

Update #202307 – PCA JUNE 2023 Trip



ACADEMIA
CRISTIANA *Cambiando
Generaciones*
de Palacaguina



Palacaguina Christian Academy

Changing a Generation

“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” – Romans 10:15 (NIV)

“Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” – Matthew 9:38 (NIV)

Traveling to Nicaragua is amazing. Every time, it feels so good to be in-country. It feels so much like home. And to be traveling with my son, Jonah, priceless. I am so grateful to share with you the summary of our trip in June and I hope it will encourage you to join us on a trip to Palacaguina in the future. Our group of 16 included a family from Austin, TX and a youth group from Aurora, CO. It was an incredible trip full of God’s goodness and opportunities to work with the students of PCA as well as kick off the construction of the High School. We hope you enjoy this month’s update and the many wonderful pictures of God working in Palacaguina.

ARRIVAL

As I mentioned before, arriving in Nicaragua is an emotional moment for me. Being able to go where God is calling you just energizes your soul in a way that is difficult to explain. We pray God will call you to join us and experience that energy personally. It was a fairly uneventful travel into the country. All of our flights were on time, Praise God, and we only had a slight hiccup in customs as they wanted \$3 in taxes for the two jars of peanut butter I brought. Again, pretty uneventful. Both Jonah and I experienced a bit of shock as we experienced the heat of Nicaragua. Let me tell you, living in Wyoming and acclimating to a winter of subzero temperatures makes the heat a little difficult to bear, but we made it and after a few hours accepted our new environment we would have for the next two weeks.



WEEK ONE

Our first week, before the team arrived, was dedicated to checking in on the school, me spending 6 hours a day in meetings with teachers and staff, and Jonah initiating his project in Los Arrados. The school is doing amazing. I was able to check in on a few classrooms and my individual meetings with the teachers was extremely fruitful. It is during these times I get to really hear from each worker at the school how things are going. Though we have a few areas to do better, we are doing great as a school, as an employer, and most importantly, God is moving in the lives of teachers and students as they grow closer in their walks with Him.



Jonah had a chance to kick off his project in Los Arrados which is a pretty cool opportunity for him to make a personal impact for the kingdom. The church we partner with in Los Arrados for our food/evangelical outreach had a major need. The area where they feed and minister to children every week is exposed to the elements (rain and sun). To remedy this temporarily, they erected a flimsy roof of plastic held up by tree branches. As you can imagine, this is difficult to maintain and not very effective. Jonah raised the funds and led to project to build a structure for these children that will, in the future, become a ministry room that will make a huge difference for the church and for this powerful outreach for the kingdom. Though the project only kicked off during week one, it was completed in week two, and I thought it best to give you the before and after pictures together. So here is Jonah's project. Thank you Jonah!!



ARRIVING IN MANAGUA

The team arrived with energy and excitement. For most, this was their first trip to Nicaragua.



After arriving, we had to introduce the team to the Nicaragua Pizza Hut experience. 😊



CHURCH AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY

For our first full day in Palacaguina, the team enjoyed the local church experience and after lunch we helped clean up trash along the roads to PCA and the team took a tour of Palacaguina.



SERVING IN THE CLASSROOM

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings the team was able to work with the students of PCA. In every class, our missionary Bailey prepared projects for the team to do with the children. And our two youngest members of the team, donned PCA uniforms and actually joined the 5th and 6th grade classes to experience what school is like in Palacaguina Christian Academy.



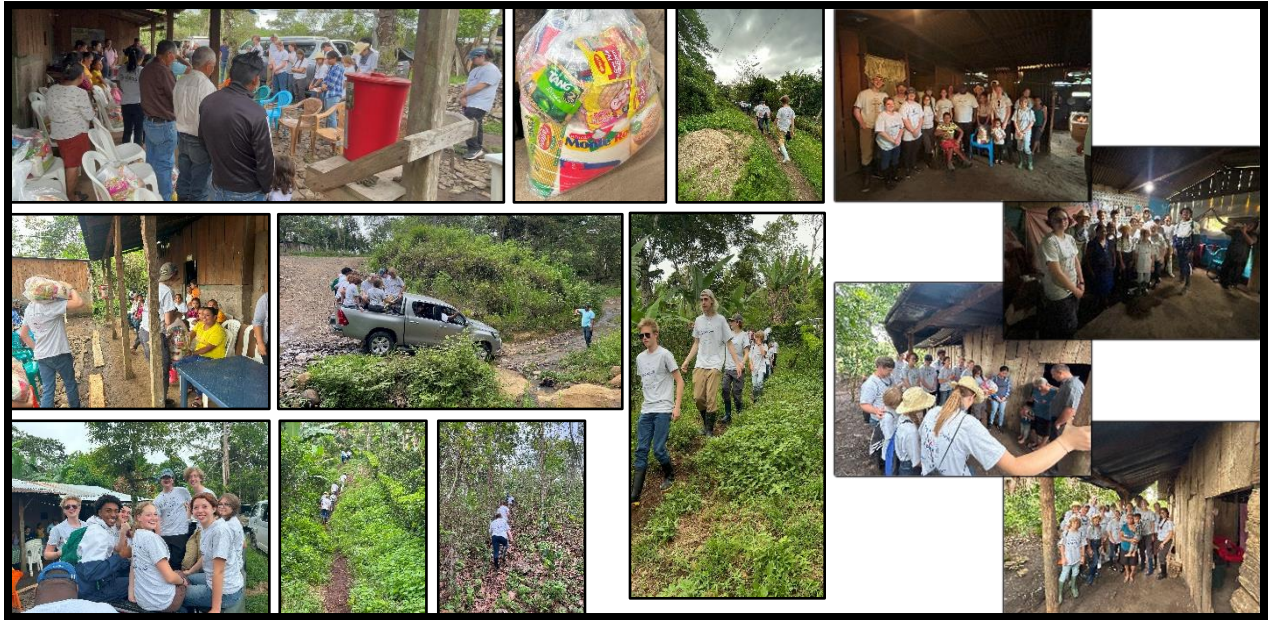
SERVING IN CONSTRUCTION

In the afternoons on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the team did hard, manual labor. They dug holes in some very hard ground. It was impressive how much they accomplished. They were digging the footings of the front wall that is the initial ground-breaking work of the new PCA High School. And they learned how to mix and pour concrete by hand. Proud of the team and all they completed this trip!



MEETING REAL NEEDS IN JINOTEGA

This year, the team traveled to a humble community in Jinotega to distribute food and the gospel to families in great need. Most families came to the church to receive their food and household goods, but the team had the opportunity to hand deliver 3 packets in person to three families that were extremely remote. For the families at the church, our local brother William presented the gospel. For the three remote families we were able to pray with the families directly. It was a powerful moment to meet not only the physical needs of these families but also to meet their spiritual needs as well. Thank you Jesus!



PCA 7th YEAR CELEBRATION

One of the highlights of the trip was the opportunity for us to spend a day celebrating the 7th anniversary of PCA with the students and their families. A day filled with games, food, awards, balloon animals, face painting, and making BFF's. What a way to end our week of ministry.



THE WEDDING

Yup, a wedding. A beautiful, wonderful wedding! We were super blessed to experience the Nicaraguan wedding of our very own missionary Bailey. What an incredible blessing to share this precious day with Bailey and Douglas. May the Lord bless their marriage in the name of Jesus!



FUN ON THE BEACH

To complete our trip, the team spent a day on the beach in Las Penitas. It was a great time of rest and recovery from an amazing ministry trip to Nicaragua. And I will say, one of the best Father's Days I could have ever asked for with my son. Though, I will say, those waves were *strong*!



2023 PROJECTS AND GOALS IN DETAIL

- 2023 Operational Deficit - \$29,000
- Finish PCA – ULTIMATE GOAL of \$1,000,000 (\$119,000 needed in 2023)
 - Step 1: \$5,000 to complete dirt work (**MET**)
 - Step 2: \$5,000 to install first foundational wall (**MET**)
 - Step 3: \$30,000 – Administration building part A
 - Step 4: \$25,000 – Infrastructure A (Bathrooms, Water System, etc)
 - Step 5: \$36,000 – Complete initially required classrooms
 - Step 6: \$28,000 – Initial hiring of minimal staff<This is minimally what needs to be completed in 23'>

Matthew 19:26 says “*With man this is impossible, but **with God all things are possible.***”

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ❖ Please pray for our deficit and that God will grow our sponsor network soon.
- ❖ Please continue praying for our staff to grow as a team and build a strong culture at PCA.
- ❖ Please pray for the families and students of PCA that they will feel God’s love through us.
- ❖ Please pray for the future High School of PCA, and our next big step in this journey.
- ❖ Please pray for Bailey as she steps into a new leadership role at PCA.
- ❖ Please pray that God will provide to meet our deficit (\$29K) and critical projects (\$119K).



Dios te bendiga de la familia Witonski!!! (God Bless you from the Witonski family)

Want more frequent updates, pictures and videos? Check out the schools Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/AcademiaCristianaPalacaguina/>



Visit our website at www.lovepala.com



PCA At-a-glance

Number of total Students: 210

2023 Grades: P-K3, P-K4, Kinder, 1st- 6th Grade

Full-Time Jobs: School (25)

Current Project: Deficit, High School Yr 1

Current Project Needs: \$29K + \$119K

Children Needing Sponsors: 104

Construction/Uniform Jobs: 3

Total Meals Fed (2023): 17,262

website: www.lovepala.com