

The Contreras Family Missionaries To Panamá



Enero - Febrero 2026

Apocalipsis 22:12 He aquí yo vengo pronto, y mi galardón conmigo, para recompensar a cada uno según sea su obra.

Dear Pastor and Church Families,

Once again, I am very thankful for your prayers and for your financial support, which is very necessary for the work of God. I hope you are all doing well. We are continually praying for you, for your church, your families, and your ministries. Any fruit from this ministry will also be credited to your account.

The work of God continues moving forward. We concluded the year with a Christmas service that included a drama, special music, and gifts for the children, along with a wonderful time of fellowship among the brethren. In that service, three people accepted Christ out of the five visitors who attended. On the last day of the year, we concluded with the Lord's Supper, the preaching of the Word of God, and a time of prayer as we welcomed the New Year.

In January, a good group of our young people attended the annual youth camp and the children's camp. Some of them had attended in previous years as campers, but this time they went as counselors and part of the organizing team. It brings me great joy to see many of them growing as leaders and faithfully supporting the work of God.

In the "Las Tres Puertas" (The Three Doors) ministry during January, 27 people accepted Christ, and more than 600 John and Romans booklets were distributed. During this time we present the plan of salvation. This ministry also encourages church members who normally do not attend our Saturday soul-winning times to participate. They enjoy being in groups, talking with people, and distributing gospel tracts, although some are not as regular in going door-to-door. As we know, there is a place for everyone in the Lord's vineyard.

Also in January, a group of 42 members from our church traveled to the "Fuegos de Evangelismo" (Fires of Evangelism) Conference in David, Chiriquí, about seven hours from the capital city. It was a great blessing for the families and young people who attended. During that conference, one of our church members sensed God's call for his life.

I also thank the Lord for giving my wife another year of life on January 30, and for allowing us to celebrate our 22nd wedding anniversary on February 28. God has been very good to us through all these years, giving us His grace to serve Him together here in Panama.

In February we held a children's fair that was a great blessing. Three families have begun attending our services as a result of this activity. There were game stations for different age groups, all designed and built by the church members themselves. About a month and a half beforehand, we had started a campaign where children received tickets for faithfulness, bringing their Bibles, inviting friends, and memorizing Bible verses. They were very motivated collecting their tickets for the day of the fair. That day 13 children accepted Christ, and about six new mothers visited our church.

In the Las Tres Puertas ministry during February, 21 people made professions of faith, and four boxes of John and Romans were distributed, each containing 270 booklets.

We also held our Vacation Bible School. On the first day, 19 children and teenagers accepted Christ as their Savior, and on the second day 25 more young people and children made professions of faith. Each worker is now following up with these decisions in their visitation routes.

My wife invited a lady who had recently moved from another part of the country. She is a schoolteacher. She came with her two daughters and accepted Christ as her Savior. After the Sunday service, she herself gave testimony and received the Lord.

On another note, I would like to share that on Sunday, March 1, during the preaching—exactly at the moment of the invitation—I began to shake and experience very intense chills. One of the brothers had to continue the invitation while I was taken to an emergency clinic. Thank God they were able to stabilize me somewhat, but afterward I continued experiencing vomiting, fever, severe headaches, weakness, and very little appetite.

According to the blood test taken that Sunday, I had an infection. I had to return to the clinic on Tuesday night because I was still not feeling well. They stabilized me with intravenous medications. Thank God I was able to recover. I have now completed the treatment, but I still need to undergo some additional tests to determine exactly what caused this situation.

I rarely get sick, and I had never experienced anything like this during a church service. Even so, two people were saved that same day.

During the visitation efforts in January and February, 221 people accepted Christ, and 91 more were saved through various church activities. Also, seven people were baptized during these weeks.

Thanks to NOW Ministries, we were connected with the distributor of Chick tracts, who donated 15,000 gospel tracts. NOW Ministries covered the shipping cost, which was \$517. The church members were very excited about these tracts. Every week they take some to share with coworkers, classmates, friends, and family members. They are illustrated evangelistic tracts. We praise the Lord for giving His people a desire to be active in evangelism.

On another note, my son Bilhan also had a relapse but is now recovering. He had a constant, severe cough that would not stop. A specialist had to examine him to determine the cause. Thank God he is now improving. Thank you very much for your prayers and support. The medical expenses were significant, in addition to medications and other costs, but thanks to your support we were able to cover these unexpected expenses.

Once again, thank you for faithfully supporting us. There is still much work to be done here in Panama. The second year of our Bible Institute will begin on April 8, and we are preparing men and women who are willing to go and serve in the work of God.

Recently, a family from our church was sent out to help start a new ministry in another part of the city. We thank God for their willingness to serve Him wherever He leads.

Thank you once again for supporting us and for being part of this missionary work in a country where there is still great spiritual need. May God bless you.

zelle misionerorodrigocontreras@gmail.com

Rodrigo Contreras

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Central Missionary Clearinghouse P.O. Box 219228 Houston, TX, 77218



@RODRIGOC183

