#### September 2022

# Aschmann Action

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:10-11

## Our Trip to the U.S.

We took about 5 weeks to travel to the U.S. this summer. Our main purpose was to visit family and look at a couple of college options for Nathan. Anne stayed in Seward, Nebraska this summer and worked at the college. We were able to visit her and do some traveling with her. She is really enjoying her second year at Concordia University now.

The first week in August, we also attended a conference/retreat that our mission was putting on for overseas missionaries. It was a good time of being refreshed and getting a new perspective on our work here in Ecuador.

We returned on August 8 to get Nathan



Anne and Nathan with their grandma

ready for school here in Quito. He is a senior at the Alliance Academy International. They grow up so fast!!!

#### Violent Protests

Thanks so much to those of you on our email list who were praying for us as we got ready to fly to the U.S. in the midst of the violent protests here. The protests started on June 13, and pretty much shut down many areas, roads were blocked for weeks, and travel was very difficult. We were thankful that we made it safely to the U.S. on June 28. After we left, a settlement was negotiated between the government and the protesters on June 30, but even then it took a while for things to get cleaned up and back to normal. Even after the protesters stopped blocking public transportation and damaging vehicles it took quite a while before the drivers were willing to take the risk of getting back on the road!

## Church plant

Among other things affected by these protests were our Sunday afternoon meetings. These could not take place at all for some 5 weeks. We called the families during the crisis, and Segundo, our pastor in training, continued to do so after we left. And after things settled down Segundo was able to hold meetings a few times before our return.

This year will be a strategic year for this church plant. We will be returning to the U.S. for a year-long Home Ministry Assignment starting the summer of 2023, and this fledgling church will need to largely be on its own for that year.



At the end of his junior year Nathan had the honor of carrying the Ecuadorian flag at the graduation ceremony.

We are hoping to help Segundo move through the process of being ordained as a pastor. That will take place under the presbytery in Colombia where I did my church-planting internship in 2013-2015. This has proved to be extremely challenging for him, since he has had limited formal education, though his decades of experience in teaching the Bible on the radio and on our team are a big help. Please pray for Segundo



Prayer time in a service

in this process, for the training of other leaders, and for significant growth in the church plant during this next year. We plan to emphasize evangelism this year to promote that. It's a big challenge!

### Prayer & Praise

- Praise God for keeping us safe in the midst of unrest, uncertainty, and rising crime. We appreciate your prayers for our safety and health.
- Please pray for our church plant in this strategic year before our Home Ministry Assignment, for growth and good preparation for our absence. And pray for our pastor in training, Segundo, as he proceeds towards ordination. Thankfully his health has gotten much better since a car hit him in January.
- We thank the Lord that Daniel Sigla has been able to continue translating the Old Testament for the Central Highland Quichua language. He has now finished 1 Kings and is into 2 Kings. Continue to pray for Rick and the editing team as they work to keep up. Please pray as we get Quichua community leaders started on checking the translation, also.



## Cultural Closeup

Car registration hassles! Just like in the United States, we have to register our car here in Ecuador every year and pay taxes. But unlike the U.S. in recent years, we have to pass a mechanical inspection, and that inspection needs to take place at an official government site. This past year, the computer system in Quito for the car registration has been down because it was hacked. And things are really a hassle to get the inspection done.

Our car's license plate ends with the number 6, so originally we had to have all the paperwork done before the end of July. Our mechanic kept the car this summer while we were gone, got it all fixed up, and planned to take it through inspection in July. But the computer system wasn't up and running yet, so everyone's paperwork was delayed. He tried to get the inspection done mid-August, but it didn't get finished, and there are still cars that were due in March trying to get an appointment and get inspected. Well, now we have an appointment in September, but our car suddenly broke down, and we're trying to get it fixed in time, since we aren't sure how easy it will be to get another appointment. You can pray for us!

Another note: We got Anne's car's registration renewal done in Nebraska very quickly, and through the mail. I wish it worked that way here!

Notice: After many, many years our email address is changing! Our new email address is <a href="mailto:Rick@Aschmann.net">Rick@Aschmann.net</a> (it's not really new, but it is to most of you). Please do not continue to use <a href="mailto:RAschmann@mtwsa.org">RAschmann@mtwsa.org</a>. This address will become obsolete at the end of the year!

E-mail address:
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Quichua web page:
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