



THE BONHAM LINE

July 2022

TL;DR Version (see articles for more details)

- We received our first US short term team and hosted an art-evangelism event, VBS, and evening of testimonies.
- Through City to City and its Incubator workshop, we see fruitful relationships established across the country.
- Our colleagues in Bogotá hosted a “fishbowl” to see how to implement an RUF Internship program in Rionegro.
- Colombia recently elected a new president, and the financial situation of the country is uncertain.

Though we missed sending out a newsletter last month, we have enough to fill 4 or 5 newsletters. Buckle up, and see what the Lord is doing!

Short Term Team & VBS

At the end of June, we received our first short-term team to Colombia. Tabernacle PCA of Waynesboro, VA (the sending church of the McCalls), came to get a glimpse of what God is

doing in Rionegro, and they also hosted our first Vacation Bible School (called Vacaciones Bíblicas Recreativas here in Colombia). There were over 50 kids over the course of the week, and we had a great team of volunteers, both Colombian and from the US. We also hosted a café for parents to allow them to get to know us as a church. We studied parables of the Kingdom, and we strived to plant seeds of the gospel in their lives. Most of the kids had never



All hands (Colombian and US) on deck for our first Vacation Bible School



The rain stopped right before and started right after the Chalk Drawing Evangelism (Note the rainbow)

ABOUT US

Nate & Nikki Bonham have been serving in South America with Mission to the World since 2012 in the area of church planting. With their three children, they are based out of Medellín (Rionegro), Colombia.

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visited the church before. Pray the Lord would bring gospel growth!

We also hosted an evangelistic event in the main square that is a block from the church. Pastor Essen Daley (of Tabernacle PCA) did a chalk-drawing of a biblical scene, and Nate and other members of the church shared the gospel to spectators checking out the art. Essen's drawings were incredible and drew a lot of attention! Check out a time-lapse video here: <https://youtu.be/aj8xs8vkJaE>

City to City

We've mentioned the ministry of City to City before in our newsletters. This is a ministry founded out of Redeemer New York with the mission to "start and strengthen churches and networks in their cities." I have been participating in their Incubator workshop for church planters (a two-year program). The main advantage has been connecting with other church planters, whether Reformed/Presbyterian or not. The Lord is using it to connect with pastors that are working alone and seeking accountability, fellowship, and mutual accountability. Some of these pastors are finding this needed fellowship by connecting with our national Presbyterian denomination. We are praying that the Lord would strengthen these relationships to catalyze more church planting movements. Who knows? Iglesia El Redentor's next pastor could come from these circles!



City to City Incubator Workshop with pastors from various denominations and cities of Colombia

RUF Fishbowl

In June, Nate and John McCall went to Bogota to attend an RUF Internship Fishbowl, which was an opportunity to observe a developing internship program that the MTW Bogota Team has launched. We were able to catch up with dear colleagues (Peter & Lauren Dishman), as well as visit with their RUF Interns and see their local university campus. Our hope is to begin hosting RUF short-term interns next summer to provide campus ministry and church planting experience. As we have mentioned before, we hope to launch campus ministries in two local campuses. (RUF is Reformed University Fellowship, the official campus ministry of the PCA.)

Dollars and Pesos

In June, Colombia elected its new president. Without going into too much politics, the election has stirred up a lot of fear and uncertainty. To give you an idea, the Colombian Peso has lost 24% of its value in relation to the US dollar in just a few weeks, and that percentage continues to rise. On top of this, the rolling 12-month average of the inflation rate in Colombia is over 9% (higher than the US). These two factors will be devastating over the coming months and years. Please pray for wisdom on how to be good stewards as we try to continue planting and establishing Iglesia El Redentor in the midst of these political and economic situations.



We spent July 4th with some friends in local ministry. We had a US/Colombia style cookout and Bocci Ball.



More controlled chaos at VBS.



The short-term team hosted an MK (Missionary Kid) afternoon complete with lego-building and all.



The final product. A scene from John 20 - Peter and John running to the tomb of Jesus



Who knew that one of the apostles looked like a member of our church? Ha!



The crew from the RUF Internship Fishbowl



David, from the short term team, preaching in Spanish