Following the Fridenstines March 2017

Well, 2017 is almost one-forth over, but God has once again been doing amazing things in Cojutepeque, El Salvador. Last Wednesday night, Osvaldo Díaz got baptized. He was saved last August, but came from a VERY Catholic background. It took some time and determination to follow the Lord Jesus in Scriptural baptism. This family is an example of God using trials to bring one to Himself. Three years ago, his wife's son passed away as a 10 year-old boy in our Christian school. That is when she started coming to the church after feeling Christ's love through our church family during that trial. After losing his job about a year ago, the only person he could think of talking to was me and my assistant, Walter. We counseled him through the tough time, and through that he received Christ and has now followed Him in baptism. He is 100% involved in the church and school now!!

On Sunday night, we also saw a teenage girl baptized who Esther **led to the Lord** in January. There is nothing like investing in these lives and seeing God make the changes.

On February 12 was our annual **Friend Day** here at the church. We encouraged everyone to bring a visitor and we served a delicious breakfast. We had over 28 firsttime adult visitors with 248 in attendance. Several children were saved as well as a lady named Zoila who has been coming for several months.

This past weekend we hosted a **Youth Conference** in our church and invited missionary Sam Hodges to come speak for it. We had a great attendance with several other churches coming, but we were thrilled with over 50 young people from our ministry (church and school) that heard the Word of God with receptive hearts, one of which committing to serve God full-time with his life.





Our **school** ministry is having a great year. Our staff is functioning as a team and we have the largest enrollment with 202 students since our arrival almost six years ago.

We have had two great week-long **seminary** classes already this year - one with my twin brother, Andrew Fridenstine, and the other with fellow El Salvadorian missionary, Kyle Charters. We are looking forward to our second graduating class this coming May with five four-year graduates.

The Lord has laid something heavily on our hearts over the last couple years and months. We have Christian education on our property from K-4 to ninth grade and then a Bible college education. We lack three of the most precious years of a young persons life - Senior High. We had one of our young ladies come to church crying her first week of Sr. high back in January. She said that her teacher publicly told the class (using her recent salvation as the example) that there is NO GOD and that Melissa has NO hope of eternity based on the Bible. That was the event that confirmed in our hearts that now is the time. We are working to submit the paperwork and make the needed changes to the property by June in order to open next January 2018. **Please**

pray with us for the whole process and for the \$15,000 - 20,000 needed for the upgrades by June.

Our family is doing great. We had a nice getaway to a missions conference in Honduras in February. Micah and Joel both have taken great falls in these recent weeks. Micah needed more than 30 reconstructive stitches in his lip, but it has healed excellently. Our boys are truly boys!

Thank you for your prayers, support, and love shown toward us. Please keep them coming!!



