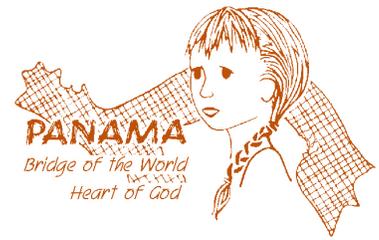


# The Jones Journal



Kirk, Yvonne, Chloe, Tony, Celina & Gracie  
AGWM Missionaries to the Children of Panamá

Vol. XXIX ❖ Holiday Issue 2018



## A Very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year from the Joneses!

Our overflowing hearts **thank you** for your **prayerful and financial partnership** in reaching Panamá's children.

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We\* thank God in all our remembrance of you, always in every prayer of ours for you all making our prayer with joy, because of your*

*partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.*

Philippians 1:2-5 (ESV \*edited pronouns)

And we **thank God** for sending our **Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord!**

*And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the*

*Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

Luke 2:8-11 (ESV)

## Ministry Report

As we consider the year in review, I'm sure you've heard us refer to our national ministry slogan, "Children Reaching Children." Here are a few examples in action:



### KidsMin Leadership Training

Throughout the year training topics include: true friendship and bullying; experts taught on child abuse detection, prevention, and reporting; selection and training of capable teachers; children involved in world missions; preparing the 4-14 Window (age range) agents of transformation; and handcrafts. It's easy to see how much this group enjoyed getting crafty making Noah's ark with colorful popsicle sticks.



Another example of kids reaching kids was at *Casa de Oración Cristiana* (Christian House of Prayer) church missions conference. I led a workshop on mobilizing children towards

world missions. While it was adults in attendance (but with very youthful spirits!), the purpose was to motivate children to consider God's call on their lives for missions. I can't wait to see the difference these future agents of transformation will make on their generation!



### Amigo Mentor Panamá

Yvonne often says it's her desire that every child from a hard place in an orphanage might have a mentor friend who first loves Jesus and also loves him or her. That is how the program *Amigo Mentor Panamá* started when we regularly visited kids to share life and life skills. For instance, two 17 year old girls learned to cook before leaving the home upon turning 18. From our AG churches we've seen both families and single guys or gals befriend these precious children.



We'd like to highlight another one of the faithful kidsmin workers who are helping "Children Reach Children." Angélica Ávila organized a special activity with their children's church kids by

raising the funds, preparing gift bags with fruit, and then leading the service for the kids at the *Metro Amigo* orphanage. She is in the background joining the kids in this song imitating an alligator. Antonia,



another faithful leader, shared the Word. My favorite part was the small group interaction with these kids from very different backgrounds mingling, talking and praying together.

### US teams

This year we had one awesome church send two terrific teams. Abundant Life Community Church and Pastor Roy Rhodes are dear friends to Panamá. In January they joined in ministering at the annual family conference for the 8th year in a row!

In June they added much-needed full bathroom facilities for the Soloy ChildHope school among the *Ngobe* Indian children.





## Family Report

Our kids got to be together recently at a friend's wedding. Chloe is an RN at Cox hospital and enjoys exercising at spin class as often as possible. Tony works in special education at the Metropolitan school and enjoys the outdoor wildlife Panamá has to offer.

Celina continues her studies at Baylor College of Medicine and volunteers at her church youth group. Gracie is studying Music Therapy at Drury University and loves hanging out with her friends.

As mentioned in our e-Mailers this year, we have been monitoring Yvonne's ascending aortic aneurysm for over 10 years. After the scan early August revealed the aneurysm had increased to the threshold requiring open heart surgery, we scheduled it August 22 in Houston Medical Center.

The surgeon successfully replaced the dilated portion of the aorta with a dacron graft, which will last till Jesus comes. Yvonne spent about a day in ICU, then four more nights in a regular room. Chloe stayed with her overnight and helped immensely once we were all out of the hospital. We



returned to Panamá two weeks later. She continues recovering strength and stamina a little more each day. Doctors say it should take several months for her to feel 100% again.

We give thanks to the Lord for bringing her through with almost no pain nor any complications. Thank you for your continued prayers for her recovery and for our family.

### PRAYER

- 2018 brought significant transition to Panamá's AG National leadership. Rev. Lowell David passed away after 40 years of service. Vice President Rev. Johnny Saucedo was elected President. In August he underwent major surgery and is slowly recovering (pictured with our missions Area Director



Jay Dickerson following his election).

- Our 6th iteration cycle begins May next year. Please pray that we get to see all of you and raise needed prayer and financial support!

### PRAISE

- Children are reaching children here in Panamá!
- Yvonne's steady recovery following open heart surgery (details in Family Report)!

### UPCOMING

- Increased ministry travel and responsibility serving as missionary representative with national executives.
- Itineration June 2019 (please see enclosed Itineration Response card insert).

Prayerfully consider how and when you'd like us to visit. Then please do one of the following:

1. Simply send us an e-mail including your interest and contact info for us to reply.
2. Fill out the response card and either send us a picture/scan of it via email.
3. Or stick a stamp on it and drop it in the mail.



### Panamanian Profile

Young Abiel Samuel Andrades was our fiery little preacher/evangelist at a recent leaders seminar. I include his middle name on purpose. Like his namesake prophet, Samuel, in the Bible, he sensed a call to minister to the Lord from a very young age. Hilda Mendieta, his children's church leader, told us he that even though he comes from a broken family, he and his

two brothers are faithful to the Lord and always at church with huge smiles. Abiel loves telling people about Jesus through preaching and singing!

The front page photo for this edition is from a visit to their church, *Iglesia Evangélica Nueva Jerusalén* (New Jerusalem Evangelical Church, of the Assemblies of God), with Abiel peeking over Yvonne's shoulder.



### Get To Know Panamá

Panamá's soccer team went for the FIRST TIME EVER to the 2018 FIFA World Cup held in Russia (having attempted every four years since 1978)!

When the selection qualified, President Varela declared a national holiday. When the national anthem was played for the first time, the TV commentators wept. Whenever there was a game, the entire nation stopped to watch.

And when Panamá scored the historic first ever World Cup goal, celebrations erupted from the stadium in Russia, across TV and computer screens, and to the national stadium in Panamá where thousands of the *Marea Roja* (Red Tide) fans gathered. Losing the game 6-1 to England couldn't dampen their spirits. ¡Viva Panamá!



A Final Word... THANK YOU!

*I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brothers (& sisters), because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.*

Philemon 1:4-7 (ESV)

### How you can reach us:

e-mail: .....kirk.jones@agmd.org  
 .....kirk@jonesjournal.org  
 web site: .....www.jonesjournal.org

### Panamá contact info:

mobile: .....+507 6077-4456  
 home VoIP phone: .....+1 417-595-4697  
 mail:.....Suite PTY 144, 7801 NW 37th St  
 .....Doral, FL 33195-6503

note: Apdo. 818-00282, discontinues in March 2019

### Permanent US:

% AGWM, Acct. # 2254795  
 1445 Boonville Springfield, MO 65802-1894

