

THE VIEWPOINT

A quarterly news update from the Campbell family in Ecuador

Home Ministry Assignment, 2025: A Summary by the Numbers

We arrived back in Ecuador in early December after 5 months of traveling all over the United States. Traditionally, the term “furlough” is used to describe a time when missionaries come back to their passport countries for reporting to supporters, fundraising, and visiting family and friends. However, I have found that use of this word perpetuates the misconception that this time is purely a time of vacation for the missionary – and most missionaries will be quick to tell you that the missionary furlough is anything but! “Home Ministry Assignment” is a phrase that I believe more accurately reflects the reality that this time is still work, just work in a different context! Here’s a brief snapshot of Home Ministry Assignment, 2025 by the numbers:

- We were away from Ecuador for a total of 133 days over 5 months (with a three-week “break” in July/August when we were back in Ecuador to help with summer camps). Stephen and Ben were gone the entire time.
- We slept in about 40 different beds.
- We visited 18 different churches (and presented at almost all of them).
- We visited 5 universities (and at 3 of these, we also did presentations).
- We visited a total of 21 states (plus D.C.) and 1 Canadian province.
- We drove a total of 18,234 miles. 13,800 of these were miles we put on the “furlough van.” It now has about 312,000 miles on it!
- Laura flew a total of 29,833 miles. (Traveling to the Connections renewal for missionary women in Brazil in October really helped me rack up those air miles!)
- Rusty flew a total of 18,343 miles.
- Stephen did Driver’s Ed, got his learner’s permit, and put in 40+ hours of driving.
- Alex started his freshman year at Harding University, got a bank account and a driver’s license, and took some other important steps into young-adulthood.



Rusty preaching at Missions Sunday for the Bellevue Church of Christ, our sponsoring congregation

CONTACT US:

Field Address:

20-025 Nuevo Amanecer
Tabacundo, Ecuador
South America

Stateside Address:

1212 104th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98004

Email: rustyandlaura@gmail.com

U.S. Phone: 615-290-5767

Personal blog:

www.rustyandlaura.blogspot.com

SPONSORED BY:

Bellevue Church of Christ
Bellevue, WA

PARTNERS:

Hillsboro Church of Christ
Nashville, TN

Livonia Church of Christ
Livonia, MI

Ft. Walton Beach Church of Christ
Ft. Walton Beach, FL

Shawnee Trail Church of Christ
Frisco, TX

Hawley Church of Christ
Hawley, TX

MacArthur Park Church of Christ
San Antonio, TX

Somerset Church of Christ
Somerset, PA

Carman Church of Christ
Carman, Manitoba

Manson Church of Christ
Manson, Manitoba

Rolla Church of Christ
Rolla, MO

Many generous individuals

The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forever more. (Psalm 121:8)

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- **PRAISE** for health and safety for our family as we traveled around the U.S. (see p. 1).
- **PRAISE** for our wonderful and hard-working staff at Camp Bellevue who held down the fort while we were gone (see right).
- **PRAISE** for Alex's smooth adjustment to college life at Harding University (see below).
- **PRAY** for our family as we re-adjust to life in Ecuador without our oldest son / brother.
- **PRAY** for the children, youth, and families the camp serves in the After School Program.
- **PRAY** for Ecuador's government and leaders and for peace to prevail.
- **PRAY** for the camp's financial situation and that God will continue to provide funding for our needs.
- **PRAY** for our co-laborers in this ministry: Guillermo, Syndi, Seyber, and Kendall.
- **PRAY** for our employees and their families.
- **PRAY** for the Tabacundo Church of Christ, for growth and the raising up of leaders.

Follow The Campbell Family in Ecuador on Facebook for monthly prayer requests and updates.

Meanwhile, Back at the Camp: The After-School Program Continues

During our extended absence over much of the summer and fall, the amazing staff at Camp Bellevue kept things rocking along. The After School Program started up a new school year in September after breaking for three months over the summer. The camp is going on 30 years of serving kids and families in our immediate area



Camp Bellevue Staff—December, 2025

through this program – some of our current students are the children of previous participants! Syndi Perez does a wonderful job as the director of this important ministry, one of the main pillars of our outreach into the community. She is assisted in her efforts by a team of other teachers and helpers, including her husband Guillermo, the camp evangelist. The camp staff also served the occasional weekend group, although thankfully, we did not have as many of those on the calendar as we did in the fall of 2024!

We arrived back in Ecuador in time to participate in the Christmas festivities at the camp. The day before the After School Program broke for the holidays, all the kids had their picture taken with Santa! That evening, they put on a Christmas concert for their parents, followed by dinner for everyone. The next day, we had a party for the kids and teens at the camp where they decorated simple photo frames for their pictures with Santa. After all that, we treated the entire staff to a Christmas lunch at a restaurant in Cayambe and then sent them home for a couple of weeks of well-deserved vacation!

We appreciate your prayers for us, our children, and the ministry at Camp Bellevue and beyond. See the sidebar at left for specific ways to pray for us. We thank God for each of you and for your prayers and support that sustain and encourage us on this journey!

THE MILLION DOLLAR QUESTION: HOW IS ALEX DOING?

It was a real treat to have Alex home for the Christmas holidays this year. He not only survived the first semester of his freshman year at college, but he is thriving at Harding University! He managed all A's and B's in his classes, plus made lots of friends and got involved with the university E-sports league. He is attending a local church that has a vibrant college ministry. We couldn't be happier with how he has adjusted to this new phase of his life. We enjoyed some sweet family time over the month he was in Ecuador, but it sure was tough to send him back to the U.S. for the spring semester!

Contributions to our family or ministry may be sent to: *Bellevue Church of Christ, 1212 104th Ave. SE, Bellevue WA 98004*. Make checks payable to the church and earmark "Camp Bellevue" (for the camp general fund) or "Campbell Family" (for our personal support).

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

