

RIPE *for Harvest*

WORLD OUTREACH

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July, 2019

Dear Friends,

Since our last note, **we have returned home to Arizona** from our time with family and friends in Ecuador. We continued to squeeze out a few more days of vacation here in the desert before Toby returned to the office. Rosa and Mauro, (Tannia's cousins who reside in Ecuador) made the trip back with us to experience a few days of the Arizona summer. Together we enjoyed time at *Old Tucson Studios*, a "must visit" if you are ever in the area. Pictured above is our triumphant daughter - who successfully completed a zip line ride that stretches across one end of the park! Pictured below is our train ride around the studio in which literally hundreds of western movies have been made throughout the years. As you can see by the picture, we pretty much had the park to ourselves due to the heat. Not too many tourists



choose July to visit the desert! Yet, we had a wonderful time and actually the weather was quite pleasant.

As the saying goes, "*all good things must end*", and so too with summer vacations. The relatives returned to Ecuador and Toby returned to the office; making preparations for the return of teachers and students in the coming weeks. Our school is facing enrollment challenges, with the second year in a row of enrollment decline. Many factors are



playing into this, primarily the impact of the growing number of publically funded charter schools in our area. Thus, the difficult work of cutting budgets and laying off employees has been Toby's greatest challenge; including laying off Tannia. Due to the necessary budget cuts, Tannia will not be returning to the DCS Preschool classroom this year. Although we are disappointed, we are confident in God's timing and provision in all things. **Please pray for Desert Christian**

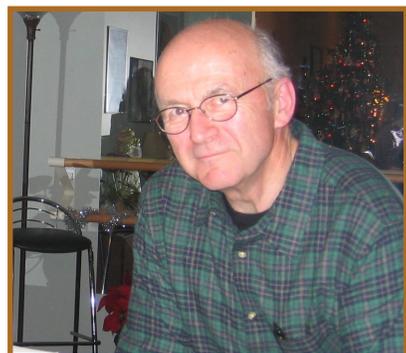
Schools. There are a couple more weeks before the school year kicks off, and we can still see

an increase in enrollment. However, in the mean-time, please pray for wisdom as reductions and adjustments are made to course offerings, educational services, athletics and performing arts. It is hard work as each reduction impacts school employees and the families we serve.



This past weekend we traveled up to Phoenix to spend time with Toby's cousins, Dan and Becky Bender, as well as with all our dear friends at *Beacon Bible Church* who have faithfully supported our ministry for years. As you can see by the picture, **Emma and "Uncle Danny" are the best of friends** and she loves our trips to Phoenix!

This weekend, Toby is in Minnesota to attend a memorial service for his Uncle Britt Downs (pictured right), who passed away earlier this year. Britt was a **major influence in Toby's life** and a spiritual mentor. Prayers for the entire family are appreciated.



Finally, and as always, **thank you so much for your continued support!**

Yours for Christ, - Toby, Tannia, and Emma too!



Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ designated for
the ministry of *Toby & Tannia Travis #20245*.

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