

## Newsletter from the Alvarados

February, 2010



Raul Sr., Betty, Isaac & Anayansi Alvarado  
(Raul Jr. is at Harding University for its graduate program)

### Greetings from Panama!

Presently, we're enjoying both the pleasant summer season of our country (In Panama the summer season runs from January to April) and the joyful fellowships we're having in our local congregation, which is "La Iglesia de Cristo Metropolitana". Our dry season allows us to do both indoor and outdoor congregational and outreach activities.

Our home has become a place of fellowship and Bible studies. One of the 5 small groups we have in our congregation meets at our house every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Last Tuesday we handed out flyers in our neighborhood in Albrook. It was a pleasant experience to introduce ourselves to our neighbors as Christians and friends and to invite them to our Home Bible studies. Our plan for this summer is to visit the neighborhoods of the 6 families that are attending our Wednesday Bible classes.



Christian fellowship at the Alvarado's home

There are 4 other small groups in our congregation. The families that host these groups are Elio and Serafina Vergara (Arraijan), Dolores Leonard (Brisas del Golf), Wendell and Ana Watson (Don Bosco) and Hilario y Mónica Moreno (Tocumen). The objective of these groups is to reach Non- Christian individuals and families with the gospel of Christ in order to grow and multiply ourselves in small groups in different areas of Panama City.

On January 31<sup>st</sup> the Metropolitan church enjoyed having fellowship with the church in “Chorrera” where I was baptized 32 years ago by my grandfather (The town of Chorrera is located in the western area of the province of Panama, about 25 miles from Panama City). I had the opportunity to preach during the Sunday worship. The topic was the “Unity of the church”. We had an attendance of 160 individuals at this fellowship.



Fellowship with the Church of Christ in Chorrera

On Monday, January 25, my co-worker Elio Vergara and I was having lunch together when Hilario Moreno called us because he was sharing the gospel with a man in his taxi (Hilario Morano is a taxi driver and a faithful member at our congregation). This man was deeply depress and needed spiritual help urgently. Hilario brought him to us to give him words of encouragement and to share the gospel with him. He decided to be baptized immediately (Act 16:33). His name is **Ricardo Gonzalez**. Presently, Hilario is teaching him to be a faithful disciple.

**Abraham Chenoa** was one of the students of the Let’s Start Taking Program which was held in August of 2009 at the high school (“Instituto America”) where we worship. A LST group from the congregation in Davis Park, Modesto California, planted the seed of the gospel in the heart of this young man. Abraham decided to be baptized last Thursday (Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>). He’ll be attending our home Bible study in Albrook.



Abraham Chenoa, our new brother in Christ

On January the 14<sup>th</sup> the Lord added a new member to our congregation: A precious baby was born in our Christian family. Her name is **Melissa Michelle Mojica**. She's the youngest daughter of Freddy and Aida Mojica. Alejandra (4) is their oldest daughter. The Mojica family is one of the most active and faithful members in our congregation.



The Mojica family



Melissa Michelle Mojica

Using pantomime, our youth group performed such a powerful message during one of our Sunday fellowship that they were asked to present it again at our Youth Convention which will take place in Sanson, Darien this coming weekend (Feb. 13-16). The organizers of this activity asked me to present a message right after our youth performance. It's entitled, "The power of Jesus' love". They're expecting an attendance of 200 young people during this convention.



Our youth group presenting the drama: "The power of Jesus' love"

Betty and I decided to go out for a walk late at night along the cost in one of the most beautiful areas of Panama City. It's called "Cinta Costera" which is a brand new avenue built on the cost line. We spent a wonderful time together enjoying the nice weather and the beauty of this place. This kind of attraction and the pleasant weather of Panama- especially during our summer season- are bringing people from all over to our country. This has giving us the opportunity to share the gospel of Christ with people from different nations.



Betty and I enjoying the cost line of Panama City

Please, keep praying for us asking the Lord to establish through our mission effort a missionary and visionary church in Panama City which can impact the whole nation and many people around the world with the gospel.

In Christ love,

Raul and Betty Alvarado

PS. Visit our facebook page; look for "Iglesia de Cristo Metropolitana" en la Ciudad de Panama and click on "Caras de nuestros miembros" (Our member's faces).