



Quito, Ecuador

2011 Mission's Report

Run-down of 2011:

- **Jan-Feb:** Returned to Livonia MI to make preparations (container, visas, etc) to leave for Quito.
 - **Team Visits:** Guayaquil
- **March:** Arrived in Quito. Found and set up home. Took [Natural Church Development](#) Training.
 - **Team Visits:** Santo Domingo
- **Apr:** Finish the work for DMin class taken in January. Enoch Kent is born!
- **May:** Give talk for Pepperdine Lecture. EQEB Graduation.
 - **Team Visits:** Guayaquil and Portoviejo
- **June:** Medical Mission.
 - **Team Visits:** Kumanii
- **July:** Travel to U.S.A for Operation Ecuador Meeting
 - **Team Visits:** Santo Domingo
- **Aug:** Prepare and guide faculty and student retreats. EQEB school year begins in which I teach Systematic Theology. Julie and girls begin at Alliance Academy.
- **Sept:**
 - **Team Visits:** Guayaquil
- **Oct**—Missionary Men's Retreat in Brazil. Preach at Iberoamericana Conference in Ibarra. Brother Javier Cuarezma from Detroit visits. Travel to Bolivia to visit Cochabamba Church and Sucre team.
 - **Team Visits:** Sucre and Portoviejo
- **Nov**—Take Hillsboro survey group to Kumanii. Move into the city.
 - **Team Visits:** Kumanii and Guayaquil
- **Dec**—Finish out 2nd cycle at the EQEB.
 - **Team Visits:** Portoviejo and Santo Domingo

...for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. **Philip 2.13**

With every new year we learn new aspects of our relationship with God; his desire to not only to place us in the best areas for service in his kingdom but also to provide for our needs all along the way. The year 2011 began with much uncertainty: concerning finances, what the ministry in Ecuador would look like, where the kids would go to school, and where we would even live. We stepped out into the Jordan trusting God would show up and guide us in the specifics. And He did, does, and always will! In amazing and providential manner he provided for us on every front. We've had to move twice and also adjust our expectations for our role here but we continue to be amazed as He goes before us.

After living several months in a rental house on the outskirts of Quito close to my parents, we decided that the daily commute in heavy traffic was draining too much time and energy. Our family is now settled into a rental house in the middle of north Quito, only a half a block from where the kids go to school. Julie has also been given a half-a-day job there which helps us with financial aid for the kids. We couldn't ask for a better educational set-up for the children. Michaela is in first grade, Eliana in the pre-school program, and Jana attends a lovely day-care while Mommy's at school. Enoch sleeps a good bit of the morning, but between a beloved Christian sister, his nana, and his Dad he's got plenty of people looking after him during the morning time.

Church Plant in the Valley: *Though we've moved to Quito we continue to be very active in the church plant in el Valle de los Chillos. Julie teaches the children every Sunday and will even give a Bible Teacher's Training Conference in March to Guayaquil churches. We love our church and leaders in the Valley and have enjoyed leading a small group of families with young children during the week. I also meet to pray weekly with the evangelists and assist frequently in preaching and teaching roles as well.*

Team Coach: *Every month I visit on an average two mission sites to meet with the teams. They were very welcoming from the*

onset but we have even grown closer as the year has gone on. We have had to work through team transitions (such as changing team dynamics), purchase of property, interpersonal relationships, spiritual struggles, and general ministry issues. I admire their dedication to the work and am thankful that they see me as an asset to their personal growth and direction for the mission sites.

Assistant Director: *One of the surprises for my role in Quito was the amount of assistance I would give to the Quito School of Biblical Studies. Don't get me wrong, I'm glad for this position to serve, but hadn't anticipated the level of involvement from the onset. It has been incredibly satisfying though to interact and mold many students coming through the three year program. I'm not only able to teach, but also mentor a student group weekly, facilitate the faculty meetings, and serve in an assistant level for the internal operations of the school.*

Minister of Reconciliation: *This year I've noticed the reconciliation side of ministry especially needed. God has put me in a position to search for His peace between team members, couples at church, and even between whole churches. I can't say that every time this mediation has gone as well as desired, but for the most part am convinced that God's hand was on me to intercede.*

It has been a year of many transitions, some of them more difficult than others, but we are finally feeling like we have found somewhat of a rhythm here with our lives and ministry. We want to thank you for the ways you have supported and encouraged us over the past year: through your prayers as well as your emotional, financial and spiritual support. We stand amazed at the ways God has provided through you for our every need. We are excited about the opportunities ahead of us and the ways that God will continue to work in this country and open doors for his church. We love you and pray that God walk with you in this year! Joshua, Julie, Michaela, Eliana, Jana and Enoch Marcum