

**Newsletter from the Alvarados**  
**June 7, 2010**



**Lecture at the University of Panama**

**Greetings from Panama!**

It's always a joy for us to share with you the fruits of our mission effort in Panama.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> we had the wonderful experience of sharing the gospel at the campus of the University of Panama. Having a Christian lecture at this state university with 68 thousand students was a great achievement. The average attendance was 350 during these 3 days, 20 of them were visitors. 3 individuals were baptized during the lecture. **Jeracy Cogley** was one of the visitors who came forward in response to the invitation to obey the gospel of Christ. Jeracy wanted to meditate more about this great decision. He finally decided to be baptized on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**Jeracy responded to the invitation- April 24<sup>th</sup>**



**Jeracy's baptism- June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Jeracy is an editor at a TV station (channel 21). Through him, our youth leaders, Alis and Adolfo Rios, were able to speak nationwide on TV about our local church programs. They invited the audience to attend the Lecture at the university and our Acapella concert which will take place next Saturday (June 12<sup>th</sup>). We're expecting to have an attendance of about 500 people at this event.



“A gusto” TV program (Channel 21) —→ Alis & Adolfo spoke about our church’s programs

The Richardson family who came from Modesto California in January of this year has been deeply involved in our local church ministries. Jim Richardson and I are visiting the Children’s hospital every Wednesday and Thursday morning. This hospital has a public elementary school for the sick children who aren’t able to attend the local schools. While Jim teaches English to these kids, I visit the ill children who’re unable to stand to assist the classes. I pray with them and with their parents. At the end of the English class, Jim prays for the students in English and I translate in Spanish. We have the most wonderful and moving experiences by sharing the love of Jesus with these children!



Jim teaching English and sharing Jesus love with the kids at the Children’s hospital

Lynn Richardson is also doing a wonderful job teaching our ladies. She has been sharing with our women a series of lessons based on the book of Richard Foster, *Worship to the Discipline*, which have encouraged our ladies to practice the *spiritual disciplines* to grow in Christ and to have a closer relationship with Him. Jim and Lynn’s daughter, Libby, has also been actively involved in every activity of our youth group. She is making a great effort by learning Spanish and assimilating the Panamanian culture.



Jim, Lynn and Libby Richardson



Libby participating in our youth activities

To participate in our Home Bible studies during the week is a joyful experience because of the family atmosphere of these meetings. Our **4 growth groups** meet during the week to edify the members with the Word and to share the gospel with relatives and neighbors. Presently, all the groups are studying the book of Acts simultaneously. Our group in Albrook is meeting on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. either in our home or at the Richardson's house. Last Wednesday we had an attendance of 18 people.



**Bible study & fellowship at the Alvarados' home**



**Querube's baptism**

**Wendell Watson** has been ministering with us since the Metropolitan Church of Christ was established in Panama City. As a Math Professor, Wendell has the talent to teach, and even more, the Holy Spirit gave him the gift to teach and preach the Word. Last Sunday (June 6<sup>th</sup>) Wendell presented a powerful message about ***the need to seek God first***. Querube Herrera was deeply moved by this message and decided to be baptized that same day. Querube was brought to the church by her daughter **Carolina** who was recently converted to Christ.



**Wendell, Querube, Carolina**

Carolina's desire to share the Word with her family and friends is only one example of how our youth group is energizing the church with a lot of joy and enthusiasm. They were the ones in charge of leading the Sunday worship on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The whole church was pleased with their leadership. **Our son Isaac** did a marvelous job in presenting the message that Sunday. He spoke about ***the Christian duties***. That was Isaac farewell's message, because he will be leaving the country on August 17<sup>th</sup> to begin his college education at Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas. He'll be joining his older brother,

Raul Jr. at Harding. Raul will start **his Master degree in Marriage and Family Therapy** in August.

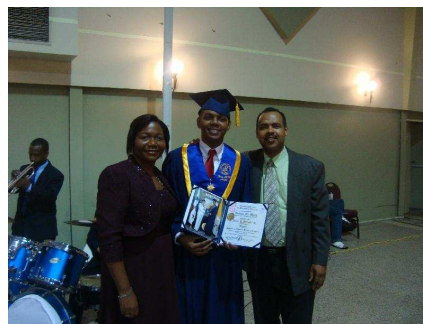


Isaac preaching during Sunday worship (May 30<sup>th</sup>)

Betty and I were so proud to see our “little Isaac” (17) graduating from High School with Honor Roll. This is what we read about him in his yearbook-2010: “...**Thanks to his parent’s decision to travel to Panama, we have him with us since 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Since then Isaac has been a very good student. This very tall boy has always enjoyed life and everything that has to do with it! Isaac is good in sports, piano, Math, Science, French, English, Spanish and bla bla bla... (oh my gosh...hahaha). Don’t think this guy is just a study- holic (need a dictionary), since we have seen him sleeping in finance class and eating in some other classes!!! He’s very funny and definitely you can laugh out loud everyday at school, except when he tells his sarcastic jokes... (Just kidding: O) If you have any trouble understanding anything, well, he is the solution! If you any trouble in looking for someone far away in the school hallways, well he is also the solution. And if you want to speak to a friend, no doubt, he is the solution. If you didn’t know about this fact (I’m sure you will be saying I know this fact), he is an excellent listener and he would, for sure, help you out...**”



Isaac’s graduation- May 31<sup>st</sup>



Isaac Yair Alvarado Leonard- Honor roll

Betty and I consider that our greatest mission field is our own family. To witness our kids practicing and sharing the Christian faith is the most wonderful achievement. We thank you so much for collaborating with us in this great mission work and for supporting our family...our kids and, consequently, our future generations.

In Christ love

Raul & Betty