Fishers of Men Santafe June Update

Juan and Melissa Santafe <jsantafe@news.avmi.org> Tue 6/27/2023 8:20 PM To:mjm353@live.com <mjm353@live.com>



Colombian Fishers

We recently had a beautiful experience watching some local fishermen do their daily catch here in the coast of Colombia. We couldn't get over the size of the group in one little tiny boat. While they were pulling their net to the shore, we were talking to them about their fishing process. We learned that when Colombian fishermen do their daily catch, they need a group of at least 15 fishermen to pull in the heavy nets that they cast far into sea in the early morning. It was amazing to see them work together pulling for over 45 minutes to get their net of fish ashore. Talk about a lot of hard work and team work! This reminded us about Jesus' command to be fishers of men and the task to be making disciples. Similarly to the Colombian fishermen, to handle the heavy load of the net, we need a group of people to work together to pull in people to be part of the kingdom of heaven.





Our Fishing Team



Our church planting staff. We are grateful for the people we get to work with in this labor of love of fishing men and women for the gospel of Jesus Christ. We not only have a wonderful working relationship, but truly enjoy being with one another and living life together.



This month we had a beautiful time connecting with the small group leaders to evaluate how this last semester went with their life groups. Juan emphasized the need to be evangelizing and developing relationships with unbelievers and not fall into a comfort zone of interacting with just believers.

Our Mother Ship

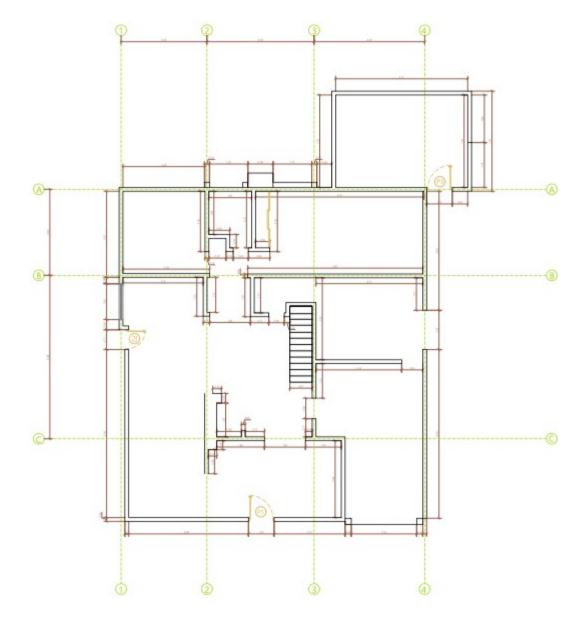








For the sake of our fishing analogy, the Mother Ship is our church building. As you know we have been holding Sunday services in a local hotel since February. By God's provision and grace, we have FINALLY found our permanent church location in a town called La Ceja. This town is in an unreached area that has NOOO Bible believing churches. It is only 10 minutes from our house and provides an incredibly great opportunity to reach many families and people with the gospel.



We signed papers on this new location and will be given the keys on July 15th. There will be a need to do a bit of construction and remodeling to turn this into a suitable church building. We will be having to take out some walls to expand the auditorium. There is a lot of remodeling and we still have to furnish the whole church. Please pray over these floor plans and the finances needed to get the church ready for the first service launch in August. We covet your prayers and support!

The Gas for Our Engine

Since the robbery, we have received so much love, support, concern, and care from so many of you. We are so thankful! Thank you for providing for our needs during that scary time! Just as a fishermen's boat needs gasoline to move, you have been that gasoline for us! We have found in you the energy to move the ministry boat forward both financially and emotionally. You have been a great blessing in the midst of our afflictions. It has been through your prayers and support that have energized us to continue working to fill our nets with people and continue the task to be fishers of men and bring others to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Avant.

Support the Church Plant

If the Lord moves in your heart to be part of our support team or to give a special offering for the adaptations of this new work. We invite you to click on the button above and fill out the following information

- 1. Type Missionary Name: Juan Santafe
- 2. Missionary Account #: 88575
- 3. Amount you want to give/ Quantity you want to give
- 4. If you want to make it a monthly/recurring gift click I would like to make this a recurring donation
- 5. Start day
- 6. Payment information.

If it is a special offering for church improvements you can write a memo with the purpose of your donation.

Family Corner



From our personal family side of things we are doing well and have been on a homeschool break since the beginning of May. The girls have enjoyed a more relaxed schedule with some new extra curricular activities in the afternoons. We covet your prayers for our girls salvation, that they will truly understand what it means to trust the Lord in their hearts and surrender their lives to Him. Another personal prayer request is that we will be traveling to Alaska from July 13th to August 3rd to have a partial ministry trip and partial family trip. Melissa's sister and brother-in-law are in full-time ministry and pastoring a church in Sutton, Alaska. We are so thankful that Melissa's parents will also be traveling to

Alaska to be together. Juan will be preaching, we will be meeting with the missions team, volunteering in their summer ministry VBS, and will have some other ministry engagements. We will be taking some days with Melissa's parents and sister to enjoy our time as a family as well. As many of you know, Melissa's father has been battling stage four cancer and we will be taking this time to make family memories and celebrate God's protection and healing over her father over the course of these two hard years. Our travel will be no easy task with the little ones, being that with the travel time and layovers from Colombia to Alaska will be around 28 hours. Thank you so much for your faithful love, encouragement, and support. May God continue to bless you and fill you with the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Much love,

The Santafe Family

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