

A Final Word

Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a Victor from the dark domain
And He lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!



"Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?"

Then they remembered Jesus' words.

Luke 24.5-8 The Message

Let's remember all year long! The Jones Family

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Kirk & Yvonne Jones

MISSIONARIES TO THE CHILDREN OF PANAMA

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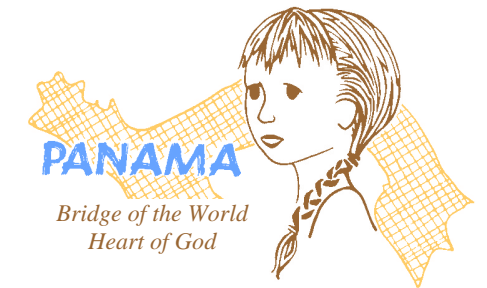
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The Jones Journal



Kirk, Yvonne, Chloe, Anthony, Celina & Gracie
AGWM Missionaries to the Children of Panamá

Vol. XVIII ✦ Issue 1 ✦ April 2007

Ministry Report ~ by Kirk

We trust the first few months of 2007 have gone well for you. We're grateful to the Lord for health and blessings. Thanks for reading our report on ministry and family, and *mucho* thanks to you who make it possible with your prayers and finance.



You know, it's funny. We went to the trouble of using the Orlando Winter gym this year, since we got drenched last year in the soccer field. It didn't rain!

The best present of all for Christmas is Jesus! I know you knew that, and so do over 350 kids from marginalized *San Miguelito* who were there. As an additional Christmas present for them, we handed out The Adventures of Jesus, a paraphrase of the New Testament in text and comics format. It was great to see them with huge smiles on their faces after receiving the Gospel and their gift.

interior of Panamá, with around 5000 residents. Pastor Pedro Santamaria invited us months prior to close out his VBS week. This small church did a great job organizing and gathering donations of snacks and gifts for the children. He even pitched in as our "CJ" tiger mascot. At the end Pastor Pedro told us that about most of the children (about 75) were new to his church. That is exactly the kind of impact we hope to have with a crusade.



KidsQuest Crusade Reports:

- Christmas Crusade (12/06)

In This Issue

| | |
|--|-----|
| MINISTRY REPORT: | |
| KidsQuest Crusade Reports..... | 1 |
| Guaymí Family Retreat | 2 |
| Children's Ministry Leaders Seminars | 2 |
| PRAYER~PRAISE~UPCOMING | 2 |
| Panamanian Profile..... | 2 |
| Get to Know Panamá | 3 |
| FAMILY REPORT: | |
| Chloe, Anthony, Celina, Gracie..... | 2-3 |
| FINAL WORD..... | 4 |



- Antón (1/07)

Antón is a small "stop" along the Interamerican Highway in the

One of our team members, Edilma de Villarreal, Rep. in *Chiriquí*, celebrated a one-day crusade for the children in the mountain community of *Cerro Punta*. Edilma and her daughter Natalia led the service. They ministered with a team of five young people using clowns, games and gospel illusions. Each of the 85 children received an opportunity to invite

Jesus in his heart and left with a donation of a coloring book and a New Testament (if they could read). We were able to provide those materials thanks to you who support our ministry.

Guaymí Family Retreat (2/07)

We participated again in the Annual Guaymí Family Retreat last month, along with Pastor Roy Rhodes and team from Paola, KS. It just keeps getting bigger and better. This year over 4000 came, many hiking several days to get there. At the end of the week about 50 were baptized in the river.



Working with primary children we taught them Bible stories and illustrations twice a day, with help from dedicated Panamanian teachers. One of my favorite parts of the class time was when each child would color a memory



verse page. It got quieter and calmer. After finishing it seemed like each one of the 800+ kids would come up to show me his or her work of art. And when I would compliment them, a huge smile would brighten their normally stoic faces.

Children's Ministry Leaders Seminars

Some recent topics we've covered include:

- Principles for Success as a Christian Leader
- Effective Classroom Discipline Techniques
- Children leading Praise and Worship ministry
- Teaching Materials available on the Internet

Prayer

- Urgent needs require urgent requests. Our missionary account went into the red in January, after four years into our third missionary term. We are planning to do our US deputation ministry in June 2008. We're trusting with you for God's provision.
- Panama's Immigration Dept. denied our application to renew for another year our missionary visa which expires in April. We submitted all the same requirements as for the one year visa they approved last year. We're confident it can be worked out, but still ask for your prayers. Our lawyer is appealing the decision. (see Panamanian Profile.)

Praise

- Remember David Herrera, pastor and my former co-professor, who lost his wife in the tragic bus fire in October along with 17 other victims? I checked in to see how's he doing and he told me, "We're moving on. Jesus is leading and we're staying right close behind Him." He stays busy pastoring his church and serving as National Director of Evangelism. He added that it's been difficult for his children, and for him, to be the father/mother in the home. His sense of humor is still intact: "my kids don't like my cooking very much."

Upcoming

- Our next scheduled KidsQuest Crusade is for 20-22 April in

Panamanian Profile

Allow me to introduce you to our excellent lawyer, Jaime Choy. He has processed all our Immigration paperwork this term. If anyone can resolve our problem with perseverance and a positive attitude, it's him.



He is a good brother in Christ and a faithful member of Casa de Oracion (AG) church, where Anthony was dedicated as a baby. He and his wife Miriam have two children.

After overhearing me talking on the phone with him, Anthony asked, "We've got a lawyer? Cool!"

Arraijan (just across the Canal from Panama City) with *Pastora* Carmen Adames, who was a Bible School student of mine and is now pastoring her own church.

- During Easter week is the AG MK Retreat in Costa Rica for our three "youths." We'll report in the next e-Mailer.

Family Report ~ by Yvonne

Kirk and I both celebrated birthdays since the last newsletter.

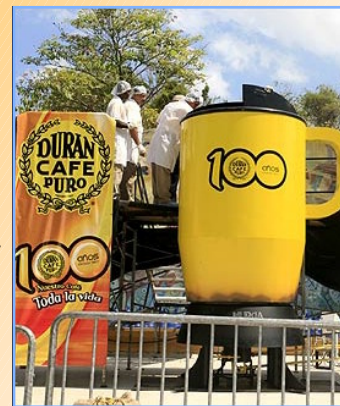


Get To Know Panamá

Dateline: Panama City, 4/1/07.

Café Durán, a leading Panamanian coffee company, broke the Guinness World Record for the world's largest cup of coffee. Preparations took six months for the construction of the nearly one-ton stainless steel "cup." 300 pounds of extra fine grind plus 750 gallons of water made 16,500 cups of coffee! Previous record was set in New York in 2004 with 660.5 gallons.

credits: [http://www.pa-digital.com.pa/archive/04022007/cierre01_slim.html]; [Foto: Iván Uribe / EPASA]



The kids treated me to a special dinner, gifts and strawberry cheesecake!



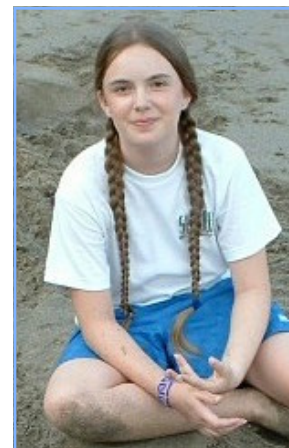
Chloe

The Panamá Canal Ocean-2-Ocean cayuco race for 2007 is now history! Chloe is very pleased that her SeaWeed crew came in 6th out of 11 girls' teams, and improved their times over last year for each of the five legs of the three day race. We invite you to see the video on our website Media page.

Anthony

He has been helping out regularly as a leader on Sunday nights with the children's program called Psalm 8:2. The grade school age kids prepare to minister in music and drama and also have a small group time. He and his longtime friend Luis lead one of those small groups of boys in discussions, games and activities.

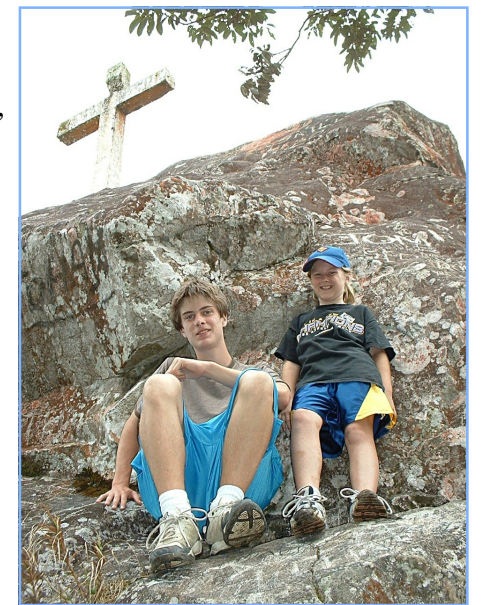
Recently Anthony, Gracie and Kirk hiked to the Cross



on *Campana* hill, seen here.

Celina

Celina just got contact lenses for the first time. She really wanted them before the MK Retreat because the video from the website made it look like they will be doing a lot of games in mud and water. Now she can enjoy all that fun stuff, like creating masterpieces in the sand, without worrying about getting her glasses dirty.



Gracie

One evening after dinner Gracie, Kirk and I were the only ones left at the table. As she often does, Gracie was asking if she could have some sweets. Before we could check if she had already finished her "healthy food" she answered herself, "but if I finish my healthy food now it will spoil my dessert later." We all laughed.

