

SEPTEMBER 2021 UPDATE

Hello Friends and Family,

The artwork on the right is by Emma. I love the details as she illustrates the transition of Summer turning to Fall. We may have an artist on our hands. She is doing well in the Fourth Grade, and we are thankful that the Covid-19 cases have been few at our school. Thus, she has been able to have on-campus instruction every day!



Last month we briefly shared with you that **Tannia** was recently awarded a full scholarship to complete a B.S. in Christian Education through Hartwell University! Over the past year, I have provided consultation to the President of Hartwell and was recently named to their Board of Regents. As they share on their website hartwell-education.org, "**Hartwell University strives to support amazing people that want to become impactful educators by providing a highly affordable online path to a teaching degree. We are mission-driven to compassionately meet the educational needs of our most vulnerable young citizens in a way that demonstrates the value God places in us**

all." The University is attempting to address both the national teacher shortage and the shortage of Christ-centered educators serving in classrooms around the world. In a gesture of thanks for the services and hours provided, the school extended to us the opportunity of naming several scholarship recipients, including Tannia! Another scholarship recipient is a dear friend in Ecuador, Felix (pictured here with his family), who shared these words of gratitude in a recent post,



"The truth is I was nervous and at the same time excited to start this journey. Nothing has been easy in my life. It reminds me of that story where the children of God, with one hand, rebuilt the walls around Jerusalem, and with the other, they held their swords to protect them against attacks.

I am without work. The economy here is mainly on tourism, and since the pandemic, I lost my job. I was starting to buy a house, and all the dreams just stopped. I do not rest each day until I have the provision of groceries for my family. We live a very delicate reality.

Don't get me wrong. I feel that God is smiling at me. I did not think I would ever have this opportunity with Hartwell. I've worked as a teacher's aide without having a teacher's degree, and preparing to do it as a degreed teacher is an undeserved gift. I want to give my best, although I use all my strength just to survive. I can do nothing more for now than say thank you and that God always blesses you.—Felix, Class of 2025"



This blessing is **another example of how your support of our ministry supports and touches the lives of others.** Because of your support, I was able to provide consult and guidance to Hartwell at no cost, and **that blessing has translated into a transformational opportunity** of a family's life in Ecuador, as well as a blessing to our family so that Tannia can complete her degree. **Thank you again for helping us to help so many others!**

Yours for Christ,
- Toby (for Tannia and Emma too!)



Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ designated for the ministry of *Toby & Tannia Travis* #20245.

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