

Rod & Sherry Boyd
Panama

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Raising up Christian Leaders in Latin America

FAITHFUL

"For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

—Psalm 100:5, NIV

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In these uncertain, challenging times we declare that the Lord is always faithful! We're reminded of God's love and goodness in so many ways and want to give testimony to his faithfulness.

Faithful in family and health. Sherry's mom celebrated her homegoing on March 29th. Her brief hospice stay allowed for the family to gather and provide personal care. All seven children arrived before her passing. The family graveside service honored her for her faith and love for God and her family. Her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren (who were able to attend) represented her legacy to God's faithfulness through all generations. We look forward to a larger celebration this summer where all of the family and friends can be together. We are also grateful to our own children and grandchildren and their love for God and for how God has provided for us and has blessed all of us with good health.



Faithful in ministry and support. Last month we celebrated 44 years of full-time ministry, 16 as pastors and 28 as missionaries. God has faithfully provided for us all these years. And God has used so many of you to stand with us in help and support. Thank you! This became so real to us in the last few months during our time of itineration. We were raising support both for our missions account as well as for LARTC construction. The Lord helped us to bolster our account for the next term and to meet important funding goals for LARTC construction.



We are amazed by the many projects that have been completed in the last 6 months! We've completed the first floor of the training addition with air conditioning, the entire block perimeter security wall and entrance, road and parking lot surfacing, lights and sidewalks. Work continues on the roof façade and soffit. In the coming days we'll send a special construction update by email! God has used you to sustain support for Panama's Good Shepherd Schools through ChildHope sponsorship (Please see the report on the reverse side).



Faithful in transition and legacy. As the Lord has shown himself faithful to all generations, we are keenly aware of our responsibility to pass on leadership and responsibility. Our desire has been to invest in the next generation of leaders, to finish well with new leaders in place. Almost 15 years ago the Lord gave us the 5-5-5 plan: 5 years to find a Timothy, 5 years to train him and 5 years to support him. The Lord has been faithful to answer our prayer and has honored our plan and timetable. We are finishing medical appointments, preparing to return to Panama next month. Please pray that the Lord will help us finish well in this last term of missionary service.



Paul's words to Timothy in 2nd Timothy 2:2 have guided our ministry all these years: *"The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."* God continues to require faithfulness for his servants: *"Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful"* (1 Cor. 4:2, NIV).



Thank you for **faithfully** standing with us in prayer and financial support.

Rod and Sherry

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On back... Real HOPE for Panama Schools



Real HOPE for Panama Schools

The Panama ChildHope ministry serves more than 30 Good Shepherd Schools across the country, each one an outreach ministry of a local Assemblies of God church in its community. Two of these schools are located in the Ngobe Bugle communities of Duima and Soloy. This indigenous tribal group is located in the north-western part of Panama and is considered to be one of the most impoverished and marginalized people groups in Panama.

These two schools receive special help to function, not only from ChildHope, but from churches and national church ministries throughout Panama. Even though all Panamanian schools, both public and private, are still operating with virtual classes, because of the poor Internet service in the region, the Duima and Soloy schools have received special permission to offer a hybrid program this year to better serve the children and families in the school.

ChildHope provides almost all of the operational support to these schools. Even so, we're grateful to local churches and ministries that partner to help with special outreaches and needs. Melissa, our local ChildHope sponsorship coordinator, recently accompanied one of those ministries to Duima and Soloy. The outreach included purchasing and distributing gifts, backpacks and school supplies for the children, as well as food and provisions for families, including masks.

Since the outreach coincided with the beginning of the school year, the teachers from the two schools joined the team as they canvassed the community to visit children and families from the school. They prayed with each child and family, explained the hybrid teaching model and scheduled, and encouraged them to return to class.

The team also provided special assistance to Marilyn and her family. She is a student at Duima Good Shepherd School. Marilyn was bitten by a poisonous snake a few weeks ago and spent weeks in the hospital. She was released several days ago, but is still paralyzed from the bite. Several churches and ministries have rallied around this family, helping them rent a home closer to the clinic and even purchasing a bed, wheelchair and special food and supplies for the little girl.

One of our ChildHope sponsors recently gave a large offering to help these schools with the expenses related to re-opening post Covid-19. ChildHope is doing the same to provide some assistance to all of our schools throughout the country.

We say thank you to the many ChildHope sponsors who give each month to help one or more children receive a quality Christian education. You are making a difference at this difficult time of need.

Prayer Needs & Praise Reports

- Praise God for his miraculous provision to continue LARTC construction. The Center is now 96% complete!
- Please continue to pray for generous offerings to finish the second floor of the LARTC training addition and remaining exterior work.
- Praise the Lord for his protection during the Covid-19 crisis!
- Please pray for God's mercy and for wisdom in confronting the humanitarian crisis in Panama and the many disruptions to our Christian schools and ministerial training programs.
- Please pray for wisdom and grace during leadership transitions in both the ChildHope ministry and the Latin America ministerial training ministries.

