

BLOOM *Family*

CHURCH PLANTING MISSIONARIES TO ECUADOR
KASON, BETHANY, JAXON, NOAH



This prayer letter is a little different from our usual updates, as I want to take a moment to reflect on the many blessings and challenges we've experienced in 2024. It has been a year filled with God's provision, lessons, and growth, and I'm excited to share some of the highlights and milestones with you. As you read through this recap, I hope it encourages you to see how God has been working in and through our ministry.

Completion of the Church Building

In January 2024, we experienced a major milestone as we held our first service in our new church building. This project has been years in the making, and seeing it finally come to fruition was an emotional and joyous moment for everyone involved. The building stands as a testament to God's faithfulness and the generosity of many individuals and churches who gave sacrificially to make it possible.

This permanent home for Iglesia Bautista Libertad has transformed our ministry. We now have a dedicated space for worship, teaching, and fellowship, which has allowed us to expand our outreach and ministry opportunities. For example, we've been able to host community events, establish new Bible study groups, and provide a consistent meeting place for our growing congregation. This building has truly become a beacon of hope in our community, and we are excited to see how God will continue to use it in the years to come.

Church Organization

March 2024 was another historic moment for our church as we officially organized and became a chartered body. Our pastor visited us to lead the organization process, and we were thrilled to have over 30 members sign as part of our founding charter. This was a powerful moment of unity and commitment as we came together to establish our church's foundation.

The formal organization of our church has given us a stronger identity and a renewed sense of purpose. It was also a time to reflect on the vision and mission God has given us for reaching our community and beyond. This milestone is a reminder of the responsibility we carry to faithfully steward what God has entrusted to us, and we are eager to see how He will continue to bless and grow His church.

Church Attendance

One of the most encouraging aspects of 2024 has been the steady growth in church attendance. Every Sunday, we are blessed to see new faces in our congregation. Many of these visitors have not only attended services but have also shown a genuine interest in studying the Bible and learning more about Jesus.

Throughout the year, we have averaged 93 people on Sunday mornings—21 children and 72 adults and youth. These numbers represent more than just attendance; they reflect lives being impacted by the gospel. Several individuals have made the decision to trust in Christ as their Savior, and many have taken the next step of joining our church family. As we look ahead to 2025, we are praying and trusting God to grow our congregation to over 100 attendees, continuing to see lives transformed by His grace.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Our Vacation Bible School this year was a resounding success, with over 100 children attending each day. This event was a vibrant display of joy, energy, and gospel-centered teaching. What made this year particularly special was that it was organized and led by our church's own leaders and members. While we assisted with planning, the leadership, teaching, and activities were handled entirely by our congregation—a true step forward in equipping the saints for ministry.

Throughout the week, the children learned about God's love through engaging Bible stories, music, crafts, and games. Many of the kids who attended came from families who are not yet part of the church, providing a wonderful opportunity to share the gospel with them and their parents. This year's VBS demonstrated the fruit of investing in local leadership and was a reminder of how God uses His people to accomplish His work.

Vision Baptist Church
Pastor Trent Cornwell
355 Windy Hill Dr.
Alpharetta, GA 30004

Personal Contact
kason.bloom@gmail.com

Support Address
Vision Baptist Missions
PO Box 647
Dawsonville, GA 30534

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Power Cuts and Drought

From September to December, our region faced a severe drought that resulted in daily power outages lasting 8–12 hours. These power cuts disrupted daily life, affected the economy, and presented significant challenges for ministry. Simple tasks like hosting services, running outreach events, and maintaining communication became much more complicated.

Despite these difficulties, we saw God's faithfulness in sustaining us through this challenging season. The rain has now returned, and the planned power cuts have been lifted. While it was a difficult period, it reminded us to rely on God's strength and provision in all circumstances.

Missions Conference and Support

In November, we hosted our annual missions conference, which was a highlight of the year. This event brought our church together to focus on the global mission of sharing the gospel. Each Sunday School class presented a different continent, helping us learn more about the spiritual needs and missionary efforts around the world.

Through the Faith Promise offering, we were able to begin supporting two new missionary families. This was a significant step for our church, as it reflects our commitment to not only reach our local community but also support the work of the gospel internationally.

Leadership Training

Raising up leaders has been one of our primary goals this year, and we are excited to see God answering our prayers. Three men in our church have felt the call to full-time ministry and have begun taking Bible college classes. One of these men is now serving as our assistant pastor, while the other two are actively involved in various ministries, such as youth outreach and teaching.

Investing in national leadership is essential for the long-term health and growth of our church. As we train and disciple these men, we are also praying for God to raise up even more leaders in the coming year. This is an area where your prayers are greatly needed, as the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

December Events

In December, we hosted several special services, including Christmas celebrations, which brought in many new visitors. These events were filled with joy, worship, and the message of hope found in Jesus Christ. It was encouraging to see the church come together to serve and welcome these guests.

Please pray that God continues to work in the hearts of these visitors. We desire to see those who have not yet accepted Christ take that step of faith and grow in their understanding of the gospel. We are also praying that they will choose to engage in discipleship and deepen their relationship with the Lord.

Gratitude and Blessings

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to each of you who have supported us through prayer and financial giving. Your partnership in the gospel is making a tangible difference here in Ecuador. Thank you for standing with us as we serve the Lord. We hope you had a joyous Christmas season and pray that 2025 will be a year filled with God's blessings for you and your family.

With love and gratitude,

The Blooms

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Pastor Trent Cornwell
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