



CHURCH CAMP, EARTHQUAKES, MEDICAL MISSIONS AND BIBLE COLLEGE

Church Camp and Bible College

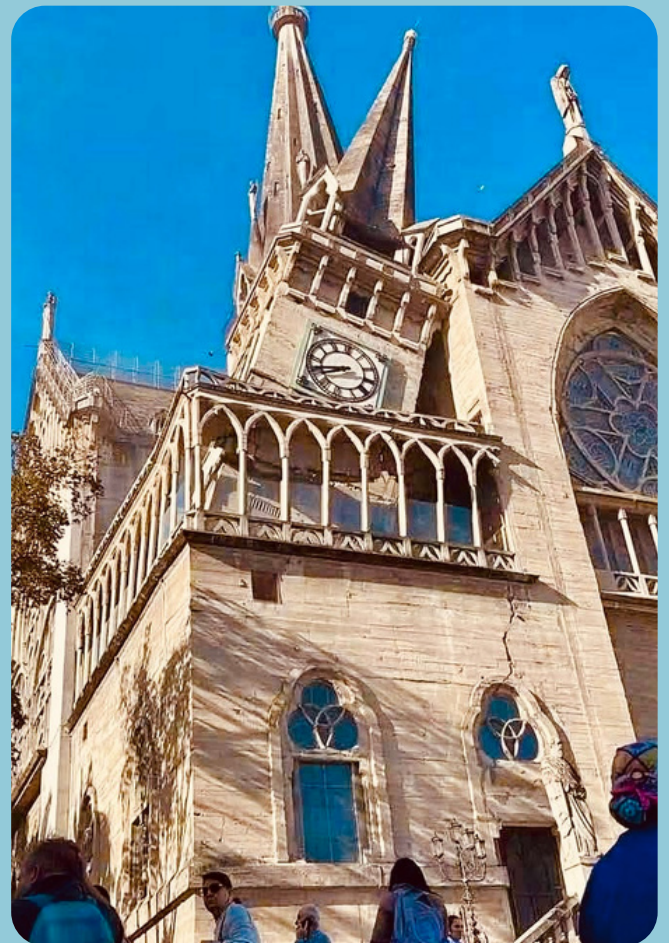
August was a busy month as we kept up with our Church Camp activities as always, hosting schools, church groups, and families. I spent time at the family cemetery in West Virginia and held an important organizational meeting for the new Bible College and then worked on trying to learn to use the recording equipment I will be needing as I record my classes for uploading to the Bible College web site for all of you to enjoy and learn new truths.

When It Hit

Then, a massive earthquake hit Colombia and did extensive damage to the western part of the country. We have a church in a small city on the western coast that had not received any aid whatsoever in those early critical days. So, we raised a bit over \$6,000 from those of you who had a heart to help. We purchased hundreds of pounds of food supplies. We donated blankets, sheets, and bunk beds from our camp program. While all of that was needed for the camp, it was needed far more by families sleeping on the ground. So we sent those supplies as well. We sent hundreds of dresses that we had to pass out in our health brigades as well. Finally we sent a large shipment of medications from our Medical ministry pharmacy to provide for the needs in that city. We loaded all of that into a bus that we packed as tight as we could from the floor to the ceiling and my wife, step daughter, and several other people from our camp ministry spent twenty hours on that bus as they traveled to Buenaventura, the town we chose to help. Once there they partnered with the preacher at the local church and carefully distributed the supplies to those who had the greatest need. After two days, the team loaded into the bus and headed back to our area and the camp. We recognize that given the massive need, what we did was a small amount, but we did as much as we possibly could.



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Medical Missions

Then as always, we continue to hold our Hasten International Medical and Evangelism Brigades twice each month. We normally do one in town and then one in an outlying village. Sometimes we do two or even three in a row in town if we do not have funds to charter the bus for the trip to a village church to hold the brigade. That was the case this month as all of the available funds we had we spend on earthquake relief efforts and transportation getting the team and the supplies over there. But there is no shortage of need here in our small city so our efforts continue to provide for a significant need wherever we hold the Hasten Brigade.



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We Have Prayer Requests

Then as an addendum to my recent newsletter I will also share some prayer requests and needs of the work in Colombia.

First off all, continue to pray for the victims of the earthquake as many people have lost their homes and almost no one has insurance in Colombia. We sent over several hundred pounds of rice and beans, several bunk beds, dozens of sets of sheets, many large bags of clothing, as well as nearly a hundred doses of insulin for those with diabetes. We did what we could for those who lost everything but recovery will take a very long time and they will have a difficult time for quite some time as they work to recover.

Second, keep the financial needs of the mission in your prayers. This year, for the very first time in more than fifty years in Colombia, the dollar dropped significantly in value, dropping from \$4,800 pesos to the dollar to now we are getting slightly less than \$3,000, nearly a 40% drop in value while the cost in pesos in Colombia went up by 20% due to inflation, meaning in one year we have lost nearly 60% of our purchasing power there in Colombia. We have work contracts and scholarships where we are committed to providing in pesos with set amounts and now it is taking considerably more income to cover those expenses and that has put extreme strain on us financially. If you can possibly increase your support that would be a huge blessing to us and the work there in Colombia.





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Next, we have a project that has been sitting for nearly five years and that is the fourth cottage. We got it under roof but simply roughed in when the pandemic hit and since then we have not been able to do anything more on it. Then, this month, one small church of only 40 members sent up \$2,000 for starting to lay the floor tile. To total cost to lay the floor will be about \$7,000 which includes material and labor. After that we have the bathrooms and kitchen to tile and the appliances and fixtures to purchase. But we have finally started to work on this cabin after a five year hiatus and we need your help to continue. So pray the Lord continue to provide funding so we can move this project forward.

Finally, after four years with a communist president who tried to move the country in that direction, this recent election saw a narrow victory by a conservative president. So instead of pushing the homosexual agenda, legalization of drugs, abortion, defunding the police and the army, the new president is promising to reign in the increasing insecurity and stop what had been an expanding drug trafficking. So we can lift up a prayer of thanksgiving that the Good Lord has blessed the country with a chance to save itself from a Maduro type dictatorship that the previous president had attempted to install.





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A Great Big Thanks!

I could not end this message without a thanks to all of you for your encouragement and faithful support as we strive to move the Lord's kingdom forward in Colombia. You are dear brothers and sisters as well as encouragers and partners in Ministry! Un fuerte abrazo...and I will let Google Translate explain that little bit of Spanish that for you!

Donate Now!

Colombian Christian Mission
PO Box 95, Rittman, OH 44270, USA

<https://www.zeffy.com/donation-form/6a878b78-d0e3-43de-bce9-9ccb28a5c5de>

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