

2025 – DECEMBER UPDATE ON OPERATION ECUADOR - 2026

If I had a dollar for every letter I've written about or for Operation Ecuador over the last 36 years, I could probably retire....if I so desired! Well, our hearts are still very connected with the needs of the Kingdom in Ecuador and Latin America as a whole. We hope to be involved to some degree throughout the remainder of our days as God wills possible. I have learned that most folks want to know the highlights of the various ministries but are usually not overly desirous of TMI. I like how Jesus shared with John's disciples when asked if he was the Messiah or should they wait for another. "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor." (Lk. 7:22) I've had some ask me about numbers of baptisms throughout the years. Well, after the count of 5000 'men' in Acts 4:4, the inspired answers sounded like this: "Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah. In those days the number of disciples was increasing. (Acts 5:42-6:1, 7) So the word of God spread. The number of disciples increased rapidly."

We enjoyed a wonderful O.E. Stateside Summit Meeting in Norman in late October with more than 100 in attendance from various states, east to west, and north to south. We appreciate the Alameda congregation for hosting the event this year! Next October of 2026 it will be held in Fort Walton Beach, FL!

- The QSOBS continues to prepare men and women for ministry. About 35 are on site right now. This 3-year program, is now boasting of more than 280 graduates serving in more than 20 countries on 4 continents!
- Additionally, the on-line courses are serving many who prefer to "stay home" and prepare themselves in a slower fashion, not having to leave jobs and church family.
- The PLM program is systematically taking basic QSOBS courses to strategic locations in Ecuador, Colombia, and Bolivia offering foundational teaching to multiple congregations at a time.
- The University center, "The Bridge", is making a difference in the lives of young people, establishing the faith of young Christians in the Quito area as they attend college.
- Several planned church plants using graduates of the QSOBS have been completed or are continuing in selected cities throughout Ecuador, Peru, Boliva, Venezuela and Colombia.
- Kumanii, the Cayapas River Ministry, continues to reach out to the indigenous people of the Chachi and Afro cultures along the riverbanks in northwestern Ecuador. Medical campaigns continue blessing many thousands! Ask about 2026 opportunities! Six small congregations are growing there now after 15 years since its ground-breaking beginning. A current major thrust is being made among the children and teens of the cultures.

- Camp Bellevue is a constant blessing in the northern part of the mountains of Ecuador serving many, but with a major focus of blessing children, daily outreach as well as planned camp sessions and special group events.
- A new ministry, "Springs of Living Water" is beginning in the Armenia suburb of Quito, establishing a new congregation and in the future offering daily medical attention, family counselling, and even the possibility of a small independent retirement center for needful Christians of age. We need your help to get this off the ground.

I'm not bashful in saying that Operation Ecuador is one of the best, if not the best thing happening among churches of Christ in Latin America. As Walter Brennan (I'm dating myself) used to say, "no brag, just fact." And so much of the success of O.E. is due to our incredibly committed support base of wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ who are willing to set aside funding and back that up with daily prayers on our behalf. "Thank you" in Jesus for your confidence in all that is going on. I'd like to close by asking you to participate on the 14th of December in a day of prayer, and if you choose, fasting, on behalf of the ministries listed above. Also, let me know when we can drop by to visit concerning any or all the above ministries! May God bless you and yours, and all we do for His glory and honor! The final trumpet will soon sound; we must work while it is day!

Kent Marcum