

Newsletter from the Alvarados

September 24, 2010



The Alvarados celebrating Anayansi's birthday

Greetings from Panama City!

We always give thanks to the Lord for the great blessing of sharing the gospel of Christ with our own people in Panama. It is very encouraging to see the fruits of our labor and to be able to share this joy with you.

The 24th National Ladies Convention

On August 28th, 16 of our ladies participated at the National Ladies Convention, which took place at the Caribe Hotel in Panama City. Ladies from all the congregations of the churches of Christ came to be edified in the



Word and have fellowship with one another. It was a very uplifting experience especially for our new converts who attended for the first time. About 300 ladies attended the event.



Fellowship with the Las Garzas Church of Christ

One of our objectives as a congregation for this year is to establish a closer relationship with the congregations in the city. Therefore, last Sunday September 19th, we worshipped with the Las Garzas Church of Christ and had



fellowship after the services. Every member enjoyed praising the Lord and getting to know new brothers and sisters in Christ. After the message one of the ladies decided to be baptized.



Hospital Ministry in Action

The hospital ministry is our newest outreach program. The Panamanian Government has provided a public school at the Children's Hospital to educate the students that are receiving long term treatments. Some of these students have been at the hospital for several years. Such is the case of **Daniel and Elizabeth** who both have been receiving dialysis treatment for 8 years! At the school the children do not study English as a subject. Therefore, we have offered our services in this area on Wednesdays and Thursday mornings from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. At the same time another group of our members are visiting those that are too ill to attend classes. The gospel is shared and basic items are donated among the sick and their families.



Daniel and Elizabeth



Visiting the sick and their parents at the Children Hospital

Benevolence Ministry in Action



Another ministry that is actively working for the Lord is our Benevolence Ministry. Yarelys is a 21 years old mother who lost her husband a few months ago. She's the mother of 3 little girls: Belinda (4), Mayelis (2) and Maibel (11 months). She is from the Las Garzas community. By talking to Jorge Valdes one of the Las Garzas ministers, we found out about Yarelys and her living conditions. The Metropolitan Benevolence Ministry decided to collaborate along with the Las Garzas members to provide food for Yarelys and her three children and to donate construction materials to improve her living conditions.

Yarelys was converted to Christ last Monday!



Anayansi's 14th Birthday



Since our two sons - Raul Jr. and Isaac- are presently studying at Harding University, Betty and I had the new experience of celebrating our daughter's 14th birthday without them (Sept 21st). It is also a new experience to do the mission in Panama without our two boys who were of great support in the Youth Ministry.



Betty and I were so blessed to have this special time to share with our daughter Anayansi. We cannot believe how quickly she has grown to be a beautiful young Christian lady. We took her out for dinner along with two of her closest friends. She laughed and had fun at her special private party.



God is working...

We encourage you to visit our web page:

www.iglesiametropolitana.com.

You will know more about our vision, mission and different ministries. You will also see pictures of our members and different activities. God is doing great things at the Metropolitan church. He is teaching the church what true Christianity is by motivating each member to be actively involved in one of our eight ministries. On September 12nd, the leaders

of the different ministries led a congregational meeting in which they motivated each member to make a personal commitment with the Lord to live a life that is worthy of our Savior and to reach out to their neighbor just as Christ and his disciples did. Everyone expressed the desire to be more involved in serving and growing in the Word. We pray for this spark to be long lasting. Thank you for being a part of this marvelous work.