

Alex Melendez

Carl Hewlett

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Dear Brethren,

Attached are some photos of the ministry of Bro. Alex Melendez in Panama. The areas mentioned are Finca 51 and the newest work in Puente Blanco. Barranco Adentro, the original Guaymi Indian village, is not included. Puente Blanco is of the same group of Indians, the Guaymies. The church in Finca 51 is a mixture of the local people and the Guaymies. There are no photos of the church at Finca 51, except for the one with the lady holding the bags of food. However, the construction of the well is for the people of the Finca 51 area.

The terrible strikes that lasted for several months left 7,000 people without work, which meant food and water shortages. The government would send water trucks out weekly to distribute water, but the amount was only so much, and it was used up quickly. Meanwhile, Bro. Melendez and the mother church in Costa Rica sent relief help of food and water to the people of the church. The strikes have finally ended, but the damage and the effects are ongoing. The Chiquita Banana company practically shut down. Crime was rampant. Buildings and businesses were set on fire, automobiles burnt, stores and businesses looted, houses invaded, people assaulted and robbed, with some fatalities, etc.

A love gift of \$800 had been graciously given for the digging of a well for the people of Finca 51, but because of the extra materials needed for the well frame, cement blocks, roofing, water pump, water filters, tanks for filling, etc., I am told that some \$2600 is needed for the entire completion of the well project. Please pray for God to provide what is needed to complete this project.

About the construction of the building for the people of Puente Blanco, it was put on hold due to the problem with the strikes. These dear people, mostly children, have been waiting forever to have their own church facility. The construction has been continued, and soon the simple structure should be completed.

Bro. Carl, GPA
Luke 19:10

Thanks for your help and prayers for Bro. Melendez and his ministry in this area of Panama.

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The strikes in Panama made it necessary to dig a well for the people of Finca 51

The strike in Panama resulted in 7,000 people out of work and without food and access to water for months. The government did send trucks out weekly with water rations, but it was used up quickly. Bro. Melendez and the church in Costa Rica sent food and water rations to help as many as they could. The lady below was able to get food from the supply that Bro. Melendez brought from Costa Rica.



Businesses and stores had to close because of the strikes, laying many off work.



Framework for the well under construction for the church area in Finca 51



The well will need accessories like a water pump, tanks, and filters for water purification.



This young work in Puente Blanco has needed their own church for years.
This place where they are seated is a lent-out community shelter.



This is the site for the Guaymi Indian church in Puente Blanco



Building Under Construction for church in Puente Blanco



Project was stopped for several months due to worker strikes which devastated the country