

DE LANGE NEWSLETTER

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WHAT KEEPS ME AWAKE

Recently I saw a video that asked, "What keeps you awake at night?" I considered my answer and came up, mainly, with two things. Not surprisingly, these have also been preeminent in my prayers lately. First, I have been convinced for many months that God is leading us to step away from pastoral leadership at Lakeside Presbyterian Church. The two-hour round-trip drive and our primary commitment to our other church in the city severely limit our ability to serve this congregation. So my prayer is for God to provide a pastor and/or a ministry team that can more devotedly pursue this church's mission and serve its pastoral needs. To that end, Pastor Kenton Wood, my supervisor, has made this need known to the churches in the

United States that support him. A "Church Position Available" advertisement may also soon appear in the church magazine, *The Banner*. Finally, we are exploring if God may have provided part or all of the answer through a theologically trained man who has been attending Lakeside Church since November, with whom we are currently in discussion. I am excited about the future of Lakeside. Though I foresee less involvement on the part of Angie and me, I trust and pray that God will continue to bless and use this congregation for great good in his Kingdom.

The second thing that keeps me awake at night is a meeting location for our other church, English Fellowship of Guadalajara. We have been renting a building for only 4

hours every Sunday night, but we would like to rent a space for the whole week so that we can do ministry on a more constant basis. We would also like our new space to be closer to the medical school, from which many of our members come. Finally, we also want our new space to include classrooms, a nursery, better bathrooms, and in many other ways be more functional and more aesthetically pleasing. After recognizing my two answers to the question, "What keeps you awake at night," I consider myself very blessed. Passion and vision for this mission, and not worry nor fear, are what stir my thoughts in the moments before I fall asleep, as well as when I awake and lay these requests before our Lord in prayer. -Ray

PRAISES:

- *A possible candidate to replace Ray as pastor at Lakeside*
- *An opportunity for Ray to lead Bible studies for medical students on Tuesday nights*
- *A healthy pregnancy so far*

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- *A new pastor and music director for Lakeside*
- *A new location for English Fellowship*
- *Open doors and a sensitive spirit for Angie as she seeks to share Christ with her students*

TEACHING JESUS

If you have ever spent time around Mexicans, you probably know that they like to give their sons Messianic names: Emmanuel, Savior, Jesus. For the first time last bimester, I had a student named Jesus, and he was exasperating. He took more of my time than his 16 fellow

classmates combined. Because of his low scores, he would ask for tutoring, while at the same time insisting that he knew the material. Every time I talked about him or scheduled an appointment with him, I thought about the irony of his name. It was a good reminder of how I needed to treat him,

no matter what flaws he had.

I am daily challenged in the classroom on how, as Micah 6:8 says, to do justly and love mercy, not only with academically challenged students but also in a culture where friendliness is valued over truth and rules are expected

to be bent or broken with enough conversation and sweet talk. Please pray that I can both teach English to my students and be Christ's ambassador to them. The latter is the task for which I am most responsible.

-Angie