

November 13, 2009



Dear Friends, Despite all appearances, our ministry is not about assignments and projects. Nor is it about finances and goals. While we often try to provide you with a big picture of our ministry, telling you about what is happening in the region, or in a specific country or even a specific church, the heart of our ministry is about people! Our ministry is about people like the ones seen in the picture above.

As we count our many blessings in this season of Thanksgiving, we are most thankful for people! We are thankful, of course, for our family, our friends and our supporters. We are also thankful for our niece, Kristin (the "gringo" seen above), who is ministering along-side us for three months and for all of those to whom we minister (and to whom you minister by supporting us).

As you read through our newsletter this month, we hope you will be thankful for your part in ministering to these people but also be encouraged to share Christ with the people in your life. *(By the way, if you live in or are visiting KY, don't miss the opportunity to connect with some of our other supporters on November 28. More details at the bottom of this page.)*

Reaching People with English Practice

Cecelia was the first to accept one of our email invitations to Alpha in English. She is a single mother who teaches English in a Catholic school. Like everyone else, she was nervous when she arrived the first night but has opened up and shared. She is soaking up the teaching and enjoying the conversation but has not yet stayed for an actual church service.



Fernando saw the ENGLISH PRACTICE sign we put up at the school where he is studying to be a translator. He actually lives close to our home but, like us, travels all the way across town to attend Alpha in English. His backpack has words about "rebellion" but he seems willing to listen to what is being said, and had a long conversation with Pastor Luis about music after one session. He stayed for church one week.

Marta and Soledad are local university students who are studying to become English teachers. They came to Alpha for week two and also stayed for church. On Wednesday Kristin and Beth had lunch with them and they brought along Ivianica (all three are in the picture at the top). We're getting together to bake and watch a movie on Friday night and then hope to join all of them again at Alpha on Saturday. They also introduced us to the head of the English department who promises to promote Alpha in English to her students.

Pastor Luis Alberto has befriended a neighbor who said, "I don't want to hear anything about religion." Yet, he allowed Pastor Luis Alberto to continue visiting and they have become good friends. Ronaldo is the primary caregiver for his very ill mother and recently, he gave Luis Alberto the opportunity to pray with him. While he isn't ready to come to church, this weekend Ronaldo is willing to "try out" Alpha in English.

Please pray for these people and the overall English Alpha that is held every Saturday at 4 p.m. Pray that others may come to know Christ personally through this experience!



Reaching People Through Modern Technology

Like it or not, you can no longer send missionaries off on a ship and forget about them for several years. Thanks to technology that is beyond our comprehension, we

can send you frequent updates (like this) and we may even call you from time-to-time. In fact, we are **very thankful** for the opportunities it has given us to stay connected to you.

Another thing beyond our comprehension is the ways of God. We sincerely believe that He is using this technology for His glory. The technology, in fact, has allowed us to extend our ministry to the USA through email communication but more importantly, it has allowed Beth to stay in frequent contact with a friend who was recently diagnosed with uterine cancer. Their telephone conversations and prayers have eternal implications. Please join us in prayer for Nancy and her family. This week she began both chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

Caring for the Pastor

Pastor Luis Alberto Vera has just completed his practical ministry/internship here at Casa Grande and we have great news to report.

1. He will officially graduate for the seminary in Colombia on November 20.
2. He and his family are planning to stay in Chile and continue the work here at Casa Grande and with the seminary extension!



However, this news does not come without its own challenges. Due to a new government regulation, he must return to Colombia for an exam prior to graduation. Therefore, he is leaving on Wednesday to go back BUT when he asked for the time off at work, it was not granted due to the fact that he has not yet worked there for one year. Therefore, his last day of work was Wednesday. Unfortunately the church income is not sufficient to be the sole source of support for this family.

He has applied for a teaching position at a local university but that job will not begin until March. Please pray for Pastor Luis Alberto and family. If you would like to help support them financially in these difficult months, you may do so through this link:

[Santiago Church Planting Project Online Giving.](#)

Thank you also for your prayers for Pastor Luis Alberto, Daisy, Luis Fernando (age 6) and Daviana (age 2).

Our November Ministry Calendar

Saturdays

4 p.m. Alpha in English

6 p.m. Spanish Service and Children's Program

Wednesdays

8 p.m. Pastoral Epistles Class - Seminary Extension

Beth is a student, Ricardo will be filling in for Pastor Luis Alberto as teacher for the next two weeks.

12-14 Chilean Annual Conference in Chillan, Chile - Ricardo and Pastor Luis Alberto are attending

13 Dinner and Movie at home with the college girls (see above)

20 Women's Program - Christmas Craft Workshop

26 Thanksgiving Dinner with our Chilean/American family and friends at home

Nov. 18 - Dec. 7 Pastor Luis Alberto in Colombia. Ricardo will be replacing him in all of the church roles.

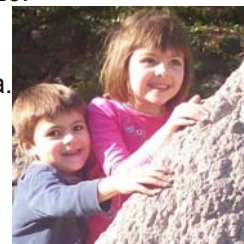
Bonus Pictures

Here are a few snapshots from the past month that we thought you might enjoy....



Beth seen here teaching at the Sweet Night we hosted for the women of Casa Grande. This was the kick off for our women's ministry. 1 lady brought 3 friends. Our next event is the Christmas Craft Workshop on November 20.

Juliana and Jonathan smile for the camera.





Jonathan and Ricardo enjoyed hiking in the mountains with Jonathan's preschool. As you can see, Ricardo did a lot more hiking.

A mountain-top view of our home city, Santiago, Chile.



"I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, that your faith is proclaimed throughout whole world" (Romans 1:8).

With hearts full of gratitude and prayers for your blessings,
Happy Thanksgiving!

Ricardo, Beth, Juliana and Jonathan

Our Support Report

As always, we thank you for your financial support! We thought you should know how our finances stand at this point.

We still need to raise \$23,160 to break even for 2009. If you or your church would like to make a donation to help bridge that gap, please do so by [clicking here](#) or send your donation to FMWM using the address at the bottom of this email.

We currently have 26% of our support for 2010 confirmed. If you would like to continue your support, increase your support or perhaps begin supporting our ministry to Latin America, please replay to this email. Thank you.



Raising the Roof



If you live in Nicholasville, Wimore, Lexington or the surrounding area (or if you are visiting), you are cordially invited to dinner at **Nicholasville United Methodist Church** - 303 West Maple, Nicholasville, KY on **Saturday, November 28, 2009.**

Dinner will be served **from 5:30 to 8 p.m.**

Reservations should be made before November 23 through the NUMC Church office at 885-4481.

Get Directions by [clicking here.](#)

An offering will be taken and all proceeds go to help raise money for the much needed Roof Replacement at Comunidad Cristiana Casa Grande (the church we are planting).

The dinner will be prepared and hosted by our friend, Jose Buenrostro. He uses his God-given talent, cooking, to support missionaries. Beth's Dad will then deliver the proceeds to Pastor Luis Alberto IN PERSON when he comes to Chile on December 10!!!!

Come and Eat. Enjoy authentic Mexican Food and Friendly Fellowship for a Good Cause!