

FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU

It is a little embarrassing to admit how difficult it was to leave my job as the District Librarian at Lompoc Unified. It wasn't that I didn't want to go to the mission field, but more that I wondered how I would find purpose in my days. We learn in Jeremiah 29:11 that our Lord knows what He is about when he tells us, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

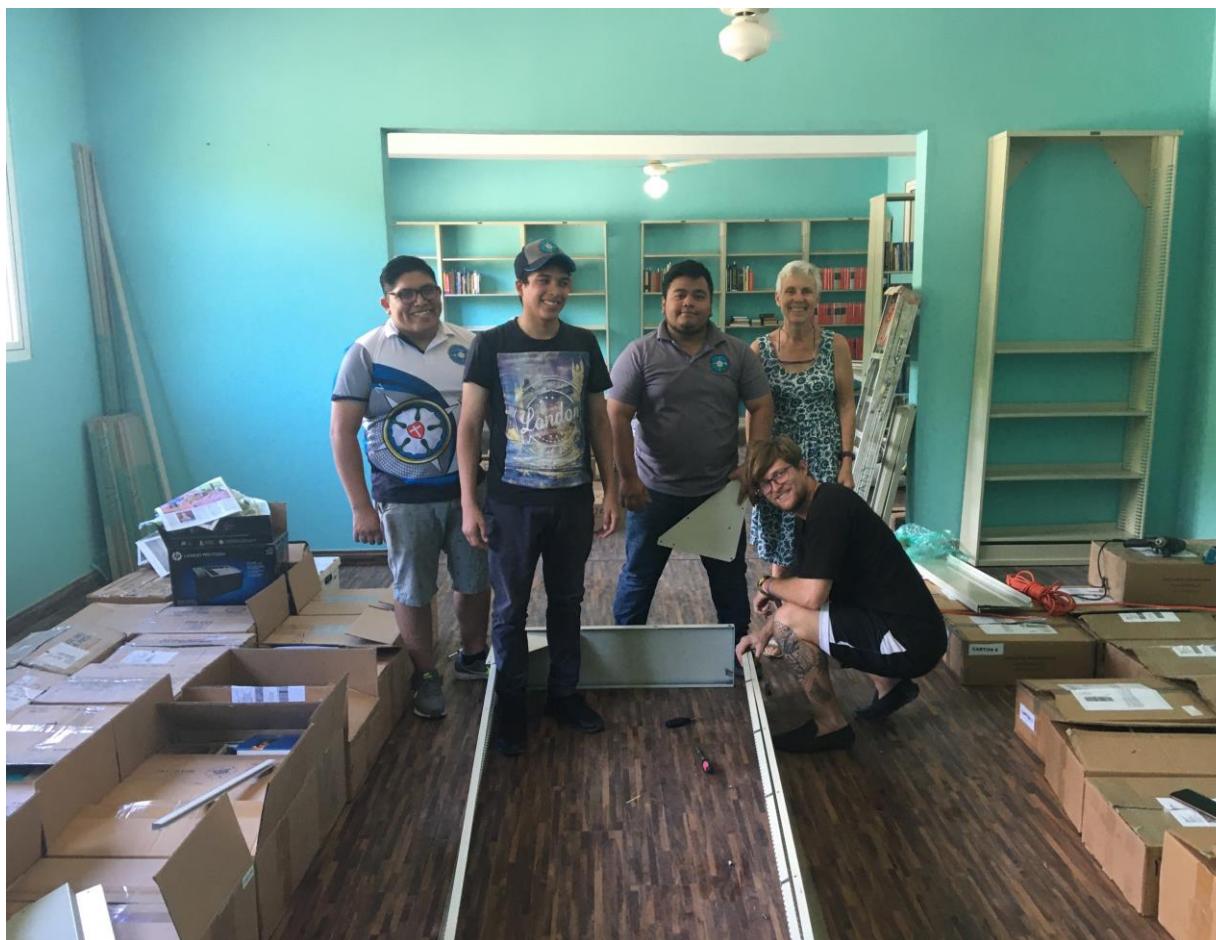
I have quoted those words to many young people over the years, but today I claim them for my own as I tell you a little about the last couple of weeks.

Herb and I welcomed the regional leadership team to Camp Concordia on the 8th of January. Thanks to the hard work of Benjamin, Karina, Clifford, Daniel, Cristina and Shakira (whew!) we were ready with "clean and comfortable." It was a privilege to be able to serve many of these same people who have treated us so graciously during past visits at their homes.

Two days into the meetings, the earthquake in Puerto Rico rocked the world, and Ted Krey, Charles St.Onge, and James Sharp found themselves making plans to go to the island to offer mercy assistance. The rest of the team left on Friday. After they left, I mustered my helpers to clean, launder, and move all the stuff that we used during camp. By 4:00 in the afternoon we were ready to make a final inspection of all clean rooms and surfaces, and take the trash to the landfill. Whew, again!

On Sunday, I flew to the DR to help set up the seminary's library. I won't be able to finish the project, but I will leave the work that is left in capable hands when I fly out on Saturday. The seminary leadership may need me to return at another time, but until then, it has been great to be able to do library work for the mission.

It seems funny to even think about it, but my prayer no longer is, "Lord, give purpose to my days. Instead I now pray, "Lord, give me enough days for your purpose. Amen!"



Seminary students all pitched in to help with the library project.