

# FEBRUARY UPDATE

## THE KAUTZ FAMILY ~ MISSIONARIES TO COLOMBIA



### Happy Valentine's Day!

For Colombia, today is a big deal, but not because everyone is exchanging cards and chocolates. Today is a big day because 2,736 tons of flowers have been sent from Colombia to the United States. It is the most profitable time of the year for the flower industry. When you buy flowers today for your Valentine, look at the little sticker on the wrapping. There's a good chance it will say, "Imported from Colombia".



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### A Little Bit of Love Goes a Long Way

The best part of missions – wherever in the world you may live – is the opportunity to love others. Galatians 5:22,23 tells us the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. When we live in abundance of these gifts, they open the door for us to bless others – friends, family, neighbors, widows, orphans, homeless, whoever God might place in our path.

We have had the opportunity to love on 13 adorable babies and toddlers and their moms in a pregnancy center for teen girls. The girls are very young, between 13 and 18 years old, and have a lot to learn about taking care of a child, but the center is a safe place for them to take their first steps in parenthood. Not only does it serve as a home where they stay during pregnancy, but once the baby is born they are trained in various skills and helped to find a job with the goal of being able to support themselves and the baby.

It has brought us such joy chasing the toddlers, soothing the babies and getting to know the mothers. We've been able to speak about faith with several and hope that God will use us as a positive and loving influence in their lives. We pray a little bit of love will have the power to affect the lives of the moms and their future generations.



### Family Reunion

Not everyone who we consider family is actually blood related. Some are family by marriage, but others are family because along the road of being friends, teachers, students, partners, etc. we developed bonds that could only be described as family bonds. For our family, some of those special relationships were developed in Bogotá as we worked with the youth. Our "kids" came to visit after Christmas for a few days and we celebrated our own "family reunion".

