
BIG Burkholder News

1 message

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For the past few years, God has allowed me (Justin) to serve in a variety of leadership positions within TEAM. Leadership in TEAM has stretched me in my faith, in my sense of diligence and discipline, and most in my sense of utter dependence on God. It has also permitted me to use my gifts and contribute to the caring for missionaries and the expansion of the gospel. Each new phase in leadership has presented great challenges and yet has demonstrated God's faithfulness in helping me to do what He is calling me to do.

For the past 6 months, TEAM has been in a process of searching for their next International Director. With encouragement from others, and great fear and trembling, I submitted my name for consideration, knowing that it would be an enormous responsibility. We prayerfully considered the possibility of this role, and along with others searched out any sense of selfish ambition or vanity, wanting to accept this role with the purpose of serving God's mission and God's people on mission. Mostly, we wanted clarity from God as to whether this was the best place for me to invest my gifts for the sake of the Kingdom.

After months of interviews and questionnaires, God in His grace has answered our prayers and brought clarity. We are pleased to announce to you that I (Justin) have been selected as the nominee to become the next International Director/CEO of TEAM.

The Chair of TEAM's board has written the following:

Working with a national executive search firm, a board search committee headed by Pastor Adrian Reeves (a TEAM Board member) reviewed a large number of applications for the International Director role. Justin's gifting in leadership, deep cross-cultural

experience, alignment with the desires expressed by global workers and staff in the listening sessions and survey, and his vision for the future of this ministry clearly identified him as an excellent fit to be the next leader of TEAM. The search committee recommended Justin to the full Board in late December and his nomination was endorsed by a unanimous vote of the board shortly thereafter.

What does this mean for us?

We are profoundly humbled and honored. There is a sense of insecurity and fear at my actual ability to fulfill the responsibilities. This has driven us to prayer and greater dependence upon the Lord, trusting that He is the one who equips us for the tasks with which he entrusts us.

The International Director is responsible for leading and shepherding the organization's people and resources to accomplish its mission. There is still a vote that is pending by the membership which is comprised of current missionaries, retirees, and others. If the vote is affirmative, then we will begin working on a transition plan. Our current International Director, Dave Hall, will be retiring on June 30th, at which point I would officially assume the office.

At this point, we do not have plans to leave Guatemala. The board would not be requiring us to move, but has given us the freedom to determine our location based upon our ministry opportunities and family needs.

What does this mean for you?

Your faithful support has been a tremendous blessing to us for these past 10 years. Due to the nature of this position, as of July 1 we will no longer be depending upon your monthly donations. We would like to encourage you to consider continuing a donation directly to TEAM, or to Iglesia Reforma.

We would greatly appreciate that you continue your support through June 30, 2024 as that will continue to provide for our needs until, God-willing, I transition into the role of International Director,.

Personal Updates

We got to come up to the United States to spend the holidays with our family. We have done a lot of driving. We flew into Fort Lauderdale and then drove up to Orlando where we spent a few days with Jenny's mom.



Then we drove up to Canton, Ohio where we spent time with some of our extended family. Some of my cousins on my (Justin) mom's side we had not seen in over a decade.



Then we drove back down to Florida to celebrate New Year's and a few days with the Burkholder side of the family.

Isabella turns 10 this month, Olivia will be 8 this year, and Zoey will turn 5! Here is a picture of the three of them with their cousin Jordan.



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Updates from the Burkholders.

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