

Wheelock Family

Church Planting in Guayaquil, Ecuador



October 2025

Hello faithful prayer warriors! Thank you for your steadfast prayers for us, even though it has been a while since we reported on how the Lord is at work here in Ecuador, and I do apologize for that delay. There is much to update!

The last couple of years have been some of the hardest years of ministry for us. Multiple factors that slowly developed over several years brought about a very difficult season for our church family. We seem to be in the recovery phase now and the church is beginning to heal from a lot of hurt. I am thankful for the time we had to minister to some families that have now chosen to attend different churches here in the city. Please pray for Faith Baptist Church as it continues to heal, and for new growth after this time.

Paco and Diana continue to prepare for pastoral ministry at Faith. Although they are a strong couple, we know there is an enemy who seeks to drag down all that God would do. Please pray for them and for the church as we take concrete steps towards Faith becoming an indigenous church.

The church school started in May of this year with 19 students, and a few more have been added since. It has been a true blessing to have this ministry providing an education for the some of our church kids in a very different environment than they have previously experienced. Anyone who has experience with church schools knows that it is a ministry that presents many challenges, but we praise the Lord for how He is working in both the students and the faculty for His glory. Please pray for this ministry and for planning for next year, since there are already many requests to add more students.

The Rock Family Center is the foundation that Heather has been working with to form a Christian foster care agency in Ecuador. Several families have expressed interest in becoming foster families, and their training has begun. However, the government ministry for vulnerable children and their families has been going through major changes. It has complicated getting government approvals as well as planning training sessions for the judges and government workers that deal with vulnerable children and families. Despite this, God opened the doors for the foundation to facilitate a large training session earlier this month and even in the midst of a nationwide strike by the indigenous population, the training still moved forward. Over 400 people were present for the two-day conference hosted by the government. A Christian foster care agency in Costa Rica did most of the presentations and proclaimed Christ and the importance of faith-based family care for vulnerable children and families.

Our own daughter through foster care is at a crucial point as well. We have realized for a while now that due to our requirements for travel we cannot be a long-term solution for her needs. We are praying for biological family to have the resources and training they need to be able to provide her care, but it is a long, slow process. We are in a "time crunch" because we really need a solution for her before we travel Stateside next year. As of right now, there is not a good option on the table. We are praying that her biological family will be ready by then. Please pray with us for a good solution for Majo's long-term care.

We will be traveling Stateside next year! We are planning a furlough starting in April to visit as many churches as we can and get Emily settled to begin college. If you are interested in us coming to visit to report, please let me know, either through email or a phone call (see the info below). We should be available for meetings starting in April 2026. Please pray the Lord will help us find a reliable vehicle for our trip.

Thank you so much for your continued faithfulness in prayer for us! God has upheld us in victory and trials. Thank you!

In Christ's Service,
Ken, Heather, Sam, Emily, Sofia & Majo