



the

SHIELDS family

August 2019

Third generation missionaries church planting in Panama

www.missionsbeyond.com

July marked **three years of us living in Panama** and we had double reason to celebrate since we also **received our permanent residency!** All of the money invested and hours spent now mean we can live here forever and minister freely. Please **pray** that this would remain the case. A new president, Laurentino Cortizo, just took office July 1st. **Pray** for wisdom for him to make right choices as he leads Panama.

Beth's health has still been up and down lately. She recently had a biopsy for reasons unrelated to the other health issues. We praise the Lord the results came back showing **NO CANCER!** However, Beth's mom is facing cancer yet again. Please **pray** for Erine Watts as she begins her chemo treatments.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel two hiking trips planned for this year; the trip to our most remote church in Trinchera and a youth camp on the Caribbean side of Panama. Severe storms and flooding prevented us from going, but are grateful for God's protection and are looking forward to the opportunity to go next year.



We are excited to share the news that our coworkers Alex Taylor and Elsa Palacio got married! Beth gave a devotional at the bridal shower, we attended the civil wedding, and then each of us had a part in the church wedding. For those of you who may not know, Alex is a missionary from Costa Rica and Elsa is a nurse from the Ngäbe tribe. They both play important roles in the ministry here and we are so glad they are part of our team.

Soon after the wedding, the church in Tugrú held its third anniversary conference. Ethan has been one of the invited preachers for this conference every year. This year he preached or taught five times over the course of three days. What a privilege! Beth taught the ladies class and Elena and Noah helped with the kids classes.

We came home from Tugrú and immediately jumped into Dia del Niño (Children's Day) festivities at our main church, New Hope Baptist Church, in San Félix. Over 100 children (plus adults) enjoyed the songs, games, and Bible classes.

