

# McMillan Messenger

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“Good morning, I just got the approval on your wife’s visa application. I need her to come to the Consulate with her passport so I can go ahead and issue the visa. Let me know.” That was the email message waiting for us from the Spanish Consulate in D.C. when we arrived home late at night on February 10<sup>th</sup>! Six days later she was on her way to the U.S. and arrived back this past Thursday to stay. Sharon now joins Peter in the game of paper work, appointments, and waiting to secure our national identity cards (NIE). These are crucial for any legal transactions. Peter is currently waiting on an appointment to have his finger prints documented. Once that is completed he should have his NIE in 45 days.



**We reunited with the Albrechts, our former coworkers, and the Miramares, now all residing in Spain.**

We are so glad we have had these past 10 weeks in Spain for several reasons. First of all, we have had time to build relationships with our church planting team as well as with the other 8 families and individuals who form the core group of our church plant. Secondly, we are now settled in our apartment and getting familiar with our community; we can find our way to several commercial centers, grocery stores, the airport, church, and downtown Madrid. Peter can find his way to several places now outside of our community without using the GPS! We are getting familiar with the metro system, and even rode the city train.

We have investigated volunteer opportunities in several areas, and we will soon be getting involved personally with the people in our surrounding community. We are working on the names of people in the stores and businesses that we frequent. The community association has their next meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March. There is also a community choir and opportunities to assist the elderly people. It is still pretty cold so there are not many out and about. We have looked at a number of locales that we could rent as a site to teach English and to facilitate church activities. So far we have not found one in our price range. Pray with us that at the right time we will find a place at a price we can afford.

Meanwhile our furniture on order has finally arrived! We found that if we were willing to wait, i.e. sleep on a mattress on the floor, and eat on a borrowed table, and continue to use our packing boxes as furniture, we could order basic pine wood furniture from the factory significantly cheaper than buying it ready made from the store.

Also, our daughter, Heather, arrived Sunday night after finishing up her one year contract teaching ESL in Korea. She plans to stay with us for a month or so while she figures out her next steps.



This past Saturday, we had our first couples' dinner with 18 in attendance including the couple invited to give a short presentation of the Five Love Languages. Those who came had a great time. It was a positive and encouraging evening for all who attended. Pictured are Bea, Viviana, and Rosa.

We continue to work on our team building activities. We are grateful to our supervisor Jay Sensenig and his wife Carol for hosting us this past Saturday. Karen Ginter with World Team, assisted us with the Myers Briggs Type Indicator test results.



This Saturday morning, an eager group of 5 students is arriving from our daughter Melissa's church, Aletheia, in Harrisonburg, Virginia. They will be working with our team to help establish ties here in our target area as well as helping with a cultural center in downtown Madrid. Another focus will be college students at the Universidad Autónoma just 20 minutes away. The InterVarsity group here focuses on working in conjunction with local churches. We want to serve them by allowing the team to informally engage students in conversation and invite them to a weekend long English camp to be held while they are here. Please pray for our sovereign Lord to open doors that no man can shut and that we would all be bold to testify of the Gospel.

*Peter & Sharon McMillan*