

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Psalm 23:1-3 ESV

Green Pastures and Still Waters

Rick: Once again, we have a slight change of plans! No, our assignment hasn't changed since our last newsletter, we are still on track to go to Colombia for one to two years to do a church-planting internship before we return to Ecuador. But we will not be returning to the field this summer as we had hoped.

We had asked you to pray that God would bring in all of our support so that we could return this summer, and were trusting the Lord to answer that prayer, but thankfully God is our Shepherd and our Father, and he decided we needed some green pastures and some still waters first, so he answered in his wisdom and loving care, "Wait just a bit longer." Even as the time was approaching in May, we came to realize that we were absolutely exhausted from the frantic pace we had been setting. This included weekly travels, home schooling our children, meetings with our former Ecuador team to seek proper closure, meetings and tests in the process of pursuing ordination as a pastor, trying to arrange things long distance for the upcoming move from Ecuador to Colombia, and of course just daily life!

So when we visited our Mission to the World office in Atlanta in late May, and discussed with the staff there where we were with our support raising, and how we were feeling, they said, "You still lack a good bit of support, and you are exhausted. We think the wisest thing would be to wait until January. That way your children can settle into a school here for a semester, you all can get some rest, which you desperately need, and you can finish up your support raising without burning yourselves out!"

Over the years we have seen too many of our missionary friends burn themselves out, and we have often encouraged them to take times of rest along the way, and now we had better take a bit of our own advice!

So we are now settled back in southwest Nebraska on the farm again with Betty's parents, and Anne and Nathan will be attending the excellent small-town public school Betty attended growing up.

There is lots of pasture land around here, though it isn't very green for most of the year in this semiarid climate, and there isn't much surface water around either, moving or still. But the green pastures God has made us lie down in, and the still waters we are drinking, are for the restoration of our souls, as every Christian must learn along the way, and we are grateful to Him.

Even so, we expect to stay plenty busy, what with continued contacts with churches, continuing projects from our work in Ecuador, and my continuing through the process of ordination. And this summer we still need to return to Ecuador to pack up our things, turn over our house, sell some things and put the rest in storage with the moving company until January, and say some goodbyes.

Current Support Situation

We are still needing \$2164 per month in pledged support. (Recently recalculated for our new assignment.)

And please consider whether God may be calling you, your congregation, or those you know to begin, renew, or increase your financial support for our ministry. If you could pledge to give yearly or monthly, it would help us toward this goal. If you need further information about supporting our ministry please contact us directly at **972-535-4356**, **308-650-0537**, or RAschmann@mtwsa.org.

We are also in need of more than \$10,000 in special one-time gifts for moving and setup expenses.

Please send pledges or support to: **Mission to the World**
PO Box 116284
Atlanta, GA 30368-6284
Rick and Betty Aschmann, account #10107

For the ministry of:

Family Reunion!



Our children and grandchildren with Rick. Left to right: son Nathan, daughter Anne, grandson Little Jason, daughter Heidi, son-in-law Jason, grandson Isaac, son James with grandson Maximilian (Oops, he turned his head! See the other picture.), and daughter-in-law Christina.

Many of you have asked about our older children and their families, and we wanted to bring you up to date a bit. For the first time in quite a while we were able to have a reunion of the whole family, in Birmingham in February, and it was a blast! Heidi came with her family from Louisiana, and James came with his family from Maryland.



Anne playing with her nephew Max

Prayer & Praise

- Pray for our trip to Quito in July as we pack up, try to sell all the rest of our things, including our vehicle, and say goodbyes. In particular, pray that we will find just the right company to handle the storage of our household goods for shipping to Colombia in January.
- Pray that Anne (fourth grade) and Nathan (second grade) will have a very good semester in the local school this fall, and will transition well to the missionary school in Colombia in January.
- Pray that the Lord will bring in our needed monthly support, and for the travelling that that will involve this fall.
- Continue praying for Paúl Chiriboga in his ongoing ministry in Mondayacu. God is continuing to bless his ministry and produce growth in the church there, and I am continuing to disciple him from afar. Pray also for Segundo Anrango and for the Paltapamba church, that they will prosper in our absence.



Cultural Closeup

Betty: Traveling so much in the U.S., I'm reminded of a cultural difference regarding restaurants. Here in the U.S., the waiter or waitress will ask if you want anything more. If you say you are finished, they will bring you the check. In Ecuador, waiters and waitresses won't do that. If you wait for the check to come, or for the waiter to ask you about it, you can wait until closing time. It's considered rude for them to bring the check before it's requested because they don't want to rush their customers.

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Mission web sites:



www.mtw.org

www.mtwla.org

www.hcjb.org

www.wycliffe.org

Our newsletters can be seen on the Internet at:
www.Aschmann.net/Rick/Newsletter.