



December 2022

Christ Merry Christmas from the Aschmanns

¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10-11

Make disciples of all nations . . . (Matthew 28:19)

Please pray for our little church plant. We are now mainly investing our time and energy into discipling a few key families. Throughout the past year, several families who had faithfully attended for several years have stopped coming. In several cases this was because they realized that continuing meant fully committing their lives to Jesus, and they were not prepared to do that. We are still working to invite others to our service, but God has not opened many doors so far.

However, we continue investing in these few families, and it has been exciting to see them grow in their walk with God. And their children are making decisions to follow the Lord, too. We ask for your prayers to know how to step forward. God knows!

Baptizing them . . .

In November we had the encouragement and honor of baptizing a lady who has been attending our church plant for several years. Her name is María Beatriz, and we mentioned her and her son David in our [September, 2020 newsletter](#). She accepted Christ earlier this year. Since she has some learning difficulties and doesn't read or see well, Rick and Segundo spent some one-on-one time with her to make sure she clearly understood this step. It is exciting to see how God is working in her life.

Notice: After many, many years our email address has changed! Our new email address is Rick@Aschmann.net (it's not really new, but it is to most of you). Please **do not continue to use** RASchmann@mtwsa.org. That address will become obsolete at the end of the year!



Segundo and Rick praying with María Beatriz after the baptism

Thank you for your faithful partnership with us!

God has been faithfully providing for us through so many of you over the last couple of years. In many cases we received large one-time gifts, which made up for our shortfall in monthly pledges. Thank you! So for quite a while there has been no need to mention our financial needs in our newsletters. However, we are still lacking about \$500 per month in monthly pledges, so if you would like to join our partnership team, please let us know. You can give as shown at the bottom.

Prayer & Praise

- Praise God that our daughter Anne had successful surgery on her left eye to remove cataracts so that the peripheral vision in it is restored. Also praise that she still has full vision in her right eye. And please pray for safe travels for Anne as she comes to see us for Christmas.
- Please pray for our son Nathan as he looks into college options for next year, for wisdom and for God's clear leading.
- Please continue praying for our church plant in this strategic year before our Home Ministry Assignment, that God would clearly lead us and will provide new members according to his will.
- 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 2 Chronicles in first draft. He and his wife have had some major health problems and have been through some major surgeries, so please pray for continued health and strength for them.



Cultural Closeup

Our car here in Ecuador is quite old, a 1995 Chevrolet Trooper. And lately it has been in the shop a lot, costing quite a bit of money. On the other hand, vehicles here cost more than they do in the U.S., and used vehicles tend to hold their value here better. We bought it for \$9000 from friends 7 years ago, and in the current market we could probably still get at least \$8000 for it. So we just keep fixing it!

One reason we have to make sure everything continues to work on it is that Ecuador requires all vehicles to have a mechanical inspection once a year, and pretty much everything must be working for them to pass inspection.

However, one problem is that our car is so old that sometimes parts are simply not available. If we had this car in the U.S., we would long since have junked it, since repairs would have been prohibitively expensive or just plain impossible for lack of parts. But not here in Ecuador! Labor costs here are much lower than in the U.S., so that often the parts cost a lot more than the labor does. And if a part is simply not available, our ingenious and dependable mechanic can often rebuild it or even remake it from scratch.

This can also mean that, even if a part is available, it is sometimes cheaper to rebuild it than to buy it new.

Just to give an idea of how this works, just since August we have had the following car parts rebuilt or remade from scratch:

- Our alternator: It was completely rewired. A new one would have cost \$400 just for the part, but this was just \$250 for parts and labor.

- Our universal joint: It was rebuilt. It broke because the driveshaft was bent and wobbling. Kind of exciting, going 50 on a highway, feeling a vibration, then hearing a huge bang. Thankfully there was an exit right there. God was taking care of us!

- Our driveshaft: It had gotten bent so that it wobbled, but we didn't realize it for a couple of weeks even after the universal got fixed, because it was only a problem at highway speeds. No similar driveshaft was available, so our mechanic found someone who has made it his specialty to remake driveshafts from heavy-duty pipe. It seems to work fine, though it has quite a different feel (and look) from the original. But I took it on a grueling 5-hour trip on steep, winding mountain roads to visit a Quichua village with Segundo, and we had no trouble!

- The entire driver's side electric window mechanism: That part was not available anywhere so the mechanic made it from scratch.

These are just some of the big items!

E-mail address:	Rick@Aschmann.net	
Personal web page:	www.Aschmann.net/Rick	
Quichua web page:	www.Quichua.net/O/Ec/English.html	
Virtual U.S. phone:	972-535-4356 (works in all countries)	
Rick's cell phone:	+593-98-040-0192	
To give online:	Donate	To give by mail:
Or go to www.mtw.org		Mission to the World
→ Give		Account #10107
→ Missionaries		P.O. Box 744165
→ Aschmann, Richard & Betty		Atlanta, GA 30374-4165
→ Give		Memo line: Rick & Betty
		Aschmann, acct. #10107

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

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