

THE SUDDETH FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATE

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Protests throughout Panamá

We are experiencing something that is new and different for us - widespread protests throughout the country. Our Panamanian friends whom we have asked about the situation have said that they have never seen anything like this in Panamá. Various groups are demonstrating against such issues as high gas prices, high food prices, lack of medicine, and government corruption. Someone may ask, “What’s new about those things?” It’s hard to explain (we’re still learning ourselves), but generally things are done much differently in latin countries than they are done in the United States, so we’re still trying to navigate how all of this works. It seems that the frustrations of the people have reached the tipping point. It really is quite fascinating to us.

Of course, we are praying for peace, reconciliation, and a return to stability. The government and representatives of the different groups of protestors have begun to have meetings, which appears to be an encouraging sign. However, we also know that the only true solution is found through the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Top Left: Construction workers close an access to the South Corredor, which is a major highway that goes around Panamá City.

Top Right: Meetings between government officials and representatives of the various protesting groups.

Bottom Left: A demonstration in Panamá City. The signs say, “Don’t play with the citizens’ patience.”

Update on Falco and the Pastoral Residency

The pastoral residency with Falco continues to go well. In fact, he wants to go to Guna Yala in August for some meetings with different pastors. It is clear to us that he has a great desire to return to his home and reach people with the gospel. Of course, with the protests that are currently taking place, we are not sure if Falco and his family will be able to make this trip.



Left: The quality of this photo is horrible, but this is Falco. He led a devotional for the latest men's meeting that we had on July 23. He did an incredible job, and it was obvious that he took his preparation very seriously.

Below: Some men of the church, Héctor, Ramon, and Luis, are leading the men in some worship songs during our last men's meeting.



Prayer Requests & Praises

- Please pray with us concerning the current protests in Panamá. Most importantly, please pray that many people will see their need for Jesus as their Savior and Lord.
- We praise the Lord for how the Lord is working in and through Falco and his family. Also please pray that, if it is God's will, they will be able to make the trip to Guna Yala in August.
- Please continue to pray with us about the healthy establishment of small groups within our church and the establishment of a missions society.

Once again, thank you for praying for us and with us!