

## Joel & Rachel Watters, Costa Rica

Hello!

First we would like to say thank you to all of the friends and family that hosted us and/or made time to connect with us during our time back in the states. It was a joy and blessing to see many of you. We have returned to Costa Rica with full hearts, big expectation for this next season of ministry and of course full of all my mothers wonderful cooking :)

The day after we flew back, we moved to a new city called San Isidro Del General in the southern zone of Costa Rica (about 3.5 hours south of where we were living before). We step into a new home, new city and new community. Our ministry ECU, since its founding 40 years ago, has never had a presence on the universities in this part of the country. So, they asked us to move and begin pioneering student groups throughout the region. The new school year begins the second week of February and we are excited for the work to begin.

Last week we participated in our National Camp where students from across the country are invited for a week of training, discipleship and community. Over 100 people attended and we enjoyed great worship, preaching and study in the book of Daniel and casting vision for the 2019 school year. We had a number of responsibilities throughout the camp including leading two different trainings on evangelism. It really has been a joy to be a part of this ministry and we are grateful for the call the Lord has placed on our lives.



One of the students in attendance was from the school where we will begin ministry. Her name is Mariela and we met her last year when an InterVarsity team came down and served with us on her campus. She has been a gift from God, a true person of peace and someone that longs to see her campus transformed by the love of Christ. We were praying that as she met our ministry, learned about our mission and connected with students that she would catch the vision for what God is doing in Costa Rica through ECU. She certainly did and we are so excited to have this new friend to partner with as ministry begins.

Again, we are so grateful for each one of you. For the ways that you care about our family and the ministry that God has for us here. We are praying for you. That 2019 would be a year in which you connect deeply with the Lord and with those you love.

Below are a few prayer requests:

- We would love your prayers as we begin this new school year. We know students on three different campus in the south. So prayers that God would lead us, go ahead of us and that we would be wise with our efforts.

- Our kids. Next week they will begin attending a new school. Unlike, their previous school, they will be the only native English speakers. So, prayers that they would connect quickly with friends and teachers. Also, that they would be at peace, feel safe and learn much!

- Baby! In less than two months we will be adding a fourth child to our family. We are so excited for our little girl to arrive. Please be praying for the delivery and health of the baby and Rachel. The medical services are OK here in the south, but not what we would expect in the States or even in the capital of Costa Rica. So please pray for a routine delivery :)

Many Blessings,

Joel, Rachel, Lucy, Charles and Annie