

April 2023

Requenez-Zeiset family serving in Costa Rica



Building Relationships

We want to share some exciting news with you. Many have seen on social media, but we are excited to announce that we are expecting a baby at the end of September! So far the pregnancy has gone pretty well and the baby seems to be healthy. We have the opportunity to have regular ultrasounds with a specialist and it's been such a blessing. We are excited to finish the first trimester and praying the rest of the pregnancy goes by fast so we can meet our baby!



In the youth group, we have been going through a series this past month about healthy relationships. We started with talking about what it means to have a relationship with God and have gone more in depth with friendships, family, self-love, and romantic relationships. These are aspects of the christian life that affect us all in some way. It's been amazing to see God move in the lives of the youth and see them draw closer to Him. Many chains have been broken in their lives, and for many, they are in a process of healing from past hurts. We are doing our best to walk beside them and many have come up to us asking questions about the teachings, wanting to learn more. Since becoming youth pastors at this church, it's been a little hard to create relationships, trust, and confidence with some of the youth. However, in the past weeks, various youths have come up to us entrusting us with more personal topics and it's been amazing to see. It's something beautiful when you can feel the impact God has through you in the lives of others. It's encouraging to see how we are being a blessing in the lives of the young people in Siquirres.



Over the past few weeks, God has given us a clearer vision of what He wants from us and our ministry. Recently we have felt the Lord leading us to open a community center for youth and families in the community. Our dream would be to buy a property, and build a place for sports, a community or gathering building and a recreational building for games, and just to have a comfortable place to hang out. We recognize that all of this cannot happen right away, and will take time.

Since we found out we were pregnant, we have been looking at the possibility of moving houses to give us a little more space. Right now we have one extra room but we would like to have one more to be able to have visitors and host people overnight if necessary after the baby is born. Our home is small and although it hasn't been a problem, we often notice that the sitting areas in our home start to feel crowded when we have people over. Some of our closest friends here saw a house that was for rent and sent us pictures and the contact information of the owner. We visited the house, and it looks perfect for what we need. There are a few more details we need to figure out with leaving where we currently are, but it definitely feels like God's hand is in this decision.



We would like to invite you to dream with us, and partner in our projects financially and through prayer. Please be praying with us about the following:

- Health for Leah and the baby during her pregnancy
- That our spiritual ears would be open so that when God opens doors, we would be obedient to His call
- Wisdom as we make decisions for the near future when the baby comes, and when making decisions for the future of our ministry.
- That the youth would continue to be interested and invested in coming to youth groups, willing to learn and grow in their relationships with the Lord.
- That we would be good encouragers and examples for the youth we are ministering to. That we would be able to create trust between us and them, and that we can answer any questions with wisdom.

- Emanuel & Leah Requenez-Zeiset



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