

The Jones Family

Jeff, Johanna, Daryelys, Jatniel & Jeffrey



Good to be back in Church

As I write to you, Father's Day is this coming Sunday. I am sure you will be reading this newsletter later; but, I would like to wish you all a Happy Father's Day from our family. This past year has been a hard one for several families, as many fathers have gone to be with the Lord. We should, during these days, cherish the times we had and the time we have with our fathers now.

It has been some time since our last newsletter, and we thank you for all your prayers and support. During the last few months, we were able to get back to our in-church services. In fact, on February 10, we had our first service in the church since March 15, 2020~ almost one year later. It was not until March 7, 2021, that the government allowed movement on the weekends. That enabled us to have our first Sunday service in the church; although it came with many restrictions, such as face masks, 2 meter social-distancing, temperature checks, disinfecting everything, and even keeping a list of those who attend. Slowly these restrictions have been lightened, but we continue many of them for our own safety and anyone who attends.

Covid in Panama has taken its toll on the church. A few good pastor friends of ours have passed away due to contracting Covid this last year. And many of us have noticed that people are not as willing to return to church. I believe one of our greatest challenges is getting people to witness for Christ during these days. People are scared to go out and visit while others are unwilling to receive tracts or visits from people that they may not know. But sin is still real, and people still need a Savior. Please pray that our people will be bold in their witness and that the Holy Spirit will open the right doors to witness to those who are willing to hear.

Our church attendance has not gotten back to where it was pre-Covid, but I believe it is that way in many churches. As soon as we could open back up on the weekends, we had our Sunday a.m. service. We started with short services, as the government encouraged everyone to keep gatherings to one hour or less. Therefore, we had only one or two songs and preaching on Sunday mornings. We continued to have Sunday night services online. We had already been having Wednesday night services at church for a month. Sunday night services online gave us time for someone to come and clean and disinfect the church in between our Sunday a.m. and Wednesday p.m. service. Within just a few weeks, I decided that we could safely disinfect everything between Sunday a.m. and Sunday p.m.; therefore we started Sunday evening services, as well.

Between March and April, we normally have a mission's conference to support any new missionaries. Determined not to allow the devil to stop us, we decided to have an in-person Mission's Conference in early April and the Lord truly blessed. I was concerned, in that many of our people have lost their jobs or are just struggling financially. We have, up to this point, supported 6 missionaries at \$50 a month. This is \$300 a month that, with the Lord's help, we were able to do even during the pandemic. During the conference, God really laid on my heart, I thought HOW can we when many are struggling now? We had our mission's conference and as the faith promises came in, we were short by just \$33.50 to reach the \$400 a month goal to support the other 2 missionaries. Also, I have been told and have personally seen that only 75% of what is normally promised comes in monthly. Once again I asked myself, How? But, I was asking the wrong person. God really impressed on my heart to go forward and support the other 2 missionaries~ young men I know, personally. The church decided by FAITH to add the missionaries; and to this point, we have had over \$400 a month come in for missions by the 15th of every month. Praise the Lord! We have now gone back to having all 3 services a week, including Sunday School'

Please pray with us about our transportation needs. We have, just in the last week, replaced the radiator on the church van for the second time in six months. We have had the van now for six years and it is a 2009 model. It is in good-working order, but it is now starting to need repairs more frequently. This is our only vehicle; our other van had to be sold, because the repairs it needed were too expensive to be justified. Pray with us about the purchase of another personal vehicle so that we may use the van only for church use and get more time out of it. We also continue to pray for the purchase of land to build a church. We have, at the moment, over \$13,000 saved with a goal of between \$30,000 to \$50,000. Any gifts given toward this project can be earmarked to let me know it's for our land fund. By the way, we are trying a new website. You can visit us at: https://www.panamajeff.com/

If you or your church would like to help support the work in Panama, your support can be sent to Faith Church or given online at www.faithfwbc.com/give.html by designating it to the Jones' Account. We thank each of you for your prayers and financial support. That makes it possible for us to serve the Lord here in Panama.

Prayer Requests:

- 1. Land Fund
- 2. Faithfulness of our people3. Ability to
- witness for Christ in Panama
- 4. Church Van and Car for Family

Thank You So Much For Your Faithful Support!

Please send Contributions to:

Jeff Jones Mission Account

Faith FWB Church 1200 W. Grantham St. Goldsboro, NC 27530

100% of your gift will go directly to our account.

You can also give online at www.faithfwbc.com

For more updates, please follow us on FACEBOOK at Church Planters/Missionaries to Panama.

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