

GAMBOA UNION CHURCH

Gamboa, Panama Pastor Bill Wilbur

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September 2009 Baby Naomi, four months old, lay lifeless in the intensive care unit of the children's hospital in Panama City. Multiple tubes and a machine to keep her breathing ...the diagnosis was meningitis. The doctors' words were grim and the young Wounan Indian parents in their late teens were in despair.

The wonderful invention of the e-mail (and in this case "emergency mail") made this urgent prayer request known around the world. Within minutes people were praying and believing God for a miracle. Encouraging words came with the anticipation of God's future plans for this indigenous girl to touch her people for Christ.

Then it happened...the fever came down, the baby began to respond and within days all tubes were removed and Naomi enjoyed being held once again by her mother in a regular hospital room. One doctor told me, "It's a miracle. It's the power of prayer"

Now, on a totally different channel... the forty Youth With A Mission staff and students staying in our church for over two months left on Sept 5 for South Africa. Their mission is to expose and help with the social injustices in the areas they visit.

While here, they used their photographic skills to print a publication to raise the awareness of the thousands of abandoned and orphaned children. Many are in the fifty orphanages around the country but the team showed the need for these children to really be in loving Christian families.

On the Wed. morning before their departure, we celebrated communion with them in a very touching service. I personally miss all the action at the church...every time I opened the door there was instant people and clothes on the line! They had a wonderful ministry to our church and a positive impression on the Gamboa community.

Because of our location near the Gamboa Rainforest Resort, I am asked to do weddings for people I have never met from different countries. So I have to do the counseling by phone and the internet. Some have come to Christ during this time.

I need your prayers...cruise ship seasons begins next month which mean I will have the opportunity to sell my book on the tour buses as they come to Gamboa. Pray for divine contacts with people from around the world.

Thank you so much for your love and prayers, Pastor Bill Wilbur