



Antonio got saved

the SHIELDS family

August 2018

Third generation missionaries church planting in Panama

www.missionsbeyond.com

Ethan and a group recently returned from a 10 day hiking trip to the remote villages of Guayabal and Trinchera. The group consisted of Ethan, two Costa Rican missionaries, our intern, three Ngäbe ladies, and two Ngäbe pastors. Although rainy season made the jungle trails treacherous, they persevered up and down over 30 miles of steep mountain terrain. They even had to cross a raging river on a zip line “bridge.”

There is no electricity in these remote villages and the solar system in Trinchera was damaged in a wind storm months ago.

Thank you to those who contributed to replace those components! The funds also covered the expense of the food that helped feed us and the people who came for the preaching from surrounding villages. Youth from the churches carried over 600 pounds of food, supplies, and gifts through the rain on the same precarious trail we hiked. Even with the extra load, they arrived well before us!

In each village, we taught discipleship classes during the day and sound doctrine through preaching at night. Each service, the church had standing room only. We also showed evangelistic videos some nights. The day sessions were separated into classes for men, women, and children and were mostly taught in Ngäbere, the heart language of the people. People from three areas churches hiked for **TWO DAYS** just to attend these special meetings in Trinchera. Last year on the trip, Ethan had to try to explain fevers and such to people who came looking for medical help. Praise the Lord, this year nurse Elsa came and ran a small clinic each day. It was a huge blessing for patients to be attended by someone with a real medical knowledge and who speaks Ngäbere.

This was an amazing trip! It was wonderful to see national believers step up and do a lot of the teaching. To be honest, it was a bit discouraging to not be more involved. However, it was incredibly encouraging to realize that these Ngäbe brethren have matured to this point. Ngäbe Christians are doing mission work among their own people. This is the goal. Best of all, **thirteen souls were saved!** Another trip is being planned to Guayabal and Trinchera early next year during the dry season. Our team has exciting plans that we will discuss more in another newsletter. Please start **praying** now for the next trip!



A few weeks ago, we celebrated Children’s Day here at our main church, Iglesia Bautista Nueva Esperanza (New Hope Baptist Church). Beth and Elena painted faces and Ethan led the boys’ team in memory verses and games. Over 100 children plus their parents enjoyed the activities, food, and most importantly, the preaching. **Three kids accepted Christ as Savior!** Ethan had the privilege to deal personally with two of them, Gabriel and Marco.



The next Sunday was New Hope’s 4th anniversary. We are thankful for Pastor Taylor and his family who came here as missionaries from Costa Rica to plant this precious church. Also recently, the church in Tugrí (Pastor Aquilino) celebrated their 2nd anniversary. Ethan stayed overnight at the church in a hammock to preach the two-day conference. What a blessing!

Follow “Missions Beyond Aviation” on Facebook for more pictures and videos of the trip