

# Iglesia Pan de Vida Turns 1!

I promised you an update in April and it's June already...not sure how that happened.

In April, Iglesia Biblica Cristian Pan de Vida Ramon Santana (IBCPVRS) turned 1!

We're grateful for all the Lord has done in the first year. Here are a few highlights:

**Unusual start:** We started with approximately 20 members (many were members of our church in Concho Primo and others Freedom students/missionary families).

**Evangelism** has been a big focus and the Lord has blessed. The church has almost doubled in size (some Freedom students looking for a church have joined and also parents/siblings of church members have come to know Christ!)

**3 main services** throughout the week: Sunday morning worship, Tuesday prayer groups in homes, Wednesday Bible study/prayer meeting.

**Current ministries:** Women and teens have been meeting since last May and we finally started our children's ministry in March!

**Discipleship:** most of the members have been through discipleship materials (a few new believers will be starting in the coming months).

**Ordinances:** We have been practicing Lord's Supper regularly since the get go and were privileged to hold a baptismal service at the beach last summer (and look forward to doing so again soon for the new believers)

**Preaching:** Pastor Franklyn and Richard have been working through Romans throughout the year. The two Freedom missionaries in our church have also helped out with preaching some too!



**Building:** We've outgrown the building we are in (what a great problem to have!) and are praying for/beginning to save for purchasing a locale or piece of land to build on.

We held special **anniversary services** the second week of April. Some nights we invited other churches to join us in celebrating what God has done, and other nights we emphasized evangelism and reaching our community. My favorite part of the week was seeing our church members bring family and friends to hear the Gospel. It was packed every night!

Please continue praying for the church: we desire to see more souls saved and to see our current members grow in maturity and begin serving in the church according to the gifts and abilities the Lord has given them! Pray for us (the Soriano family and Pastor Franklyn's family): we desire to be faithful in everything the Lord has set before us to do! And of course, join us in praising the Lord for all He has done already in Ramon Santana and what He is doing and will do.

### **Richard's visa/trip to the US**

We also want to thank you all for praying for Richard's visa. After a little over 3 long years of waiting, we were finally able to travel to the US as a family in May! During our trip, we rested a lot and enjoyed time as a family. Richard got to meet my family that lives in the Columbus area as well as my church family. During our time at my home church, Richard was able to become a member. We had already been meeting regularly via Zoom with my pastor, but we were also able to meet with the deacons and at their recommendation, the church voted to receive him as a member and also to commission us as a missionary family. We are grateful to be able to now say that we are sent from Memorial Baptist church as a family! The month went by fast and we are now back in the DR. But we are already looking at the calendar and communicating with our supporting churches to figure out the best date to travel back and visit the rest of our churches.

Another praise is that Richard received his green card while were still in Ohio! We had been told it could take up to 6 months, but it came in less than 3 weeks! Now we are working on his naturalization to become a citizen of the US in the next year or two. In the meantime, we will be traveling back to the States at least every 6 months to meet the requirements for him to keep his residency. We are grateful for all the Lord has done and that the hardest part of this process is behind us!

We are planning a quick visit in July to be able to visit 3 supporting churches, and then, Lord willing, we will travel again in December-January and hope to be able to visit the rest of the churches during that time.

If you are in the area, here are the churches we will be at in July:

July 5: Journey Church (Dublin, OH)

July 12: Young's Corner Fellowship Baptist Church (Wadsworth, OH)

July 19: Harpeth Baptist Church (Kingston Springs, TN)



