

# Bogotá Bulletin

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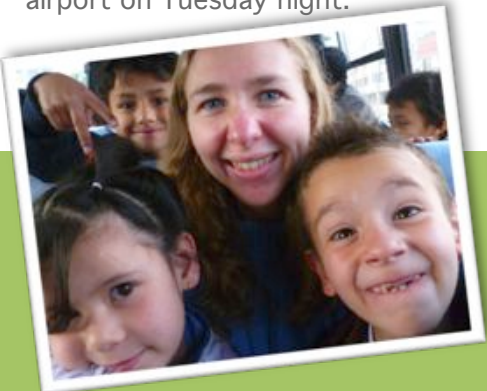
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## “Stuck” in Aruba

Last Sunday, my new housemate and coworker Rae Ann was supposed to fly into Bogotá. Her first flight was delayed and she ended up being “stuck” in Aruba, waiting for her connecting flight for 2 days. God’s good at orchestrating events though- A friend here in Colombia has friends in Aruba, and they went to the airport to pick her up and waited until her flight arrived at 1am. She spent the 2 days with them, and despite being able to enjoy the beach, we were both glad when she finally walked out of the Bogotá airport on Tuesday night.



## In-school Vacation

This week has marked week one of our “in-school vacations”. To give the kids a break from academics, but keep them safe and off the streets, we plan 2 weeks of fun activities in July. We’ve been so blessed this year by teams helping out. A great team from Michigan came on Tuesday and planned a day full of Bible stories, games, and crafts for the kids. On Thursday we had a group from a local church that kept the kids happy and busy playing and doing crafts until lunchtime. Friday we took a fun field trip to La Vega, where the weather is warmer and the kids tired themselves out playing in the pool and running around trying to catch butterflies.

I’m really looking forward to next week when a team from my church in the States comes to visit. They’ve put a lot of work into planning fun activities for the kids and I can’t wait to see the kids enjoying the time, and sharing my life here in Colombia with my church family.

## Want to send a letter?

My address is: Kr. 7b # 126-71 Bogota, Colombia

To send support, make checks out to Formando Vidas and send to Formando Vidas c/o Robyn Patzig 4520 Shadowridge Dr. The Colony, Texas 75056-4064. Include a note with my name.



## Faith like a Mustard Seed

As I squeezed what was close to the last of my hand cream out of the bottle before heading in to work, I thought to myself that hand cream isn't something I really want to spend the money on right now. I said to God, "it would be nice if someone gave me some. But, seeing as it isn't my birthday and there isn't any other special occasion, I guess it isn't all that likely . . ."

A few hours later, I met Rebecca, who used to work here and came back for a visit.

She reached into her bag. "A friend of mine from church wanted to give gifts to all the missionaries I could think of. Here, this is for you".

Each morning as I put on my hand cream, it reminds me—God sees us. He hears us. He cares about the little things. Even when we don't see the answers, when what we ask for seems too big or out of the ordinary, or just not important enough to bother God about, God is more than able to

answer in ways that surprise us.

Seeing God work in the little things reminds me he is in control of the big things too. If he cares enough about me to supply me with English novels, to send me hand cream the day I ask for it, to make an "impossible" copier function, than surely he cares about the more pressing things on my mind. And if he cares, he will act. Not on my timeline. But he hears me. He sees me. I am loved and I am not forgotten.

## An update on the boys

I was teaching my 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading class when C walked in the door, a smile on his face. I was surprised and happy to see him, and later his brother.

For a few days prior to them showing up at the school, I'd felt an even stronger urge than usual to pray for them. It turns out, they were back in

the same crisis situation they had been in before. I would have loved for them to come live with us again, but God closed those doors.

They're with their grandmother for now. She doesn't think she will be able to be a long term answer to their need, so we keep praying for God to



provide a loving, stable home for them.

Seeing them again was a blessing, but watching them leave didn't get any easier.

**Praise God for Rae Ann's arrival!** Loneliness and isolation is something I've struggled with lately, and having a new housemate is a real blessing. We're also really excited for Rae Ann to start working with the 1<sup>st</sup> grade group in August; they've been waiting for a new teacher since the beginning of May. **Pray for Rae Ann**, that her adjustment will not be too difficult and that she will feel supported by the Formando Vidas team.



**Pray for the boys.** Pray for a permanent, loving family situation for them. Pray for God to protect them and heal them from the rejection and abandonment they feel. Pray for their continued progress in school. Pray for my housemates and I as we learn to trust them to God's loving care.

**Pray for one of our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, "J".** This student has been in

Luz y Vida for several years now and really struggles with authority. This year while his outbreaks have been less frequent, they've been more severe. Pray for wisdom as we try to teach him limits and that his actions have consequences in a way that lets him see God's love and mercy reflected in us. Pray for a good connection between us at school and his mom at home.

**Pray for the team coming from my home church, West Shore Evangelical Free Church in Mechanicsburg.** Team members Bekah, Craig, Heidi, Josh, Laura, Sarah and Tyler should be arriving on Saturday evening. Pray for safe and uneventful travels (with no delays, missed planes, or lost luggage). Pray for the teams' safety and health while they are here (July 23-31). Pray that the children would be receptive of the program they'll be leading and that the teams' time here is one of growth and encouragement.

**Praise God for my housemates Sara and Stephen's return.** They've been back in the States visiting friends and family, but should be coming back on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Pray for safe travels for them and an easy adjustment back to life here.

**Pray our washing machine can be easily fixed.** It broke the other day and I am praying it can be repaired and doesn't need to be replaced.

