



the ETHAN SHIELDS family

August 2023

Third generation missionaries assisting the indigenous church planting effort in Panama

We want to start by telling you the TRACTOR STORY! God has moved in *miraculous* ways for this much needed tool. We had been praying for a tractor for several years now and were looking at a small one at first. Many churches and individuals gave and we had about half the money necessary. Then two men told Ethan the tractor was too small and that we needed a larger one to work faster and more effectively. These men generously gave the rest of the money needed to buy a bigger, medium-sized tractor and multiple implements! At the dealership, the salesman had just sold the last tractor of that size. However, as he began to search for another option, he quickly looked shocked and said, "I don't know how, but I can give you an even bigger tractor for the same price!" Not only that, but he 'just happened' to have a box blade lying around that he gave us for bottom dollar. **Now we have a large tractor with a loader, box blade, and mower deck.** This allows us to do the modifications on the runway ourselves as well as keep it mowed and maintained. GOD IS SO GOOD!



SEVEN people have been saved recently from two different churches!

At the end of June, a supporting church in TX flew our family to the USA and sent our kids to camp. Not only did we have a great time, we also got to see Ethan's parents! They were able to travel from Mexico to visit with us for about two weeks. Ethan also completed some more maintenance on our airplane. After that, we stopped by FL to visit four supporting churches plus a new one. It was a great trip and we are so thankful for the time with friends and family.

Our friend Marco got saved and baptized last fall. Not long after, he and his family moved from Panama to the USA. While in FL, we had the opportunity to spend several days with Marco, his wife Mari, and their two kids. It was great to enjoy time with them and to be able to encourage Marco. Please **pray** for the salvation of Mari, who is struggling against her Catholic background.



It's been 2.5 months since a truck ran a stop sign and wrecked into us. We just heard from the insurance company that our family van is totaled. We had to take in paperwork for the fifth time (no joke) for them to start the process of issuing our check. We have yet to buy anything to replace the van. **THANK YOU to those who have sent some money to help us get a new vehicle.** Every gift is received with much appreciation!

We are gearing up to host two groups in a couple of weeks. The group from FL will double the size of the existing church roof in the village of Llano Tebujo. The group from OK will do a public school outreach during the day with special evangelistic services at night at our main church in San Félix. **Pray** for both the visiting groups and the churches that they will be ministering in.