

The Kautz Family

MISSIONARIES TO COLOMBIA



FALL 2011

Flowers, Flowers Everywhere

It is a beautiful time to be in Medellín. Most days are sunny, very warm and breezy. We experienced our first “Feria de las Flores” – the Medellín Flower Festival – 10 days of non-stop action. There were parades nearly every day, some major ones being the horse parade, chiva bus parade, antique car parade and the final grand finale parade of the flowers and the “Silleteros”, the people of all ages who create and carry the flower designs on their backs. The evenings were filled with concerts all over the city and beautiful flower displays were to be found everywhere, including a spectacular display called “Orchids and Birds” at the botanical garden. This has been a great opportunity to learn a lot about “Paisa” culture.

Medellín is also one of the hosting cities for the FIFA U20 World Cup. It’s the World Cup soccer tournament for teams where all players are under 20 years old – the future pros. It’s also been the source of a lot of energy and excitement around town as teams and fans from the Americas, Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia are here.

“Paisa” is the term used to describe people from Medellín while “Rolo” is the term used to describe people from Bogotá.



Sitting in God’s Waiting Room

Our first two months in Colombia have been filled with discovery as we learn the culture of a new city in a familiar country. Finding a place to live, filling that place with necessities, applying for all of the necessary documents to stay here as well as waiting on the processing for all of these things required a lot of patience. We were ready to hit the ground running, but instead found ourselves forced to wait. Many things had to be in order before we could really get going.



Some days felt like sitting in a doctor’s waiting room, filling out all those forms and wondering when someone would appear to take you to talk to the doctor to get answers, but looking back over the last 10 years of preparation to bring us to this point, we realize we’ve been through many times of waiting, especially in the journey to begin ministry here in Medellín. Not once have we had answers in our time, but rather in God’s, which in the end always seems to work out a lot better than what we had planned. While it sometimes felt like we were just spinning our wheels, turns out in that waiting time we’ve learned much about this city and met many people we feel will be key to launching new ministries in Medellín.

It’s finally time. Our name has been called. Our questions are being answered. Orders have been given. It’s an exciting time as we plan, strategize and put feet to the ministries God has laid in our hearts. Please keep us in your prayers, asking that God will guide us and direct us through every step we take so that many souls will be touched by His love and Word, that we would miss no opportunity or waste time and effort in the wrong directions.

At a Glance - What's Been Happening

We've met several of the pastors from Antioquia (this state) at the monthly pastor's meeting where we were presented when we first arrived.



A plaque was given to mark the dedication.

We were also part of the dedication of "Iglesia Comunidad Cristiana de Adoración", a five day celebration. This church started in 1989, meeting first in the social room of an apartment complex and later moving into a house. This year God has opened a door for them to meet in a local shopping mall that had been mostly desolate.

We were honored to be part of the dedication of this building. The vision for this church will take supernatural intervention, but with God's help, it could make a huge impact in this neighborhood and city. The dream – to one day have the entire mall to serve not just as a meeting place but as a community outreach for the needy, a place for rehabilitation for those struggling with addiction, an educational training and reinforcement center for parents and so much more, ultimately a place to bring unity within the family. The dream is HUGE, but thankfully nothing is impossible for God!

Step one is purchasing the area they are meeting in and remodeling the space to serve as a sanctuary. Please pray for "CCA" as they seek God for a financial miracle to make this possible and for favor with every company and worker involved in the transformation.



We had a great night celebrating the dedication with the youth – awesome worship, hilarious games, a strong message and lots of prayer.

The Niños

Alex and Maggie are getting ready for school, but this year they'll be attending from the comfort of our apartment. Both kids will be taking courses through online school. Alex and Maggie have wanted to take a much more active role in ministry and online school will make that possible.

Alex has been putting his creativity and love of media to use, helping capture video and run PowerPoint during services.



Maggie was excited to watch the horse parade, scoping out her favorite breeds.



Prayer

1. Our friend and fellow Colombian missionary, Steve Graner, went to be with the Lord. Please keep his wife, Judy, in your prayers as she goes through this difficult time.
2. Giving has dropped by 22%. Praise God just this week two new supporters have come on board! Our work account, however, has been hit hard and we need about \$5000 to get it back in healthy shape. Please pray that God will cover that deficit and continue to meet the needs of every one of our supporters. We are so grateful for their sacrifices and partnership.



Get Connected With Corey and Tona Kautz

We only snail mail a newsletter twice a year, but that doesn't mean you can't stay up-to-date with what's happening in Medellín. Here's how to see what's going on:

- Join our group on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/KautzFamily
- Every month we send out an email with a quick update. Join the list by going to: www.kautzfamily.org/Newsletters.html
- Call us at one of our VOIP lines: 770-901-9077 or 810-49601481
- Email us at corey@kautzfamily.org or tona@kautzfamily.org