



NEWS FROM

BARRANTES FAMILY

Serving together
in Chiriqui Province,
Panama

Alvaro, Mauren, Josué, Sofia and Elisa

WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

Álvaro resigned his job at Hewlett Packard on January 9, 2019. As we prepared to leave Costa Rica, we sold some of our things and donated others. Then on January 16, we arrived in the U.S.A. to visit churches sharing our Panama ministry plans—meeting new people and getting to know one another personally. The very first place we shared about our future ministries was Mobile, Alabama, where we visited four churches in one weekend. We loved sharing with the people in this location. We had some complications, too. Our son, Josué, had an ear infection and the people in Alabama helped us keep him comfortable. The pain increased on our drive to Grand Rapids but God provided a final treatment to solve the issue and we praise the Lord for that.

We drove to Michigan during two full days, crossing through Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana during an intense snowstorm, but the kids were very excited to see snow for the first time. When we arrived in Grand Rapids, we were able to see how God had been watching over us because some friends provided adequate snow gear (Philippians 4:19). We quickly got to work and had the opportunity to share and visit nine churches and Grace Christian University with very friendly and very

hospitable people—we really felt so welcome at each one of them. We've made many friends, our children have shared with kids, and other children have made them feel safe and appreciated.

Do you remember that we were asking for your prayers for our children—that they would feel comfortable with all the changes and they would be calm and would share, without any problem, thinking about the language barrier too? God is good and He answered that prayer, they have learned a lot of English and have made many friends in all the churches that we have visited so far (John 14:13).

We traveled to Wisconsin where we were at the BBI (Berean Bible Institute) missionary conference. Alvaro has been taking



Alvaro speaking at Parkside Bible Church

theology distance courses from Costa Rica and that Sunday we shared in a church in Oshkosh, WI. It was a very exhausting but valuable weekend. We shared with many other missionaries and we were able to share about our ministry with wonderful families as well. Since then we have visited churches in Altoona, PA; Eastport, NY; Carter Lake, IA; and Ada, OH. Every place we have gone we have been received with wonderful hospitality, we've made new friends, and we've been able to share our ministry as well.

WHERE ARE WE?

We have reached 75% of our monthly financial support. We are still visiting other churches to share our missionary plans so that other churches and individuals can share the blessing of being part of the Panama ministry team.

We still must go to visit churches in Ohio and Virginia. We praise the Lord for the strength He has given us, for the good reception we've received in this beautiful country, for people who have believed in Jesus Christ and so that they know the blessing, the privilege in praying for and supporting missions. We are so thankful for those who have joined our team. We thank God for making new friends and also for being able to meet old friends whom we have not seen for many years now. We

If you would like to be part of the BARRANTES MINISTRY, please go to:
gracem.org/alvaro-and-mauren-barrantes/

alvaro.barrantes@hotmail.com mauren.zumbado@hotmail.com

JUNE 2019

have been able to contact and fellowship with them again.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

There are six weeks left in the U.S.A. We thank God for His provision in every moment, because He has taken care of us in every detail no matter how small or big it may seem. Our return date is July 9. We will be in Costa Rica for a few weeks and we are planning to go to Nicaragua for a couple of weeks to visit the Seravalli family and help them in their ministry, but also to learn from them in their beautiful ministry. Finally, we will be in the city of Boquete, Chiriqui, Panama in October.

Please help us in prayer for:

1. Our monthly support to be at 100% before arriving in Panama—we are trusting God for that because He is in control of everything.

2. Our relatives in Costa Rica who are anxiously waiting for us to finish these six weeks. They want us to be able to share with them for a while before traveling to Panama.

3. The children and this homeschool process, since it has been a challenge for all of us, and for all the legal paperwork we must take care of and show in Costa Rica and Panama so that this school year will be accepted without a problem, and the children can be enrolled in a Panamanian school.

4. Renewal of our strength and motivation to move forward and reach Panama trusting God is willing and He allows us to start in this new field.

5. God's provision to establish legal residency in Panama.

6. Reaching our financial goal to buy the land in Chiriqui, Panama.

7. Funds for a vehicle.

Finally, we are very excited and eager to start the work in the field. We know that God is preparing the hearts of Panamanians and



Barrantes at Eastport Bible Church

we want to know them already in order to share the gospel of the grace of God with them and plant churches while proclaiming the same.

We thank you for all of your support and your prayers. We are looking forward to sending news and letters from Chiriqui, Panama.

With love in Jesus Christ,

The Barrantes Family
Alvaro, Mauren
Josué, Sofia, and Elisa.



The Barrantes kids with their friends at Frontline Bible Church in Byron Center, MI



Mauren playing with the kids at Grace Bible Fellowship in Jenison, MI