

# PURA VIDA IN PANAMA NEWS

## BARRANTES FAMILY



APRIL 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Since the last time we shared our news with you, wonderful things have been happening in Panama. As last year was coming to an end, we could feel the Christmas spirit in the air. Even though we had many restrictions due to the pandemic, people had the desire to celebrate at least a little bit of the Christmas season. That feeling encouraged us and challenged us to creatively gather the families in our neighborhood outdoors to do something special to share Jesus with them.

We were able to have a wonderful event with about 25 people who loved the play that our Panama team alongside our Kids Bible Club Children had prepared narrating the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

As part of our outreach strategies initiating the year and taking advantage of our summer time, we've held several outreach activities in a nearby neighborhood with the objective to meet and connect with more people as we share the gospel and invite them to visit our church. Normally, we have an attendance of about 10 kids during our outreach events. Many of them come with their parents who are very appreciative that we provide these opportunities for their kids to socialize after a long lockdown period. Most importantly, they are very grateful to expose them to the message of the saving grace of our Lord Jesus.

**1 Corinthians 15:58**

**Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.**



Outreach in Aqualina—a local neighborhood

One of our prayer requests is that God will touch the hearts of more people with a burden for missions who want to come to Panama in order to strengthen our team and continue to work hard sharing the gospel with Panamanians with the goal of establishing our church plant in the city of David.

As a family and ministerial team, we are constantly praying for more missionaries to come to Panama. Our ministry is growing little by little and in answer to our prayers, God has provided some good friends and families who have come from Costa Rica, Paraguay, and the United States. They've visited our campus, helped with ministry duties here, and they have been exposed to the spiritual needs of this city. They have witnessed the great need that we have here in Panama. We continue to pray that their hearts or any others can be touched and they might make the decision to join us eventually!



People visiting the ministry at our home

Due to the wonderful collaborations of the people who have come and helped us we were able to reach out and connect with more people. This outreach, especially to young adults in our neighborhood, has given us the chance to share the gospel and to start new discipleships with another age group.

There is no doubt we have loved seeing how people have continued to come to our home every Sunday morning for our worship and preaching service. Because of this growing group and our desire to develop new ministries such as martial arts and foreign language classes, we started to pray asking God to provide a place to rent where we could have more room to host these ministries. As an answered prayer, we received a generous donation which enabled our ministry to rent a suitable and strategically located place. With a nice building to rent, we needed to equip it with chairs, a sound and video system, as well as air conditioners which is a must here in David. Since the middle of March, we have been holding all of our activities there. Thank you for your extraordinarily generous gifts for our set-up costs in the GMI Christmas project catalog.

All this equipment we were able to purchase has made our people feel very comfortable and happy at our church. It is a very important step

for our church as we create our identity. We are very impressed to see how our God has answered all of our prayers requests and all of our needs through you guys! In this way we have been able to continue our church's growth as we share God's saving grace through Jesus Christ.



New place we are renting



We ask that you continue to pray for Panama, for our ministries, for our team, and that our Lord provides more missionaries as they answer the calling to come join us as ambassadors and messengers of the ministry of reconciliation.

We would like to have some additional furniture, chairs, and an extra A/C for the place we are renting. Lastly, we ask for your prayers for our family, marriage, children, and their schooling, and that we can be good servants in our home and in our ministry.



Barrantes Family

Sincerely,

The Barrantes Family

**PURA VIDA EN PANAMA**

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