



Family Happenings

The last three months have been a wonderful blur for the Eastwood family. Some family highlights include Veronica and I celebrating 25 years of marriage on October 23rd. We are so thankful that God has protected our marriage and even though it is not perfect, He still uses two very imperfect people to do His Kingdom work. The two older boys continue serving as coaches in our Gracia y Verdad soccer league. Jorge has taken up a passion for music. He has taught himself the ukelele, piano, and is now learning the violin. Jonny and Veronica were able to go to Madrid, Spain in November for Real Madrid's soccer camp thanks to many of you who made that dream a reality. This was not only a trip of a lifetime for Jonathan, but Veronica also got to see where her parents met and lived in the 60s. In the ongoing saga of the Eastwood Boys, we now have two new residents in the house. Astrid and Heather are Hispaniolan Boas. If you know our boys, then you know how much they love all animals (even the slithery ones).

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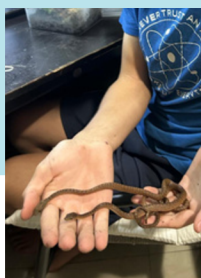
## Ministry Updates

### School Ministry:

The 1st semester at Las Palmas began on September 1st with our 16th year as a school! Our theme this year is "Más de Jesús, menos de mí" (More of Jesus, less of me). We are grateful to have another opportunity to pour into the lives of our students by teaching them that only a relationship with Christ will satisfy them and that we must put aside our wants for what Jesus wants, which is always better anyway. We are eternally grateful for the thousands of people who pray daily for our school, its administration, and its teachers. This year we received a HUGE blessing that many of you had a part in by your prayers and financial support. **WE FINALLY HAVE A ROOF OVER OUR COURT!!** If you have been here, then you know how hot it gets. If you have never been to the Caribbean, imagine standing on the surface of the sun! LOL. Certainly, we use the court for sports, but it also becomes a place for us to grow relationships and share the gospel. We have already seen 4 students give their lives to Christ this school year. That makes it all worth it.

### Missions Class

Normally I would write about this in the "School Ministry" section but I felt led to highlight something that happened in my Bible class this year that touched my heart. I teach the 10th and 11th grade Bible class and this year the 11th grade class is learning about missions. This subject is obviously very near and dear to our hearts. I have been teaching them what the Bible says about missions in the Great Commission and how He used Paul and others to spread the gospel. Also, they learned about the fathers of modern missions like William Carey and David Livingston. The thing that impacted me was the section about unreached people groups. In an effort to get them to understand the importance of praying for the billions of people who have never heard or are resistant to the gospel, I had them research countries in the 10-40 window. They were to choose a country, look into the population, identify the challenges, and then PRAY for those people specifically. The results were astounding! You could not only see their eyes open with compassion towards these people groups, but it also made them thankful to live in a nation that has a reverence for God. My prayer, and hopefully yours too, is that these classes continue to soften their hearts and burden them for spreading the gospel to the whole world, especially the ones who have never heard. Who knows, maybe the next William Caray or David Livingston is sitting right in front of me.







## Friday Night Youth Ministry

Our regular youth group services kicked off with a bang! Our youth group's name is "Influencers" because we are encouraging our young people to stand up for what they believe in, boldly share their faith, and influence the world for His Kingdom. Some of our monthly teaching themes have been to live their lives with no filter as they courageously share their faith, and to diligently hunt for truth in God's Word like buried treasure. Satan and the world want to keep them timid and quiet, but these lessons have given them a daring desire to speak out even in the face of adversity. There have been 4 teens who have surrendered their lives to God this season and we are hoping for many, many more. We saw what God is doing in their hearts at Jovenes Involungrado (Youth Involved). The Word of Life organization hosts this competition every year for youth groups across the Dominican Republic. We had over 20 youth compete in a variety of categories like singing, preaching, Bible teaching, and Bible quiz. It was amazing to see our teens work hard and do their best. They supported and encouraged each other, and many of them won in their categories. One young man, Alejandro, who is only 15 years old shocked the judges with how well he preached his sermon. Another aspect of youth ministry is discipleship. Veronica has the privilege of discipling two young ladies, and I have a group of five teen boys. We see God molding them to become more like Jesus. These kids are the future of our churches, our schools, and our communities. Adults take time to invest in the young people in your church. Get to know them on more than a surface level. Be a part of their lives. The dividends and rewards will last for eternity. Our motto for these young people is that they are never too young to change the world! (1 Timothy 4:12)

## Christmas in the States

Every other Christmas (because of the generosity of our family) we have the privilege of traveling to Florida. This was one of those years. Yes, we spent time with our biological families, but we also got to spend time with our home sending church (Southpoint Baptist) in Jacksonville, FL. Although it was very cold, (my Caribbean blood did not adjust) the warmth that we felt from our church made up for it. I could never even begin to say enough good things about our pastor, our Sunday school class, our wonderful friends, and our church family. No matter how long it is between visits, they ALWAYS make us feel at home. I even had the privilege of preaching. What an incredible honor! I am the man that I am today due in large part to SBC and Pastor Collins. I will never cease to say this; we could never do what we are so fortunate to do without God and our loving supportive church. Thank you also to the many other churches and individuals who support us financially and prayerfully every month.



*Youth Involved*  
WINNERS

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## New and Improved Multi-Use Court

### Prayer Requests

Lastly, there are a few things we would love for you to be praying along with us about. Pray for two young ladies (Natasha and Maria) who know they need Jesus. God is certainly working in their hearts, we see it. Pray they surrender. Pray for more mature believers to step up to disciple our youth. We also ask for prayer regarding our need for more English-speaking teachers at Las Palmas. Also, we have been having vehicle issues for a while now. Both of our cars are almost 20 years old and starting to give us problems. We would love to be able to purchase a 12-passenger van as we use it for transportation of teens on Friday nights and Sunday morning. Please pray that God provides the right vehicle for us in His perfect time. Finally, Veronica's dad, who is 87, is not doing well. His health is declining as he has Alzheimer's. Please pray for her mom who is caring for him. Being away from family during times like this is one of the hardest parts of missionary life, but we have peace knowing that he is saved and his home in heaven is already prepared for him. We ask God for strength, comfort, and peace that passes all understanding. As I tearfully write this, I am reminded of God's goodness and provision for our family and the ministries we were blessed to serve in 2024. He is a good God who gives good things to his children. His faithfulness is astonishing. We take solace in this as we reflect back on 2024 and eagerly anticipate the great things He will do in 2025! We are eternally grateful for each and every one of you! Bendiciones!!!



Christmas Fun!



Youth Group

I'm so glad to be part of

*The Family of God*

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