



THE BONHAM LINE

December 2022

TL;DR Version (see articles for more details)

- Visit this link to watch our 2022 Mission Video Update: <https://bit.ly/Bonham2022>
- We had our 2nd annual Christmas party at Iglesia El Redentor. We visited the Medellín Christmas lights.
- Special Prayer Request: Please pray for Nikki's health.

Advent in Antioquia

Perhaps it is because we are getting older or maybe because we have been living cross-culturally for the past 10 years, but we have come to appreciate more the Advent season. Living a continent away from family and friends and seeing the need of gospel transformation is a stark reminder of this season of celebration (of the first coming of Christ) and longing (for His return). Antioquia (the state of Colombia that we live in) is known for its outward celebration of Christmas. Each city and village seems to compete to have the best Christmas decorations.

Last week, we had the opportunity to visit the “alumbrados” (lights) of Medellín. These Christmas

lights are world-renowned. In fact, we had a couple friends send us videos from news broadcasts in the US about them. Our MTW team rode around the city in a chiva, which is a traditional, brightly-colored bus that has roots in the farming communities of Colombia. The theme of the Christmas lights was based on the movie, *Encanto*, whose story takes place in Colombia.

Though the artificial lights are spectacular, the façade is paper-thin. The reality is a lack of *true* light in Antioquia and beyond. During this Advent season, we hope you will join us in praying for the continued mission in Colombia. God continues to be at work, and we seek to follow Him.

Advent in Iglesia El Redentor

Speaking of God's work and true light, just a few days ago we celebrated our 2nd annual church Christmas party. It was a sweet time of fellowship, food, games, and a time of Advent readings and carols. We had a great turn out and we finally headed home exhausted close to 11:00pm.



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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It was also fitting that we concluded our sermon series in Luke this week. We began this series as a Saturday-night bible study in August of 2021. It then switched to our sermon-series when we started Sunday morning worship services in October of 2021. Now, after 60 messages from the book of Luke, we finished by reveling in the resurrection of Christ and His mission in and through the church. I can think of no better way to talk about the incarnation of Christ than to talk about His resurrection and mission.

Special Prayer Request

We would like to share a special prayer request with all of our faithful ministry partners. For years, Nikki has had various health issues. In 2020, after some of the symptoms progressed, she was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease in the Lupus family. She began taking some medication and also started a very rigid diet. This stabilized the symptoms, but it didn't decrease them.

Over the past couple of months, those symptoms have increased and others have started. We are not sure what has caused the onset of this intense flare-up. Once again, Nikki is consulting with a local doctor and has gone through battery of exams. We are awaiting final interpretations of those exams and a plan for treatment and management.

We are extremely thankful for God's provision through doctors, nurses, and medications, but we know that He is the Great Physician. Therefore, we ask you to join us in praying for her health. Pray for

healing from nearly constant pain and daily battles with fatigue. We rest in His will being done and pray for peace in the midst of trials.

A Few Reminders:

1. In case you missed it last month, we would love for you to check out our Missions Video Update for 2022. Follow this link to see the video: <https://bit.ly/Bonham2022>
2. For those who have asked for our mailing address: **Nathaniel Bonham / Cra. 50E #36-120, Finca 46 / Sector San Joaquín / Rionegro, ANT, Colombia 054040.**
3. Please consider us if you are making any year-end tax-deductible gifts. Our giving in 2022 is down about 18% from where it was this time last year. Go to <http://give.thebonhamline.org> to donate.



Christmas Party Games



Christmas Carols and Readings