

THE THOMAS FAMILY

Serving together since 2016 • Panama

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His love endures forever."
—Psalms 107:1 (NIV)*

Our Precious and Holy Lord

Let us rejoice, for He is good, always! Even through the hard times, He is always ready to listen, comfort, and encourage us. He doesn't have to, and yet, unconditionally, He does more for us than we will ever know or comprehend, even when we don't deserve it. Let us be reminded today to give thanks to Him because He is worthy of all praise and glory...

Our King of Kings!!!

Abraham Project Panama Updates

We ask you to join us in prayer as we have a new development on the Abraham Project property. A topographer informed us after completing his study on the property that a good-sized portion of our neighbor's property is rightfully ours. Through much research and confirmation from various professional topographers, we had to inform the neighbor of this news. He seemed perturbed by the news, and we have been trying to resolve this issue with him. If he doesn't allow us to move the fence, we could go to the local Municipality and ask for a resolution, which could potentially involve going through a Justice of the Peace. We want to settle this peacefully without going to court. So, we are believing and trusting God to resolve this situation sooner rather than later.

In other news, Santiago and Yuli, as well as their two daughters (ages 9 and 6), went to the jungles of Panama to help a ministry we are partnered with (called MIES) to educate people in an indigenous community regarding what sexual abuse looks like and how they can better protect their children from it. This is a program that we are helping to develop, because eventually it is one of the many topics we will have to discuss when we are working with the parents and children who come into our ministry. As uncomfortable as it was bathing in the river, going to the bathroom in the wilderness, and having to travel by boat during a storm, the trip was one they said they cherished. Also, they appreciated the opportunity to represent Jesus, first and foremost, and the Abraham Project second. We plan to join them on the next trip, since we were out of the country during this planned initial visit. We hope and pray the message to these indigenous Christian believers was received well.



Pastor Jorge Gomez (the founder of the Abraham Project in Costa Rica and Lead Pastor of our church El Faro back in Costa Rica) came for a day trip to Panama to speak at a conference (COMIBAM). He went to the property to pray over it with Stephen and Santiago (our staff at the APP).

The Thomas Family Updates

We traveled to the States in April for Stephen's cousin's wedding and some meetings! The time went by too fast, and as usual was too short. Noah had the full week off from school due to Holy Week (typical in Latin American countries); however, he had to be back in time for school the following week. Stephen returned safely home with Noah and Ezra, and I went to visit my parents and brother for his military graduation - he was promoted to Major. This was my first time attending one of his military graduations, and I was one proud sister! Also, my brother got to see Esther again. The only other time he had met her was when she was just born. Also, Esther, being the third born, is always having to share the attention with her brothers, but it was such a beautiful, sweet gift to see my parents and brother get to love on her for a few days! She had an absolute blast, no doubt!



All the kids are doing well. Noah is adjusting, overall, to his school, with a few challenges we are working through. One challenge is that we had noticed we were repeating things more often and loudly to Noah, because he keeps saying, "What?" So Stephen took him to get his ears checked, and they referred us to a specialist. The doctor said he noticed low-frequency sounds entering both ears and it may be moderate hearing loss. When we got this news, the country was and remains in full-blown protests nationwide with road closures. The specialist is in Panama City, and we live on the other side of the canal, the west side, so we have not been able to get an appointment due to all the protests.

Joining Together Through Prayer

We would appreciate prayers for Panama during this time of civil unrest, mainly with teachers from the public schools and nurses protesting due to changes in the social security plans. Also, prayers that Noah can be seen by the specialist and that we can get answers and a solution to this issue with his hearing. We are trusting God during this time when worry can easily enter our minds. As we ask you to join us in praying for these specific things, how can we be praying for your needs? We all have needs, and Stephen and I are grateful to have a support team of prayer warriors by our side. We pray for all who receive our newsletters, in general, but for those who can take the time to let us know your requests, please know, we take the time to specifically lay those requests at our Lord's feet and intercede on your behalf often.

Thank you for taking the time to read our updates, to pray for us, and to support us. You are prayed for and you are appreciated by us, the Thomas family serving in Panama. Today, I pray this blessing over you:

"Grace, mercy, and peace, which come from God the Father and Jesus Christ—the Son of the Father—will continue to be with us who live in truth and love." -2 John 1:3 (NLT)

May you feel an abundance of His perfect grace, mercy, and peace more than ever! And for all the mothers out there, we hope you had a lovely and happy Mother's Day!!!

- Stephen, Kendra, Noah, Ezra, & Esther Lily

Support

Thank you for partnering with **Stephen Jr & Kendra Thomas** in seeing His Kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven! Thank you for your gifts and prayers.

To stand with **The Thomas Jr Family** financially, you can give online at cornerstoneinternational.org/panama/ or make your check out to Cornerstone Int'l, memo **Panama - Thomas**, & mail in enclosed envelope.


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