

The Jones Journal



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

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¡VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and JOY-FILLED NEW YEAR from the Joneses!



Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14 (NIV)

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.

Luke 2:14 (NIV)

Rainy season greetings from Panamá (at time of writing)! Average monthly rainfall is 7-8 inches falling most every other day (for the curious: October is the rainiest month). While the US prepares for wintry cold weather during December to March, Panamá anticipates the dry season.

Reviewing the past year in preparation for this newsletter, a theme emerged. God answered many prayers! With this report we include our deep appreciation for your prayers and financial support!

Here are a few areas of answered prayer:

Return to Panamá

During itineration we ministered virtually from home in San Diego in SoCal (Kirk's district). Later we finalized itineration from Springfield in SoMo (Yvonne's district). In addition to calling, ZOOMing, and some in-person ministry, I prepared "Give God the Glory Stories" videos. Scan the QR code to view any of the ten installments in both English and Spanish.



In spite of the pandemic disruption and restrictions, we received full funding to return to Panamá—thanks to



many of you! The actual return trip had to be rescheduled a couple times. While waiting we

took online refresher Spanish courses at CINCEL. We were so grateful to be able to get back!

Reconnect With Colleagues

While visiting our Panamá AG headquarters we happened to bump into Pastor Juan Barriá. He has been a friend for a long time, and was a Bible School student of



mine. Recently he was voted into national executive leadership and is spearheading training efforts for the AG of Panamá generational mentoring emphasis.

Being back in Panamá, it was good to join good friend Pastor Bill Wilbur and his family in Gamboa for the Good Friday Service (bilingual). It was the first in-person service back inside the building in a year! Yvonne and Tony led worship, and Kirk shared speaking duties with Pastor Bill.



At the Areopagus, Paul addressed the Athenian's unknown god; he then revealed Jesus to them (Acts 17:22-31). The caption for the following ministry photo could be *Special thanks to the unknown church!* During itineration ministry, many churches and their kidsmin leaders gave us items to bless Panamá's children.



The *Pastora* who received them, Maria Asprilla, has been a friend and faithful participant for many years in our monthly kidsmin leadership seminars. So ministering at their new church



plant for International Day of the Child, we gladly passed along these boxes of goody bags and dolls to their enthusiastic kids.

Along the same lines, visiting *Templo La Felicidad* we were able to pass along donated curriculum and some gently used puppets to Cenit Cosio, and members of her team (she's holding her son Obed). Her husband Luis remembered us leading camp he attended as a kid. Now they are the children's pastors at this impactful church!



Resume Mentoring

It is so gratifying to see that everywhere we look people are talking about mentoring. Panamá's AG Superintendent Rev. Johny Saucedo has made "pass the baton to the next



generation" his ministry focus. He is pictured here next to AGWM Latin America Caribbean Regional Director Dave Ellis during the recent appreciation banquet we held for our national executive leaders.



What the Lord has placed on our hearts these past few years for kids ministry seems to fit perfectly: future fine arts training for students preparing them to minister using their God-given gifts and talents, plus the established *Amigo Mentor Panamá* program connecting believers with kids from hard places.

Yvonne's friend Graciela Mauad became Director of SENNI AF (Panamá Child Protective Services, in charge of all orphanages). Thanks to her open door invitation, we resumed the *Amigo Mentor Panamá* program at a transitional center meeting with the children on a weekly basis.



Following our visit to Pastor Juan Barria's church, his wife Roxana joined us to minister at the center. Kirk shared the Bible story of the little lost lamb.



During summer vacation Tony and his girlfriend Paola led the creative choreography portion of our weekly visit to the transitional center. High energy Bible songs with fun dance moves—the kids loved it!

Finally, our Paint Church Life Group decided to partner with us to help the first center where Amigo Mentor Panamá began. So we coordinated with the director and our life group volunteers to plant a garden to beautify the



entryway sidewalk. The children planted flower seeds and hung up their decorated pots. With a little



assistance digging the holes they also ringed the walkway with decorative durable plants.

Resettle home/ ministry base

Even though it took a little longer than we anticipated, the Lord did help us find a



suitable house to rent. It fits our needs as empty nesters, plus allows opportunity for ministry training, fine arts and hosting guests.

We look forward to filling up the house this Christmas with all four of our kids. A blessing we don't take for granted!



If you have not yet seen it, we invite you to view our mid-2021 ministry update video on Vimeo by scanning the QR code.



Prayer Requests

Thank you for your support and prayers for the following:

- Ministry of orphan mentorship and generational mentorship.
- Training in Fine Arts ministry.
- Panamá COVID cases continue to decline.
- 2022 Annual Session Panamá AG. We missionaries help with elections.

FYI: Our mailing address for courier delivery to Panamá from the US:

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THE JONES JOURNAL



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Holiday Issue



2021

A Final Word...



From the US to
Panamá God has
been good to us in
2021.

With your prayers
and support, we
eagerly anticipate
even greater things
in 2022!

