Justice continue to deepen their work in their communities and speak out against injustice while new groups have been birthed in the state of Morelos and in Colombia. For the first time, Urban Mosaic has begun work outside of Mexico City! This has been an exciting development and one in which we look forward to seeing flourish in the New Year.

2017 Personal Highlights:

Jean-Luc continues as the executive director of Urban Mosaic. Some major highlights from this year have been:

- The expansion of the work into Colombia in September
- Being accepted into a PhD program at the University of South Africa. Yahoo!

Shabrae continued in her role as Director of Learning and Collaboration with Servant Partners, providing training and coaching to staff around the world. She also continues as a trainer and coach with First Aid Arts, which uses art-based interventions to help survivors of trauma. Highlights include:

- Facilitating and designing a Training summit for Servant Partners leaders in May
- Expressive arts trauma training in Malta, with a focus on refugees and war victims
- Attending grad school at The European Graduate School to study the expressive arts and conflict transformation.

Joaquim is now in 2nd grade! He just turned 7 in November and still loves playing with his cars, trains and building cities. He has been learning to read in both English and Spanish and is still very, very, very full of energy! He continues to grow and works hard to understand his different worlds and how to navigate them.



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In this next year we foresee our work continuing to move beyond the city of Mexico in a variety of ways. Jean-Luc will continue to focus on strengthening the organization in Mexico and provide the necessary structure for future global work. And Shabrae will focus on writing her thesis in order to finish grad school and start to expand her vision and passion into new networks as she has received additional invitations for partnership.

We are looking forward to a small break during the holiday season. Thank you, thank you, thank you; for your love, prayers and faithful support! We appreciate all of your notes of encouragement, your monthly gifts, and your extra gifts during the earthquake. We are blessed. And so we also pray the Lord's blessing over each of you: In this season may you lean into the hope that is before us, may you embrace the beauty and complexity of the other and may you find abundance in life and joy.

Love,
Shabrae, Jean-Luc & Joaquim

