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## Leal Family Update - April 2018

Well, it seems our first winter in England for 8 years is finally behind us - quite a relief as we had forgotten the whole custom of wearing heavy coats, gloves and scarves! But now we are enjoying the beautiful sunny spring mornings in Brighton.

We'd like to update you on what we've been up to for the first few months of 2018 ...

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### **Nélia – Answer to Prayer**

We'd like to start with an update on something we mentioned in our last newsletter. You may remember that Nélia asked you to pray for a good local part-time teaching job? Well, after one of our morning devotions at Olivet English language school, one of the teachers suggested that Nélia give her CV to the school as there they are sometimes looking for holiday cover for their staff. She did this, and shortly afterwards went to chat with the personnel officer, who invited her to join the teaching staff! This was an amazing surprise: it's a school where we already have a relationship, it's very local (only 5 minutes' walk from our flat), and the hours are flexible. It's really an example of God giving us more than we are asking for!



## Prayer requests for Nélia:

- Thank God for blessing her with the job - beyond her expectations
- Pray that she would serve the church and the Lord well with her leadership of the prayer ministry
- Pray for good health and stamina

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

Ephesians 3:20

## What's the Logos Hope?

You may have seen the Instagram posts about a week ago of a ship in Veracruz Mexico (see photos below). So what was going on, and why was Mike there?



Mike writes:

Logos Hope is the 4<sup>th</sup> OM Ship. Back in 2009 the four of us visited it when it was in Canary Wharf, London. Since then I have visited it once in Bangkok and just now in Veracruz, Mexico. Unlike the previous visits, I stayed on board 5 night this time.

The Logos Hope is in the early stages of a tour of Latin America. It has

already docked in Columbia (3 ports), Guatemala (1 port), and is currently at the first of four Mexican ports.



View from the top deck, looking out over "Malecón", Veracruz where the Logos Hope is currently moored.



The Bookfair on board. Learn more at:

<http://www.omships.org/>

The main purpose of the visit to Latin America is to mobilise the Latino church into missions. What do I mean by that? Well, over the hundreds of years since South America was colonised, churches were set up by the Spanish and Portuguese, and missionaries were sent firstly by the Catholic church and later by the Protestant church. Now in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the Latin American church is one of the largest and most vibrant in the world, (estimated 70 million Protestants) and it is *their* turn to send missionaries out to other countries where there are no or few believers. It is this message that we want to give to the church there, and OM Latin America has a specific goal to send 2000 Latinos over the next 10 years. This may sound ambitious, but it is only 0.003% of believers!

The presence of the Logos Hope in Latin America for 2 years is a catalyst for this mobilisation, and so OM Latin America (LAM) is working in partnership with OM Ships, in order to maximise the impact of the ship's visit in the region.

The OM Latin America  
"Area Leadership Team"

From left to right: Roberto, Alex, Julie,  
me, and Roberta



My role is to oversee Operations and Governance in the LAM Area

We were on board the ship for meetings with the OM Ships leadership team. We were reviewing the visit of the ship to Latin America so far, and exploring ways to build on the experience and be even more effective. It was great to hear of the impact the ship is having so far, and to be there to witness the energy and enthusiasm that the presence of the ship generates. There are thousands of visitors every day – the record for the port of Veracruz was 13,000 on Easter Saturday.

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### Prayer requests for Mike:

- Thank God for the impact the Logos Hope is having in Latin America
- Pray for wisdom and unity amongst the leaders of OM LAM and OM Ships
- Pray that Mike can serve well in the team, for safe travels and good health



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