## THEBRICKSPATH

On a Path of Obedience to God



We are Bill and Gina Brick; a Christian couple that have been moved by the Holy Spirit to begin actively serving those in other nations. We have both participated in short-term compassionate service projects and mission work through our local churches and various secular and Christian organizations. With limited formal training to be long-term missionaries but a strong desire to serve in whatever capacity the Lord sees fit for us using our combined life skills, gifts, education, and on-going walk with the Lord. Four years ago we freed ourselves to become available to the Lord's direction in our lives for full or part-time service to His children throughout the world. We sold all our personal possessions to eliminate all debt and to establish savings that will help sustain us in a life of providing the gospel message including health and human services.

We were actively involved in our local church. (The Rock Community Church – Anaheim Hills, CA) Our church is a relatively small and growing church which is currently limited to assisting in support of short-term mission trips. We appreciate the prayerful love and support they are showing us as we pursue this new season of spiritual growth and service to the disadvantaged and spiritually needy. We have been urged to open our plans to our friends, family, church family, and others so that they might share in blessings and joy of serving as the Hands and Feet of our Lord.

We are seeking your prayers to strengthen and embolden us in our on-going efforts.

For the past 3 years we have been living in Boquete Panama. We live in a small home in a local Panamanian neighborhood just 2 miles from the center of town. Our neighborhood is called Barriada Las Flores and consists of 30-50 families. All Spanish speaking and predominantly very low income. We have a lovely park that we have successfully gotten renovated during our time here. This park is where we began our Children's Ministry along with another missionary family. We have 10-30 children attend our park activities each week. Much like a VBS (Vacation Bible School) we teach bible stories and scriptures, do related arts and crafts, play games, and provide snacks and occasional meals. As members of the community for nearly three years we are able to interact more and more with the parents and other family members as well. We provide first aid care and infection prevention, along providing medication in emergency situations for families in need. In 2015 we began Saturday field trips for the children and some including parents or other

adult family members. Visits to local gardens, shopping center, or restaurants, all first time experiences for most. We partnered with a local church for the 3rd year to assist them in a formal week-long VBS with over 100 children. We are able to take several of our children to this event and on graduation night parents attended as well. Very exciting to have them participate and a big change from how they interacted with their children when we first moved to their neighborhood. God has softened their hearts to Him and to their own children. Each year some of our local parents and children accept Jesus Christ as their savior at the end of the VBS.

We continue to seek opportunities to serve in this neighborhood as well as the greater community. We have partnered with a missionary couple to assist in several outreaches to various communities this coming year. We have also taught English to those interested as an additional outreach. We have a retirement community of foreigners such as ourselves who are aging and we are finding more in need of care and compassion services as well as assistance with various other life needs, assistance with computers, phones, etc. When you ask the Lord to open your eyes to the needs around you, you will be amazed at all there is to be done in your own backyard.

We have also begun a new Community Outreach Program for the community of Barriada Las Flores, Boquete Panama.

The intent of this program is to identify families with a variety of needs for their homes. These needs would include but not be limited to basic home repairs, plumbing, electrical, painting, sidewalk installation/repairs, bathroom/kitchen repairs, etc...

This project will use the idea of "Paying it Forward". Our ministry along with any donations from you our faithful friends; we will provide the materials needed for the projects and the families or their neighbors will provide the labor. We were surprised to find that this is not a common cultural process. Some of these projects will require skills outside of the scope of the neighbors or large enough that we could use volunteers from our church family to meet those needs.

We are always open and looking now for people with a heart to provide this type of love and support to those in need by participating in our weekly-Tuesday afternoon Children's program, various special events such as our 'annual back to school outreach' and for on-going financial support and prayers for discernment regarding the identification of families in need, how they can be assisted and the softening of their hearts to the prompting of the Holy Spirit in their lives as we serve beside them and with them.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths – Proverbs 3:5-6

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