



November 2, 2010

The other day I was talking to someone about helping a young man who is going to Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. There was reluctance because they did not know the man. Well, I would like to introduce you to Magdiel U. Fajardo Perez. He is a friend of mine, the son of Rev. Abiut Fajardo, and has completed his first year at the Fort Wayne seminary. And....he needs our help.



Mary & Mel Block Marty & Norm Finke
 Magdiel Fajardo
 Concordia Theological Seminary
 Fort Wayne May 3, 2010



Magdiel Fajardo 2009
 Graduation Picture University
 of Texas Pan American

Magdiel U. Fajardo Perez is the oldest of three children of Rev. Abiut Fajardo Ruiz and Dora Leticia Pérez. He was born in Mexico City in September of 1983.

Magdiel’s father is a pastor of the Lutheran Synod of Mexico and served as its President from November of 1999 to February of 2006. Rev. Abiut Fajardo presently serves as pastor of Todos Santos (All Saints Lutheran Church) in the city of Guadalajara.

It was around 2001, after Magdiel had completed his high school training in Mexico, that he through the efforts of Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston, Texas and Rev. Abiut Fajardo was able to come and live with a family from Memorial Lutheran in Houston and attended Lutheran High North for one additional year of schooling. While there he fit in well with the student body, played on the soccer team until he broke his leg, and all the while honing his English skills.

At the end of that year he wanted to attend Concordia Austin to begin training for the pastoral ministry. His father at that time was serving as pastor of San Pedro Lutheran Church in Mexico City and was earning \$250 a month from the congregation. In fact Pastor Abiut drove a taxi in Mexico City to supplement his income so he could support his family. So sufficient funding was not available from Magdiel's parents and Concordia could not come up with grants or scholarships to help out. So Magdiel returned to Mexico to his new home in Guadalajara where his father was now pastor of All Saints Lutheran Church.



Magdiel and his mother

In the fall of 2003, with me becoming his sponsor, he was able to enroll in the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg, Texas. He had decided that he was going to be a pastor and that if he was to be able to do it in Mexico he would have to do it, as we would call it, by being a worker/priest. It took him until May of 2009 but he graduated with an Engineering Degree. (I think in manufacturing.) KIMA provided him \$380 a month to help with room and board.

While he was attending UT PAN AM he attended El Buen

Pastor (Good Shepherd) Lutheran Church in McAllen. Eventually he had his membership transferred there. He served as the director of youth, organizer and leader of a praise band, and Sunday School and VBS teacher. He served in this capacity under Rev. Roberto Simental and later under Rev. Ruben Dominguez.

During the summer of 2009 he applied to go to Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He had an interview in Austin with 6 members from the Texas District and was deemed a worthy candidate for the ministry. KIMA and several other congregations, possibly El Buen Pastor in McAllen and Memorial in Houston, had to write letters to the seminary stating our intent to help support Magdiel. KIMA agreed to help with \$5000. He received two \$10,000 grants from the seminary. His parents came from Guadalajara and together they took their son to far off Fort Wayne to begin his formal training for the pastoral ministry.

He had a good year and last summer he served a summer vicarage under Pastor Utecht in Valentine, Nebraska and at two missions in South Dakota at Rosebud and Parmelee on an Indian Reservation.



On October 7, I received an email from Magdiel stating that he was having financial difficulties. He stated that last year he had received two \$10,000 grants from the seminary and this year he did not receive any.



So now he is not able to live on campus but is living with Rev. Mike Wakeland who is pastor at Magdiel's field work church. He is working at the seminary's cafeteria and gets his lunch and dinner there because he works there.

He says that for each quarter it is about \$8,500 or about \$25,000 for one year. He says his father is helping, one of the churches from South Dakota is going to send money, KIMA is giving \$417 a month every month (\$5000) and he saved \$3000 from his summer vicarage. That comes to around \$12,000.

Magdiel is trying to contact different churches and people to get funding. He just keeps praying and hopes he can finish this second year and start a Vicarage in the Summer/fall of 2011.

Keep him in your prayers! If there is anything that you might be able to do we would all appreciate it. Thank you very much for any support you might be able to give Magdiel.

If you would want to send any contributions for Magdiel to KIMA we would be happy to pass them along to Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne on Magdiel's behalf. Otherwise, you might contact them yourselves at (260) 452-2100.

Blessings,

Rev. Norman Finke
President of KIMA

PS

Check out our web site: <http://kimamission.org> It is under construction.

. If you would like to be part of this ongoing outreach ministry, please, send your gifts to:

**Koinoneo Independent Mission Agency
109 Noel
Waxahachie, TX 75165**

**or your communications to:
Phone Number: 972-935-8017
E-mail: nfinke_kima@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.kimamission.org**