

SORRY WE'RE LATE...

Hello Friends! Our sincere apologies for not getting an update out to you since April. The past few months have been chalked full with ministry activities, year-end school events, including our Jr. & Sr. Banquet for which we get all decked out (see the picture on the right), a series of illness (especially for Emma and Toby), and a move to a new apartment. So, again, our apologies for the delay. Thank you so much for your love, care, concern, and support for our work here in Ecuador. Here are some updates...

FAMILY UPDATE...

We are so proud to announce that Tannia's sister, Gabriela, has received a full scholarship from the *University of North-western—St. Paul* (Toby's alma mater) to complete her Bachelor's degree! She has received her USA student visa (a major praise!) and will be traveling to MN in mid-August.



Gabi is currently completing her Associates degree in communication at the *Centro Cristiano de Comunicacion* here in Quito. She is at the top of her class!

Those of you who live in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, we would very much appreciate your help in supporting Gabi over the next year by hosting her for the occasional meal, taking her shopping, caring for her over holidays, etc. Send us an email or Facebook message and we'll get you connected to Gabi.

We know that Emma will be missing one of her favorite aunties—but we are so thankful for this opportunity and excited for what

JULY 2013



the Lord has for Gabi in the future.

Through the blessing of some dear friends, who are just now retiring from the *Alliance Academy International*, the rest of the Travis/Granja Clan have been given the opportunity to move into a new apartment which is larger, newer, safer, and in a much better location of Quito. Our new home also offers much better space for Emma.

Although making another move has had it's challenges, as we've also had a good deal of illness in the family (Emma with a bout of the influenza and Toby with pharyngitis), this is a GREAT BLESSING and it is our hope that this apartment will be our home for many years to come!

STUDENT THANKS...

The end of the school year is always a mix of emotions; Excitement at the celebration of our student's accomplishments and a bit of melancholy in saying goodbye again to a group of exceptional young men and women.

Many of the students shared notes of thanks to me over the final weeks of



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1 Peter 3:15

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the school-year. I'd like to share a few examples with you as **the thanks we receive is really a thanks to you as well.** We could not minister to these students as we do without you.



"Mr. Travis, Thank you for everything! I really liked the apologetics class and your AMAZING magic tricks. Thank you!"

"Mr. T.—Thank you for helping and caring for us."

"Mr. Travis, this is a very small thank you for all that you've done for me (enclosed a \$5 bill). May God continue to bless you."

"Mr. Travis, You have been a great principal.

Thank you so much for all you have done for this school. Thank you for always being willing to listen to my concerns. May God bless you in your new position next year."

"Mr. Travis, I think that you are doing a great job carrying us to the way of God. You are awesome. Thank you for being so nice with us. Thanks for your love!!"

"Mr. T.— So glad that you care for students and that you're not out to win any popularity contest. You balance



enforcement of the rules and giving grace well. I respect you and admire the way you make decisions.”

“Mr. T., You have been such a blessing in my life over the years. It was so much fun having you as a choir teacher and then as a principal. God bless!”

“Mr. Travis, I want to congratulate you because you have been, and you will continue to be, a great guide for us students. As a father you care for us and want only our good. Also I want to thank you for all your support, help, and understanding that you have given to me. I will never forget that in my time in the AAJ you have been the best principal that made a lot of big changes, but all that will help me in my future. Thank you and may God bless you and your family.”

SUPPORT UPDATE...

We are very happy to report that our support account through *Ripe For Harvest* ended last December in the black! Thank you all so much. However, I've also been encouraged to share with you that since the turning of the calendar into 2013 our financial support has not met our monthly needs. Here's a little snapshot of how contributions have been going this year:

2013	Donations Above or Below Monthly Support Needs
January	+ \$ 789
February	- \$1,691
March	- \$1,346
April	+ \$ 84
May	- \$ 1,441
June	- \$ 1,366
Current Need	\$4,971

As you can see we are half-way through the year and now nearly \$5K behind in meeting our financial obligations. It's always awkward

to share financials (guess that's a cultural upbringing thing) - but we do serve here in Ecuador as missionaries and **we are dependent upon God to provide our financial needs through others.**

So, please pray with us that not only will this negative fund turn positive, but that we'll finish the last 6 months financially healthier than ever. It is vital that our support be in place for us to continue to focus our full-time efforts here in Ecuador.

Please continue to send your donations, and encourage others to do so as well, to:

RIPE *for Harvest*
WORLD OUTREACH

Travis Account #245
P.O. Box 487
Monument, CO 80132

You can also make secure on-line donations at www.ripeforharvest.org or www.tobytravis.org.

Thank you!

IRS guidelines stipulate that contributions are made with the understanding that *Ripe For Harvest World Outreach* has complete control and administration over the use of the donated funds and that no goods or services are provided in exchange for said donations.



A higher standard.
A higher purpose.

NEW POSITION — NEW CHALLENGES...

Earlier this year we announced that next month Toby would move into a new position at the *Alliance Academy International* in the role of *Academic Director* over the entire preK-12 programs. Well, that announcement is still true, but it will hold a few extra challenges that we did not see when the announcement was made.

First, due to some staffing challenges at the school, as well as some



other factors, **Toby will not only serve as the Academic Director, but he will also continue as the Secondary Principal for the 2013-2014 school year.** Yep, that's right. Wearing two hats at the same time!

This is only a one-year commitment to serve in both roles, but it will be a large challenge. Your prayers for wisdom, the ability to efficiently delegate, and manage the entire school program while also giving focused attention to leading the Secondary school are sincerely appreciated.

The other challenge is that in accepting the position of *Academic Director* Toby has also been asked to continue his own professional development and continued education. Therefore, **we are currently exploring university programs that can be completed from here in Ecuador for Toby to obtain a Doctorate in Education.** So, he'll go from being "Mr. T." to "Dr. T." Obviously prayers are needed!

STAFFING NEEDS...

We have significant staffing needs for the coming school-year that still need to be filled over the next 6 weeks. If you, or someone you know, is qualified and willing to serve as an "Edu-Missionary" in one of the following positions, please contact our *Human Resources Coordinator*, Lois Wells, at lwells@alliance.k12.ec:

- Elementary Chaplain
- Librarian
- Educational Psychologist
- Special Education Teacher
- Speech Therapist
- Second Grade Teacher
- Secondary Home Economics Teacher
- Secondary Science Teacher
- Secondary Math Teacher

FINALLY...

As always, thank you so much for your interest in our lives and ministry. Please come and visit when you can!

- Toby, Tannia, & Emma