

PANAMA



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October 2024

MEET The Fowlers

THEIR STORY

Jon and Bianca grew up in Pittsburgh and were high school sweethearts. They both graduated from West Allegheny High School and then Olivet Nazarene University in Illinois. In 2000, they were married. After graduation, Jon served as the youth pastor at The Bible Chapel from 2001-2008. As part of this role, Jon led the first mission trip to Panama in the summer of 2006. **The youth came back with an excitement about what the Lord was doing in Panama and that excitement had a transforming effect on the rest of the congregation at the church, igniting a passion for missions.** It had a transforming effect on Jon as well. His excitement and passion for youth ministry was joined by his newfound passion for missions.

Jon and Bianca moved to Panama in 2015 and led the first ever ReachGlobal team there with the vision of discipling and building up the Panamanian Church; working with vulnerable children and indigenous people and church planting. Then in June 2019, the Fowlers left ReachGlobal and joined Word of Life (WOL) Panama, where Jon is the National Director. WOL is an evangelistic ministry, mainly focused on children and youth. They use Bible Clubs and camp ministry, in addition to other events throughout the year, to reach the next generation with the gospel of Christ. As Director, Jon is responsible for the health of the WOL team, the vision and direction of the ministry, while also overseeing the WOL camp property in Chame. Jon and Bianca have three boys - Ethan, who has been attending the WOL Bible Institute in New York since the Fall of 2022, Ezra, and Elijah. The Bible Chapel has partnered with the Fowlers since 2014.

PRAISE

- Praise the Lord we have been able to get all we needed for camp vehicles.
- Ethan is about to be married on Friday Oct. 18 and he and Cass are raising support to join the Panamanian team.
- We are still praising God for the help we received for our home. God has been so gracious to us. We are still in awe.

PRAYER

- Ethan & Cass hope to be to be in Panama by this coming January but they must raise \$4200 monthly (about \$40 per month equals 1%)
- Ezra has started Word of Life Bible Institute this year. He is loving it but super busy. We are praying for the Lord to really get a deep hold of his heart. We are also praying for him to meet a godly woman.
- Elijah has three years left at home. He's 15 years old and we are praying for the Lord to really get a hold of his heart and that we take advantage of the last three years we have with him at home.
- Our Church in Panama. Pray for our church in Panama to find a pastor and for the church to be faithful to the gospel, to the Word of God and for there to be unity in the church.
- Building projects in Panama. We had a major problem with the architect that we used for the hotel. He gave us a quote of 750,000 in the beginning and I added 100,000 for furniture and fixtures in the end we need almost \$850,000 more to finish the project with the hotel and the cabins so we are very frustrated with his lack of professionalism. We need to pray for the remaining resources needed to complete all 5 buildings. The actual hard total number needed now is \$846,142.50.
- Our WOL PANAMA team retreat. On Nov 3 6 we have our team retreat. Please pray for our team unity and maturity. We are working on becoming more efficient and effective with our ministry focus.
- Our ministry outreach opportunities are growing exponentially. Please pray for our activities that we have planned in the next few months including camp.
- Our other remaining financial needs are \$40k (camper scholarships) needed by January 15 and \$25k (discipleship school scholarships) needed by mid March.
- Pray for the ability to build at least 2 cabins before camp season to accommodate for our staff growth.
- Talita's father passed away. One of our missionaries from Germany. Lost her father in a motorcycle accident yesterday. Please pray for her and the family.