NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

6 November 2024

South America Region

Ecuador

Once part of the northern Inca Empire, Quito, the traditional name for the area, was the seat of the Spanish colonial government circa 1563. In 1717 it became part of the Viceroyalty of New Grenada, comprised of New Grenada, now Colombia, Venezuela, and Quito. These gained their independence from Spain between 1819 and 1822, and they formed a federation known as Gran Colombia. Quito withdrew from this federation in 1830, becoming the Republic of Ecuador. The work of the Church of the Nazarene began here in 1972. The challenges of large populations of refugees from neighboring countries have stretched Ecuador's economy, leaving many of the indigenous, mixed race, and rural populations impoverished. There are many areas of the country where the Church of the Nazarene is looking to plant new churches. These areas require a pioneer spirit, one that can be seen in the story that follows.

22,071 Members

214 Fully Organized Churches; 48 Not Yet Organized Churches

100 District Licensed, and 112 Ordained Ministers on 6 Districts

PRAYER

- Pray for all leaders being trained in the Living the Great Commission program (VGC); that a passionate fire for evangelism and discipline will continue to bear fruit.

- Pray for the district missions leaders trained to serve in their districts, committed to sustain missions worldwide.

- Pray for our churches that are located in areas with limited security due to current political unrest.

PRAISE

- Praise the Lord that the church is responding through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM) to meet the needs of more than 450 families affected by landslides in Alausi and Esmeraldas.

- Praise the Lord for the agreement between the Church and the Ecuadorian Ministry of Culture, allowing us to preach the gospel in the main plazas of Quito.

Kids Kaleidoscope

Click **here** to access Kids Kaleidoscope, a monthly addition to NMI Central to awaken and nurture a spirit of missions in everyone.

Missions Involves the Whole Family

The Medranda Molina family was part of the church planting program offered by the Church of the Nazarene. In this training, they felt the Lord calling them to plant a new preaching point in Ecuador. After a special time of praying and fasting, along with the district superintendent, they were guided to plant a new congregation in the city of Patricia Pilar, in the Province of Los Rios.

The Medranda Molina family has been traveling 90 kilometers each week, moved by the love of God. They are seeing much fruit in this place. This community is made up of roughly 60 families, and they have many needs. God has touched the lives of 50 children and 25 adults with the power of the gospel. The Medranda family now has an additional preaching point, and with each trip they make, there are different families attending in two different places in the community. We glorify the Lord for those who are responding to His call!

For a while now, Ecuador has been experiencing difficult days of social chaos, resulting from a revolt organized by criminal gangs. The president declared a state of emergency and initiated armed conflict to control these gangs. This situation has affected churches, making it harder to meet, and increased suffering for many impacted by increased crime and lack of transportation.

One pastor says, "I thank God that he took care of my wife and daughter, who experienced threats and intimidation but were not physically attacked or had their belongings taken away. "The hand of God protected them." In times like these, we see the church interceding for the country, believing that prayer makes a difference in the face of such internal conflict. Churches are developing creative ways to continue ministry to communities, being and bringing light in the midst of darkness.

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Could You Serve?
Is God calling you to serve on the South America
Region? For more information, click *here*.

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