



the SHIELDS family

June 2019

Third generation missionaries church planting in Panama

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New Hope Baptist Church celebrated its 5th anniversary with a full house! We are thankful for the light that this church is in the community of San Félix and that we are able to be a part of it.

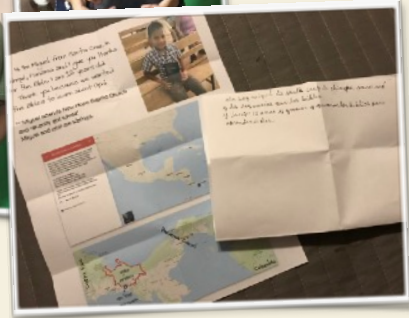
New Hope has recently absorbed a group of about 20 believers from the nearby town of El Maria. Before their pastor died, he told his people to come to our church because we have sound doctrine. New Hope has been reaching out through visitation and VBS to two more neighboring towns, Boquibajo and Nancito. At least 15 more people have started coming to church as a result. Since most of the people have no vehicles and live over 15 minutes away, New Hope has hired a bus to bring those people to church since we already run a transportation ministry in San Félix. The bus costs \$75 each Sunday just to transport everyone.

We have been praying about the possibility of replanting a church over closer to their area. However, these towns are quite small (fewer than 900 people between all three towns) and spread out. Transportation and location logistics make this hard to figure out. We do not have land for a church and it is scarce and expensive. Pray for the blending of these congregations, financial provision, and spiritual maturity.



In the days leading up to anniversary Sunday, New Hope held men and ladies meetings. Our coworkers, Randal and Annie Cox, taught at the meetings and we were able to translate for them.

Pray for the pastor of New Hope, Alexander Taylor. He recently had heart surgery to have five stents put in. He is recovering well, but we miss him and his wife, Myrtha, while they are gone.



We have recently started receiving BEAMS Bibles for the ministry here in Panama. BEAMS is a wonderful ministry out of Faith Baptist Church in Gulfport, MS that provides whole, hardback Bibles to missionaries for FREE! They simply ask that the recipients write a thank you letter to the donor. We have been translating the letter and providing more details about the person, the church they attend, and where our ministry is located in Panama.