



# THE BONHAM LINE

September 2022



## **TL;DR Version** (see articles for more details)

- September 18, 2022 marks 10 years on the mission field in Latin America!
- We enjoyed a special pastoral visit from Nathaniel, Alicia and their kids.
- Our Teammates, the Bersaches, need just a little more support to move down here!

## **10th Anniversary on the Field**

*"This is the first of many years of monthly updates, Lord-willing."* That is what we wrote in our first missions newsletter just over 11 years ago as we began support raising. Today, September 18, 2022, we celebrate 10 years of being on the mission field in Latin America. We praise God for His good providence in keeping us on the field, and we echo Paul's words in expressing our gratitude for all of you who have partnered with us through your prayers, encouragement, and financial support. "I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers" (Eph. 1:16).

As is typical with the Lord's plan, these past 10 years have looked very different than what we imagined. We initially headed to Latin America without knowing where God might have us long term. The original plan was to go to Costa Rica for language school and training. The location was changed to Bogotá, Colombia. We arrived in Bogotá on September 18, 2012. We were originally going to be there for 2 years. That timeline was shortened to

about 15 months. But during the time, God saw fit to increase our family with the adoption of Luis.

During our time in Bogotá, we scouted out a field and decided to go to Arequipa, Perú. We arrived in Arequipa on December 18, 2013. Our plan was to plant churches in Arequipa, but the Lord changed those plans, too. Instead, we helped several churches in a process of revitalization, and we launched Seminario Bíblico Reformado that reached into several countries and a couple hundred students.

After many years in Arequipa, we began to consider what our next steps were. With a steadfast desire to plant churches, my role with MTW, and the needs of our family, we felt that a move to a more strategic place was necessary. Through many providential points, it seemed clear the Lord was leading us to Rionegro, Colombia. We had already fallen in love with Colombia during our time in Bogotá, and we have always felt close ties to Colombia because of Luis's roots. It wasn't a difficult decision! We arrived in Rionegro, Colombia on December 2, 2020.

During our short time in Colombia, the Lord has planted Iglesia El Redentor. There is much more

## **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.

## **PARTNER WITH US**

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[give.TheBonhamLine.org](http://give.TheBonhamLine.org)

## **MORE INFO**

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work to be done, but we pause and give thanks for what He is doing. We are just one church in a city of over 140,000 and our vision is deep and wide, but we are confident that He will continue working and drawing people to himself. The last 10 years have been a great blessing, privilege and responsibility. The past 10 years also have the fingerprints of YOUR hands. Some of you have been partnering up with us since Day 1. Others we have met more recently. But in all things we give thanks that God is working in and through his church so that the message of the Kingdom will go out to every tribe, tongue, and nation. Please join us in giving thanks to the King and praying for many more years of missions updates.

### **Familiar Faces**

You will likely recognize some familiar faces in these pictures. In August, we were greatly blessed and encouraged by a visit by none other than the Gutierrez family—Nathaniel, Alicia, and their kids. Since the Lord called them back to the US in 2018, they have been pastoring our family. Just a few months ago that was formalized. The now serve as our PAC (Pastoral Associate Couple). What does that mean? MTW has a program where a US-based

pastor and his wife partner up with a team on the field. They provide prayer, encouragement, and counsel for the missionaries. The hardest part of the arrangement is that now we have to share them with our team, but it is worth it. On top of this, their kids minister to our kids. Ever since 2018, the common refrain with our kids is how much they miss the Gutierrez kids.

### **Colombian Visas**

We almost celebrated our 10 year anniversary by having to leave Colombia. For over a month, the status of our visas were up in the air. We initially were rejected, but after filing a formal petition with the government, our visas were approved. The best part is that we now have “Resident” visas which means they are indefinite as long as we don’t leave Colombia for too long at one time. We were able to get this visa since we are parents of a Colombian citizen (thanks, Luis!). Thank you for your prayers in that process!

### **Almost There/Here**

As you know, we have teammates (Manny and Terri Bersach) that have been raising support for the past year. They just have around 8% more to raise. So there are almost THERE, which means they are almost HERE! Let us know if you or your church would like to partner with them. Also, please pray for their visa process. Theirs have been denied three times. Colombia is also in the middle of revamping all of their visa categories and processes. Please pray that they would bring in their remaining support and received visa approval.

### **Mailing Address**

Also, for those that have asked, here is our mailing address in Colombia:

Familia Bonham  
Cra. 50E #36-120, Finca 46  
Sector Los Colegios - Riogrande  
Rionegro, Antioquia, Colombia 054040



*Nathaniel and Alicia Gutierrez with us and Rodny and Sara... the old team!*





*Nikki hosted a brunch for ministry wives in our region. This is a small group from a much larger group of ladies in this ministry.*



*The Bonhams with Jhon Montaña, a dear friend and pastor in Bogotá. I think you will be hearing about him more in future newsletters.*



*We also hosted a lunch for some theological education leaders from Medellín, the USA, and the Dominican Republic.*



*Nathaniel preaching in Iglesia El Redentor... just like old times!*