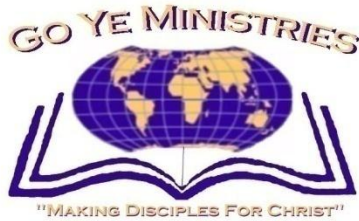




The RATH REVIEW



July, 2009

Philippians 3:14 *I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

Dear prayer and financial partners,

The events of the past few months have left us trying to catch our breath as well as praising the Lord for His added grace and strength. So much has been happening, but we will try to limit our letter to the essentials.

FAMILY



Johnny and Jo-Jo checking out Jessica's new toy

Over these past few months **JonAllan** and **Joanna** have both prayed to receive Christ as their Savior! Please pray that God would give us wisdom in knowing how to shepherd their hearts and that they would grow up to love and to serve the Lord.



Stephen Anthony Rath, Jr.

Jessica "The Lord beholds" **Ann** "Grace" **Rath**
We are pleased to announce the birth of our third child. **Jessica Ann Rath** was born on April 19, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. She weighed 9 lbs. 8 oz. and was 21¼ inches long. "Jessi" was born in Lagos de Moreno, at the same hospital where her big sister, Joanna, was born. God helped us to get all of her Mexican and American (citizenship) paperwork taken care of in just 10 days! We are amazed at how God gave us His grace and strength to be on the road for two months, have a baby while traveling in a foreign country, get Jessica's dual citizenship papers, visit churches and friends in Mexico and in Texas, and do it all in the middle of the swine flu outbreak! (Sometimes we think we must be a little bit crazy!) Through all of this we have been able to see even more vividly how God answers your prayers on our behalf. **Thank you so much for praying for us!**

We are happy to report the birth of our newest nephew. **Stephen Anthony Rath, Jr.** was born to Steve and Keri Rath on May 25th. The Rath family continues to grow! That's 9 cousins and counting...

MINISTRY

Time for Christ, Mexico Ministries

Jonathan has been very busy helping to get the paperwork taken care of for the summer medical mission trip. This has led to many trips to Mexico City, Puebla and possible caravan locations. It also has led to many more learning opportunities in the political and social aspects of the Mexican culture. Jonathan will be working together with the evangelists and will also help out as a translator and driver during the 2 weeks of the caravan.



Alfonso, Jose, Sergio and Jonathan in the shop

Ministry in Pachuca

In his "free time" Jonathan has been helping **Sergio Rutiaga** (the pastor of the church we attend in Pachuca) to set up his own carpentry shop. We now have our tools and equipment moved into the building God provided for us to rent. On July 1st, the church dedicated this ministry to the Lord. This is an answer to prayer! Little did we know that God would lead us (and Jonathan's carpentry tools) to Pachuca where we would join a small church that has been planning for years to open up a carpentry shop as a means to provide for, train and disciple ministers who have plans to reach out to the needy areas of Mexico. It also appears that God wants to use us to help this small church associate with a larger group of churches that share the same vision of reaching the unreached areas of Mexico. This has been a good reminder to us that God uses many different factors to

lead us into His will and that experiences we go through help to prepare us for other plans that He has in mind. Please pray that God would bless this carpentry ministry so that Sergio can spend more time attending to the needs of the church.

Lagos Bible Church

Please pray for unity and leadership for Lagos Bible Church. They continue to have their ups and downs as they learn to walk in obedience to the Lord.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support that make this ministry possible.

Until He Comes,

Jonathan & Bonnie Rath

Praise & Prayer Requests

Praise!

- Praise God for a safe delivery of Jessica here in Mexico.
- Praise the Lord for helping us to get Jessica's paperwork taken care of so quickly!
- Praise the Lord for keeping us healthy and for giving us safety as we travel!
- Praise the Lord for JonAllan and Joanna trusting in Christ as their Savior!

Pray!

- Please pray that the remaining authorizations needed for the caravan to operate will be given this week.
- Please pray for a safe trip and uncomplicated border crossing for the medical caravan. (July 17th - Aug 1st)
- **Please pray for the summer medical caravan to be successful in meeting the spiritual and physical needs of the patients that come for care.**
- Pray for JonAllan and Joanna to continue to grow in understanding and obedience.
- Pray that God would bless and prosper the carpentry ministry of Emmanuel Christian Church, Pachuca.
- Pray for continued safety as our ministry requires lots of traveling.
- Pray that the Lord would continue to provide for our financial needs as our family and ministry grows.

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