

Serving through GRACE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

APRIL 2023

Greetings from Panama!

It is summertime in Panama and the season provides great opportunities to develop outdoor ministries, meet new people, and spend time in discipleship with the people of the church. At the KIDS CLUB ON SATUR-**DAYS**, we have been having lots of fun activities, many of which involve water and getting wet. This provides an opportunity for the kids to cool off and get relief from the heat so we can continue to engage with them in learning about Christ.

SUNDAY SERVICES are the most special time of the week for us. It is a time for worshiping our Almighty God and a time to study the Bible as a church family. We praise God that some of the new attendees at Comunidad Bíblica de la Gracia (Grace Bible Community) have expressed a commitment to continue attending our church. This growth can be attributed to the relationships that we have built over the years through serving the community, visiting universities, giving personal invitations, teaching in Christian summer camps, and investing our time in personal friendships.

Every WEDNESDAY FROM 6 PM TO 8 PM WE HAVE A BIBLE STUDY where we study basic Bible doctrines more deeply. This is a very beneficial time when we have the opportunity to answer questions and address any doubts expressed by our students. It is also a strategic time to prepare and train the future leaders of the church. Please join us in praying for Ricardo, Veronica, Eduardo, Cindy, Alejandro, and Julia who have been attending regularly.

Mauren is taking advantage of the Taekwondo class schedule on Tuesday and Thursday evenings to disciple the students' mothers. They have been studying the Bible and the book: "Lies Women Believe and the Truth That Sets Them Free." It has been a fruitful time to share the Gospel and invite them to attend the church and participate in other ministries.







alvaro.barrantes@hotmail.com mauren.zumbado@hotmail.com barrantesministry@gmail.com









We are hosting an **ENGLISH CLUB** this year and last month we had our first meeting. For the club, we invite young people from the local universities to come to our church and converse with native English speakers. This has provided opportunities for sharing the gospel, introducing them to the ministries of our church, and has also provided more visibility for our church within the community. Last month we invited Andre Arauz and Kenneth Samudio to Comunidad Bíblica de la Gracia and they began attending the church with their families. Please join us in praying that they will continue attending and will eventually become members of the church.

We are also working with the **YOUNG ADULTS** in our church to provide them with opportunities to interact and build relationships. On **FRIDAY EVENINGS WE HAVE A GROUP THAT MEETS FOR BIBLE STUDY** and we also have fun activities that help them build trust and grow in their faith as they enjoy fellowship together. It is our hope that this will result in reaching more young adults from the surrounding community.

We just started the second year of renting the building where we have our church services and activities. With the number of people currently attending, we are not able to support the total expenses for the facility. We are covering almost half of the costs through our weekly offerings and

have created a fundraising project on the GMI website to raise additional funds to cover the other fifty percent through the generous gifts of our supporters. If you would like to be part of this project and help cover the cost of our church building as we continue sharing the gospel and inviting new people to be part of our church, please select the **RENT ASSISTANCE PROJECT** under the Projects tab at gracem.org.

There is much work to do and many projects that we want to develop here in Panama over the next several years. To accomplish these goals we will need to grow our team. If you feel the Lord may be leading you to serve cross-culturally or you know of someone that has an interest in serving in missions, please reach out to us or select the **JOINING OUR GLOBAL TEAM** tab at **GRACEM.ORG** to learn about the opportunities to serve in Panama with GMI. We are asking God to provide more families or individuals that desire to be part of our team and partner with us in reaching the people of Panama with the gospel of the grace of God.

Thank you so much for your partnership in our ministry! There are no adequate words to express our thankfulness for the part you play in our ministry. We praise the Lord for your support and encouragement!





Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye

STEADFAST, UNMOVABLE,

always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

I CORINTHIANS 15:58

God Bless Yon!

Alavaro & Manren Josne, Sofia & Elisa

