



THE DELP DETOUR TO ECUADOR

Created by Joel and Kim Delp in affiliation with the Evangelical Covenant Church

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VISIONARIES TOGETHER

God has truly been so good to us this last year. We don't say that lightly, we know there have been a lot of challenges, trials and hurdles during our first full year here in Ecuador, but He has blessed us beyond measure and has given opportunities we did not think would develop this soon. Most of you probably know by now our long term dream of starting a center for at-risk children and a medical clinic. During these last few months, we have had multiple meetings discussing possibilities of *partnering* with the national church of Ecuador (IPEE) to start this project. During the summer months, an official study was completed by an individual from the social outreach branch of IPEE, called **FACE**, to determine what needs there are in Ecuador and where. This study, as well as our project were presented to the Advisory Council of IPEE on November 19th. At this meeting, we were voted and approved to start a field study. Starting in April, we will be visiting different *established* children's ministries in Ecuador to evaluate the possibilities of partnering

For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purposes.

-Philippians 2:13

with a current local ministry. The main goal of this field study is to determine a location and a group of people to serve alongside for the future medical clinic and center for at-risk children as we would like it to be a part of a current Covenant ministry. We have felt many open doors in the area of Santo Domingo and we have shared those with IPEE, but we are waiting for direction; we would like that to be a decision that the IPEE leadership makes. We will attempt to provide them with accurate information from the field study to make an informed decision. In this way, it's our goal to be **visionaries together**.

The Next Detour...

The title of our newsletter has definitely been true these last few months: the Delp **DETOUR**. However, we know that detours create alternate routes, maybe not exactly



what we planned, but we know the **DETOUR** is God's plan, and we are fine seeing where this alternate route leads us.

Due to these new and exciting developments mentioned above., our regional coordinators asked about the possibility of extending our time in Ecuador to develop this project as much as possible as well as to continue with our language and cultural acquisition. We have been told that language tends to be lost quicker the shorter amount of time you are exposed to it, so the more language we can get the better.

Our thoughts at this point are to extend our time 5 months. Instead of leaving Ecuador in June of 2012, we will be leaving in November of 2012. We are excited about this detour, but know that it also comes with new steps of faith for us. We would ask for you to possibly continue

financially and prayerfully supporting us through November of 2012.

PLEASE SEE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO START OR CONTINUE SUPPORTING US PRAYERFULLY AND FINANCIALLY. THE ADDRESS TO SEND IT TO IS ON THE ENVELOPE, BUT HERE IT IS AS WELL:

**COVENANT WORLD MISSION
ATTN: JOEL & KIM DELP
STM ACCOUNT
8303 W. HIGGINS ROAD
CHICAGO, IL 60631**

(Additional Information on back page)

HECHOS 29 in 2011

While you all were celebrating with family, friends and turkeys on Thanksgiving we went off to Santa Rosa, Ecuador to be at Hechos 29, which means "Acts 29." It is a bible school and cultural exchange as students from Sweden and Ecuador come together to study God's word and look into ministry. Joel had the

privilege of being one of the teachers in the school's last week of classes. He taught on the topic of "Called and Sent" as the students were preparing themselves to be sent from their school back to the homes. It was a powerful time as many of the students will be future leaders in the church. We had the opportu-

nity to get to know and counsel Karen (pictured RIGHT) who is actually from Chili and is discerning her call to Youth Prison ministry. It was a wonderful time to see and be a part of a great ministry that is going on in Ecuador.





For to us a child is born, to us a son is given and the government will be upon His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. -Isaiah 9:6

Advent Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
First Sunday of Advent November 27, 2011	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37
Second Sunday of Advent December 4, 2011	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2011	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2011	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38

ADVENT 2011

As we are working on this news – letter, we have in mind all the things that will be going on between now and Christmas. Surely you all are experiencing the same thing. We are challenged however, by this Advent Season, and the significance of it. Advent is the Season where the Church celebrates the 1st coming of Jesus

while anticipating the 2nd coming. Scripture and prayer not only prepare us spiritually for Christmas (his first coming), but also for his eventual second coming. This is why the Scripture readings during Advent include both Old Testament passages related to the expected Messiah, and New Testament passages concerning Jesus'

second coming as judge of all people.

We encourage you during this busy time of year to stop and prepare yourself for the meaning of what Christmas is. To stop and anticipate the arrival of Jesus and to wait expectantly for His second coming.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◆ The process of licensure for Kim to be able to practice in Ecuador as a Nurse Practitioner
- ◆ Discernment process with IPEE and the development of the center for at-risk children and medical clinic
- ◆ Kim's new project in Tena starting in mid-January- for wisdom and guidance in creating curriculum and teaching
- ◆ Joel's continued help with the Covenant Camp in Santo Domingo and specifically for it's need of a vehicle
- ◆ Continued growth and development for Simeon
- ◆ Continued funding for staying in Ecuador 5 months longer
- ◆ Assimilation of culture and language
- ◆ Wisdom and guidance in everyday missionary life
- ◆ That we would be Godly examples to Simeon and raise him with a knowledge of Jesus
- ◆ Continued sharing of God's love with our Spanish teacher



Update on Kim's Work in Tena

In the last month, we had a meeting with the FACE committee in charge of the disabilities project in Tena that we talked about in the past. There is uncertainty about the project start date, finances, etc. Until these uncertainties are resolved, Kim will be working on an AIDS/HIV/STD education project for adolescents in Tena starting in January.

As of 2007, 0.3% of the population of Ecuador was living with HIV, this is a very significant increase from the statistics from



Adolescent girls in Tena

2001. Kim is very excited about serving in this way and feels she can be of assistance to this group of adolescents. Please pray for this project, the students receiving information and Kim as she prepares the project. Also pray for our family as we will be splitting our time between Tena, Santo Domingo, and Quito.



Simeon with kids in Tena



SANTO DOMINGO UPDATE

Safe to say, there is has been a lot going on at the campgrounds in Santo Domingo. We are currently in the first phase of the "Super Camp Plan" in which we are getting the entire grounds into tip top shape with its current facilities. This means painting, fixing broken items, making necessary purchases, etc. But we have much more planned for the future as there are a total of over 30 upgrades that are accounted for in the plan. Some of these include: renovating the kitchen, adding a pool, constructing family cabins and adding additional meeting space. We are going to be doing a lot of work and could use some help.

Would you be interested in bringing a work team down from your church to help with these renovations? If so, just let Joel know and he can help you get setup with Merge Ministries for bringing a team down.

Also, Joel and Mandy Hjelm, another short-

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term missionary here, applied to receive the "Camp Project" and we have good news to report. **Pending approval, the campgrounds in Santo Domingo have a very good chance of receiving a substantial donation from the Covenant Camps of the U.S. & Canada in 2012.**

One current prayer request is that we are still trying to purchase a

small truck for the camp. The camp does not have a vehicle that the administrator can use to conduct the business of the camp, so he has to use his own vehicle. Pictured here is the Camp Administrator, Ruben, and his wife Amparo.



Schedule of Events for 2012

- ◆ December 17th FACE meeting & Wedding in SD
- ◆ December 25th CHRISTMAS in Ecuador!
- ◆ January 1st New Year's in Ecuador!
- ◆ January 11th FACE meeting
- ◆ Middle of January Kim starts work in Tena
- ◆ January 28th Kim's Birthday
- ◆ March 5th Simeon's 2nd Birthday
- ◆ March 24th Kim's best friend's wedding (Joel conducting ceremony, Simeon ring bearer) in South Carolina
- ◆ Middle of April we begin field study process for project
- ◆ In June we need our VISA extension approval

2011 in Pictures



Books we Recommend from 2011

- ◆ When Helping Hurts (Corbett and Fikkert, 2009)
- ◆ The Sparrow (Russell, 1997)
- ◆ The Divine Hours-for Springtime, Autumn and Wintertime and Summer (Phyllis Tickle, 2000)
- ◆ Good Night Charleston and The Furry Arms Hotel (both Simeon choices)
- ◆ The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo series (very strong themes and language but very addicting)



The Evangelical Covenant Church

Our blog:

<http://blogs.covchurch.org/delp>

Increased Financial Need

We would be remiss not to mention in more detail how our financial need has increased with the decision to stay in Ecuador five more months. The fact is that staying the additional time in our first term would help in providing enough time to develop our long term project before heading to the States. For this reason, we need to raise additional support in order to do so. **Staying five more months means that we will need to raise an additional \$4,230 in monthly support for each of the five extra months.** To explain, many of you are monthly supporters and if each of our monthly supporters just continues to support us for the extra months then most of this need will be accounted for. There are ways listed in the right hand column for how you can continue to give for these additional months. However, if some of you have given a one time gift in the past, maybe you can consider giving again for

the additional need. In the end, we know that God will provide as He has provided so many times in the past. Finances are just one way that you all have supported us and one way that you partner with us in ministry, but it is an area that, especially at this time, is of the practical nature and so we want to let you know of the need. We have enclosed a pre-addressed envelope (for those receiving a printed copy of this newsletter) for sending in support or correspondence but you can also send us a note at our email to let us know of your intentions so we can plan and budget appropriately: joel-kim.delp@covchurch.org. Since we have been asked this question, we also wanted to use this space to let you know how to send in a personal or Christmas gift. You will find that to the right also.

May God richly bless you in this season and may you find time to meditate on the significance of the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ!

Address: Covenant World Mission
Attn: Joel & Kim Delp STM Account
8303 W. Higgins Rd.
Chicago, IL 60631

Ways to Give

- ◆ For those wanting to send in a check as a one time gift or to continue sending in a monthly check, please send them to the address above.
- ◆ For those wanting to give a personal/Christmas gift, please send it to the address above, but also include the word "Personal" on the memo line and include a note stating this purpose.
- ◆ For those who have signed up for automatic withdraw, you don't need to do anything, the monthly support will continue to be withdrawn until you ask for it to be discontinued.
- ◆ For those who would like to give online (one time or monthly), please go to our blog (address above) and click "Donate Online."