

Aschmann Action

June 2014

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. Hebrews 11:13 ESV

Pilgrim Church

Betty: In our church plant, *El Refugio* “The Refuge”, we are currently without a home. God is reminding us that we are pilgrims in a foreign land here on this earth. Since Easter, our church can no longer meet in the conference center where we had been meeting every Sunday for almost a year. The people living in the housing complex decided that they did not want to allow a church to continue to meet there. Since then, we have been wandering from place to place, finding out on Wednesday or Thursday where the church service will meet the next Sunday. Even so, we have never lacked a place to meet! And amazingly, the church has grown, despite its wanderings, or maybe because of them. After all, God does cause growth in amazing ways, and sometimes through trials. We have checked at shopping malls, strip malls, schools and housing developments in this area.

Rick and I have even offered our house. Nearly 50 people could cram into it. However, our house is quite a ways south of the area where the church has normally been meeting, and we are trying to keep the services in that area.

Despite God using these wanderings to grow the church, we would appreciate your prayers about a permanent place to meet. The leadership and the pastor have to spend a large portion of their time searching



One Sunday we even had church in a park, followed by a barbecue and fellowship time. We rented two shelters in case it rained, but God answered our prayers and it didn't. The turnout was quite good, and several people came who wouldn't have come to one of our indoor church meetings. Here Pastor Javier is doing the children's sermon.

Prayer & Praise

- Please pray for my (Rick's) next trip to Ecuador along with missionary Joe Harrell. Pray that we will have good interaction as we visit Quichua churches in Quito and in Paltapamba, and that the training of the leaders in Paltapamba can move ahead. Pray that we will find the best way to encourage their studies in between visits. We are still hoping to do so through video conferencing on Skype, since the Internet café we mentioned in our last letter has now gotten set up.
- Continue praying for me (Rick) as I study and prepare for the last stage in my ordination process as a pastor over the course of the next 5 months. Pray also for Segundo, as he continues to move ahead in this process.
- Please pray for a permanent meeting place for *El Refugio* “The Refuge”, our church plant here in Bogotá, that will be adequate for continued growth.
- Continue praying for us (Rick and Betty) as we continue leading the music group at our church plant. Pray also for the training of new Colombian musicians and singers to help during church services, so that as soon as possible we can turn over this responsibility to local church members.
- Thanks so much for continuing to pray for our health. We actually went for more than two months recently without anyone in our family being down sick, and we were greatly encouraged.

each week, set up takes a while especially if it is the first time for this building, and we have to carry so many things along each week— a projector in case we need it, chairs if the place we are meeting doesn't have them, a table, etc. It's taking its toll on those of us in charge of organizing and set up each week. Besides, we really need a larger place than any of these temporary meeting places. We usually fill almost all the chairs at this point, and won't have room if we continue to grow.

Please note that the [Mission to the World](#) mailing address for donations has changed to:

PO Box 2589, Suwanee, GA 30024-0982

The old address (PO Box 116284, Atlanta) will be phased out soon.

Studying for Ordination

Rick: Please pray for me in the coming 5 months. I will be working hard to finish my ordination process in November. We spent most of last year working into our ministry here in Colombia, with outreach, preaching, and music at the church plant, and also trying to keep up with the ministry in Ecuador. Now that I have had some practical experience, the mission has issued my letter of call to the ministry as a pastor, and I will need to focus on writing some papers and taking exams.

Trip to Ecuador

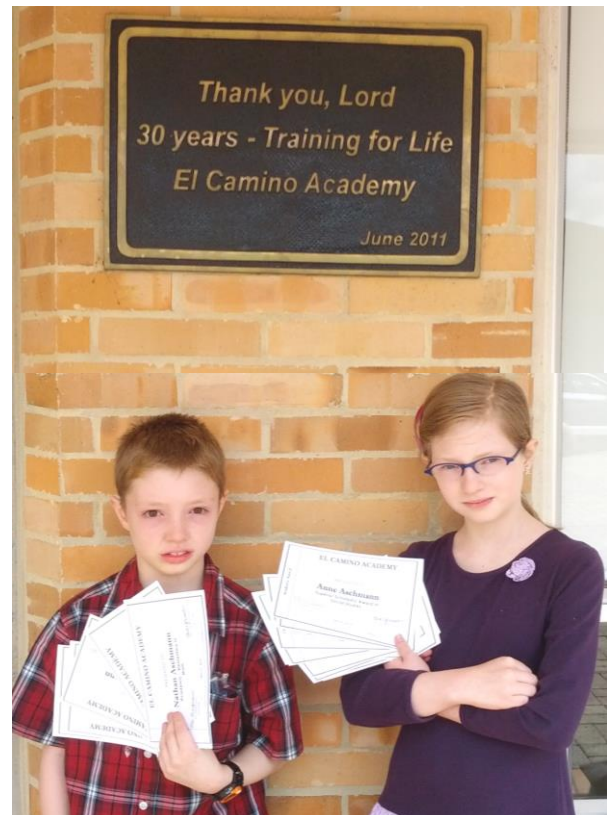
Rick: I finally have another trip to Ecuador planned. I will be traveling there June 12-17 with Joe Harrell, another missionary here, who is also my mentor in the ordination process. Since our last newsletter Segundo was able to make a quick trip from Quito to Paltapamba to encourage the leaders there in their studies.



Betty: It's always noisier in the city than the countryside. However, Latin American cities have their own special sounds. And weekends are the busiest. Small trucks and pickups drive through the residential areas touting their goods, with loud speakers blaring things like, "Oranges, bananas, for sale!" or "Junk! We buy junk— anything, aluminum, copper, steel! Get rid of your junk!" And some don't need a loudspeaker; they have big, booming voices. They walk the streets selling their wares, "Scrub brushes, brooms, mops for sale!" or "I'll sharpen your knives and scissors! Bring them out!" It must work because there are plenty of people trying to get business. I just wonder how much of their earnings they spend on throat lozenges!

Of course my kids' favorite is the ice cream. A loudspeaker blasts a children's song so you know what they are selling. It was so loud that when we went out and expected to see a truck, we were amused to find a lady on a bicycle with a cooler behind. It was good ice cream, though.

Cultural Closeup



The kids are out of school for the summer. They have two months of vacation here, June and July. Anne finished 5th grade and Nathan 3rd. Anne raked in ten character and academic awards, and Nathan five. We are so proud of them!

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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.