

Aschmann Action

March 2015

²Count it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

James 1:2-3 ESV

El Refugio Church Has a New Meeting Place!



Pastor Javier giving the children's sermon

Rick: Praise the Lord, *El Refugio* "The Refuge" church has a new meeting place! Thanks for praying. As you can see from the picture, it should be more than adequate for lots of growth. As before, it is in the community center of a neighborhood, which we have found to be about the only kind of place we can rent without having to pay high commercial prices, in this huge, densely-packed city. But one advantage in this case is that it is not inside a gated community like the other meeting places have been, making it more welcoming to passersby and those coming from outside the immediate neighborhood.

Last Trip to Ecuador!

As this letter goes out I am getting ready to leave for my last trip to Ecuador before our permanent return there in June. I will be there March 10 through 19. This trip will be a bit different from the others:

for the first part I will be attending a conference being held for Quichua leaders called "The Future of Your Language", in which they will be making decisions about how to strengthen the use of their language and prevent it from being lost by future generations. This will take place in Quito, so I won't be visiting the churches in *Paltapamba* or *Pigulca* this time.

Gearing Up for Our Return to Ecuador!

Another thing I will be doing while in Quito is to start making arrangements for our return in June, finding a place to live, starting the process of applying for visas, etc. We already have a possibility for a house, that missionary friends of ours have been renting, but we need to work out details and see if it will remain available for us.

Thank you!

Thanks to so many of you who sent in extra funds over the last few months, which really helped our account recover from the recent drop. God is good!

However, we are still lacking at least \$1000 per month in official pledges, and we will really need those pledges so that we can move directly to Ecuador and not have to return to the U.S. to raise funds. We will also need about \$6000 in one-time donations for the expenses of the move.

Giving options (for one-time or regular gifts)

- **Online** (Credit Card or Electronic Transfer): Click here: [Donate](#)

Or go to www.mtw.org → Ways to Give → Give to missionaries → Aschmann, Richard & Betty → Donate

- **Check by Mail**

Pay to the order of: Mission to the World
PO Box 2589
Suwanee, GA 30024-0982

On memo line: Rick & Betty Aschmann, acct. #10107

Prayer & Praise

- Praise God for a new meeting place for *El Refugio* “The Refuge”, our church plant here in Bogotá. Please pray that it will work out for the long term, and that we would be able to impact the community with the gospel.
- Please pray for a new Bible study we will be starting soon, on biblical principles for managing money. This is an area that many feel a need for, and we are praying that it will impact the lives of our church members and others.
- Please pray for all the details that now need to be worked out for our return to Ecuador in June 2015, including visas, housing, moving our household, etc.
- Please continue praying for our financial needs, both monthly and one-time. (See box.)

A Stressful Couple of Months

The last couple of months have been a bit crazy. On January 1 we found out we would need to find another place to live, since our friends who had been renting us their house needed to sell it, and they suddenly found a buyer who needed the place by the beginning of February. We were a bit concerned about whether we could find another place for only 6 months, since renting houses here can often be a huge hassle, with lots of paperwork and a huge deposit. But thankfully God provided us with another place very quickly, one that another family on our team had recently moved out of, and the landlord was happy to let us rent it for 6 months. One tiny problem: it is only half as big as the other place! So we had to try to sell off some of our larger furniture and put some of our stuff in storage, since in Ecuador we will be wanting a larger place. Needless to say all this last-minute packing, sorting, selling, moving, and settling in ended up being complicated and tiring.

On top of all that, our 2-year Colombian visas expired at the end of January, and we needed to apply for new ones to stay in Colombia until June when the kids get out of school. It took many hours of preparing documents, running around Bogotá to different government offices, constantly following up to make sure they had everything they needed, and then doing it some more until they did.

One day we had to quickly pull the kids out of school and run down to a government office to get a special extension, because we were told that if we didn't, we would be in the country illegally! Nathan was worried. “What will happen if we don't get it? Will they make us leave the country? Then what will we do?” We told him that we were praying that we would get it with no problem, and we did.

So we hardly had a moment to breathe from January 1 until February 18 when our visas were finally granted, and we were all pretty worn out. And as soon as we got the visas, I got a bug and fever, which Nathan and Anne also got along the way.


So please pray that I will stay well on this trip!

Cultural Closeup



Betty: We recently had to move to a new house here in Bogotá for our last five months in this country. Like many growing cities, most of the new homes going up in Bogotá are apartment buildings or townhouses. We ended up renting a small townhouse for these remaining months. We have three bedrooms and a little office space on three floors, but the stairways getting up are quite narrow. We weren't even able to get a double bed base up to the top floor, which was one solid piece that couldn't be taken apart. We ended up getting the mattress up because it was bendable. However, the base would not go unless we tried the dangerous maneuver of putting it through the third floor window from the outside. We decided it wasn't worth it for just a few months, so we sold that bed base and bought one that comes in two pieces.

Now that we've got the move over with for our time here in Bogotá, we are looking at housing options in Quito.

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	Other sites: www.mtwla.org www.hcjb.org www.wycliffe.org

Our newsletters: www.Aschmann.net/Rick/Newsletter.



Anne and Nathan on the narrow staircase