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YOUR MISSIONARIES IN COMBIA

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Contact

AARON VANCE

aaronlvance@gmail.com (678) 696-0082 | [USA] +57 (304) 546-8596 | [COL] www.BeMagnified.org

Field Address: Calle 91 # 22-104 APTO 804 Bucaramanga - Santander COLOMBIA



MACEDONIA WORLD BAPTIST MISSIONS, INC.

MWBM, Inc. PO Box 519 Braselton, GA 30517 "Aaron Vance - 322"

* Or, give online at: www.BeMagnified.org





Dr. Charles Blackstock, Pastor www.lighthouse-baptist.com (706) 265-9868



Dear Praying Friends & Family,

Jesus said in Matthew 16 that he would build his church, and that is exactly what is happening here in Bucaramanga. This month's update is full of praises as well as some family news.

NEW CHURCH TAKING BABY STEPS

Our second church plant here, which we began in March, is growing and people are becoming more grounded through Bible teaching and preaching. Several of our leaders have begun weekly home bible study groups to strengthen new believers as well as give them an opportunity to make a Gospel connection with their friends and family. After 4 months of meeting in a community center, we finally found a place to rent at the end of June. It's a small house, and there is a lot of work to be done, but we are thrilled about the progress and the new opportunities. Two of our men, Félix and Díver, are sharing the load of pastoring this new work. Please pray for them, and specifically that Félix would find a godly wife.

EDIFYING THE BODY OF CHRIST

Our first church in Colombia will be 3 years old in a couple weeks. We have a constant flow of new visitors, new believers to baptize, and new disciples who are committed to following Christ. I have loved seeing the spiritual growth and maturity of these believers over the last few years. As I look around, it is evident we are entering into the next phase of ministry and the next stage of this church plant. At the beginning, my family and I did everything from cleaning the church, teaching children's classes, evangelism, discipleship, preaching all the services, organizing special days, teaching leadership classes, bookkeeping and more. Now, those who were brand new believers not long ago are not only serving in all of these areas, but leading. Some are not only leading, but they are also leading other leaders. This is what missions is all about! We look forward to many more years of being involved in this ministry!

BABY GIRL #4 COMING IN NOVEMBER

Yes, you read that right. We're having ANOTHER girl! Each of our girls — Amira (7), Anabel (5) and Aris (2) — are excited and already suggesting names, some of which are pretty wild! Pray for Aubrie in the 2nd half of the pregnancy.

SAYING GOODBYE FROM FAR AWAY

My grandfather, Donald Swaim, passed away at the end of June. He would have been 87 in a couple weeks. He was a believer and was always witnessing to everyone he met. He took me to Mexico, where he had been a missionary, when I was 15, and he constantly encouraged me to follow God's will for my life. One of the hardest parts of being on the mission field is not being there with loved ones in the end, though we do rejoice in the hope we have in the Gospel. Thanks to technology and the help of some family, I was able to speak to him and say goodbye before he passed away.

COMING BACK FOR FURLOUGH IN 2018

Lord willing, our family will be returning to the States for furlough from February 2018 until the New Year. This will serve several purposes: (1) to give a report to our supporters of the great things the Lord has done; (2) to raise more financial support from new churches as the ministry expands and we plant more churches; (3) to preach world missions and cast a vision to see God call more laborers; (4) to spend time with extended family; (5) to provide an opportunity to the preachers and leaders in the ministry here in Colombia to exercise their gifts and calling. If you would like to schedule us to come to your church, please send me an email (aaronlvance@gmail.com) or give me a call (678-696-0082)! We are now filling up our calendar.

As always, we are grateful for each of you for your prayers and financial support. Thank you for holding the ropes for us as we minister in Colombia, South America!

With love in Christ and for his glory,

Aaron, Aubrie, Amira, Anabel, Aris (& BABY) Vance



The new building for the 2nd church. It will take some work to get it ready. Pray that many lives are changed here



Inree of our preachers, Diver (left), Oscar (center) & Félix (right), in the new building for the church plant.



church on the coast of Colombia. Pray for Pastor Bairo and his congregation!





