

Finishing Up

As we begin August, things are moving along as we finish up a major refurbishing and sprucing up of the camp getting ready for receiving the Lord's people for a rejuvenation in their walk with the Lord. In the tropics, buildings tend to age and deteriorate much more rapidly and need to be painted and spruced up much more frequently than in a temperate climate. The heavy rains and high humidity mean buildings tend to mold and get black streaks in only a year or so. Some of our camp buildings had not been painted in four or five years and it was showing. So this year, using the funds recovered from the embezzlement, we embarked on a major refurbishing of the camp. We painted every building on the camp property and refreshed the termite treatment in the wooded ceilings of the cottages.

We refurbished and upgraded the flower beds for a more pleasing visual environment at the camp.

We put in raised walkways so as to be able to move from cabin to cabin without wading in water during our rainy season.



This has really helped to make the camp more attractive but also serves to help preserve the building themselves. In the process we also made some significant upgrades. We installed a backup generator to help with the frequent electrical outages. This was especially important as we depend on a pump and well for our water and with no electricity we had no water. That was particularly difficult when we had a large crowd using the camp and there was no water for bathing or flushing toilets. A second major upgrade was installing air conditioning. As that becomes much more common in Colombia, many people were choosing not to use the camp as the tropical heat made it difficult to sleep and many more people were becoming accustomed to having air

conditioning in their homes but especially in hotels and places they would stay when traveling. We even raised our walkways so in the rainy season people can pass from one building to the other without wading in water as during a heavy rain the camp will be covered in a few inches of water. We even redid the flower beds that had become overgrown. So at this stage, we have the camp upgraded and updated and ready for continuing to serve the Lord's church into the future.

As we updated and refurbished the camp, we celebrated by having it selected to hold a large ladies conference and spiritual retreat. This event has been our inaugural event help on the newly refurbished church camp property. Women in particular were sometimes concerned about the less than immaculate conditions of the property and so it is fitting we celebrate getting things back into optimum shape by holding a women's conference. This event was international in scope and offered the ladies in the churches of Colombia and Latin America a great time of fellowship and renewal in their faith and walk with the Lord!

At Colombian Christian Mission, we use mostly volunteer labor at the camp, so even pint sized helpers do their part!

The camp is looking very nice again after a major refurbishing and improvement campaign.



We thank those of you who have prayed for my wife as she recovers from her fractured vertebrae incurred when a poorly maintained bus in which she was riding hit a deep chuck hole and threw everyone against the roof of the bus and then onto the floor. We use what services we have available to do the work but we are hoping to be able to soon purchase a large van to ensure having a safe vehicle for our weekly travels to do health brigades with Hasten International Medical Mission and in providing transportation for camp events. We have raised about one fourth of the funds needed to purchase a 16-passenger van with a beefed up suspension system designed to handle the rough roads on which we often travel.

On a less joyful note. I made a trip up to the states as we continue to work to overcome the effects of the betrayal of our values by persons who had been entrusted with our finances and social media here in the States. We have rebuilt an excellent team of coworkers and are now moving forward full steam ahead. We are hoping to soon wrap up the restructuring as legal proceedings continue against those who defamed us and defrauded those of you who had partnered with us in ministry. We thank those of you who have faithfully partnered with us in this incredible ministry the Lord have allowed us to serve in here in Colombia, South America.

My wife shares the Good News with a young patient at one of our Hasten Medical brigades.



Tania, the Hasten dentist, treats a patient at one our service and evangelism brigades.



I often ride a motorbike to my preaching points as it is more economical and provides greater anonymity when traversing dangerous areas.



My wife suffered a back injury when riding in a sub-standard public transport vehicle when traveling for one of our medical missions in a rural area.



Installing a light plant was a huge blessing as we have frequent power outages and that would leave us without water when the camp was full of people.



We hold weekly devotional and planning meetings for our Hasten Medical Mission health and evangelism brigades.

