

# VIOLA TO PANAMA

## January - February 2024 Prayer Letter

Greetings to all of our supporters and prayer warriors, in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we salute you and give thanks unto the Lord for you all.

### ♦ January Update:

A belated happy New Year to you all! Summer vacation hit full swing during January, and many of the kids returned to the reservations to be with extended family. However, during the first week of January the church held a VBS, and a team from Canton Baptist came down to help teach, do games, and share the gospel with many of the kids who came. The lessons during the week were all water-themed: Peter walking on water and both accounts of Jesus and the nets about to burst full of fish. For the teenagers we started and finished a study on the book of Galatians.

### ♦ February Update:

In February we began a new lesson series on love, dating, marriage, and what the Bible has to say on these issues. These are lessons that are truly needed to be taught among the youth. For among many of the indigenous families, these truths are just not known and the reason to get married is not taught. Many couples just come together have kids and when they are tired of each other or find someone else, they end up leaving and start other families, and this process has been repeated generation after generation.

Also during the month we held a hiking/day-camping trip for the first time for the youth, which we called "To the Top with Jesus." With so many of the teens being gone for the summer, we were praying for 20 teenagers to come on the trip, and praise the Lord that we had 29 attend the event. We took the teenagers on a two-hour hike up into the mountains, played games, gave them a swimming break at the river, held a fire pit where they roasted hotdogs and marshmallows, and had a devotional time as well. Towards the end of the day, after the message, two girls came forward to talk, and one of them, whose name is Kellyneth, accepted the Lord as her Savior. Kellyneth does not live in Boquete but in a small town named Caldera, about an hour south in the mountains, and so she is unable to attend the church regularly, so please be praying for her and her growth in her new walk with the Lord.

### ♦ Citizenship Process Update:

After almost 10 months of waiting, we have received word from the United States Customs and Immigration Services (USCIS) office that Maria's citizenship interview and exam has been scheduled for April 2nd. We will be returning to the States for about a week in order for her to attend this required interview and take the required exam. Please be praying that the interview and exam will go well. Also, please pray for our safe travels.



With Blessings,  
Zach & Maria Viola  
Your missionaries to Panama

### Prayer Requests

1. Please pray for the lost souls of Panama and the church plant in Boquete.
2. Pray for Kellyneth, as she begins her work with the Lord.
3. Pray for Maria's citizenship interview and exam.
4. Pray for the Youth class to continue to grow and that many more will come to accept Jesus as their Savior.

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