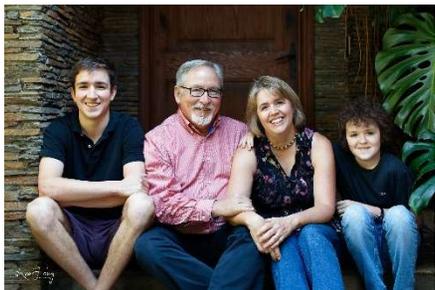


THE BOLICK REPORT



CHILE February 2019

It has been so long since we have been in contact with you and we ask your forgiveness for what may seem like a long silence. We have so much to tell you and it is hard to know where to begin, so we will try to catch you up on 2018. We began our home assignment at the end of April. This is the first time since 2004 that we have been home for more than 8 months. So, this has been a wonderful time to reconnect with family and friends. Still, it has also been a year of overwhelming transition that began at the end of 2017.

Jack graduated from the Colegio Bautista in Temuco in December, 2017. Precisely because of the staggered school years in Chile and the U.S., our boys have probably only spent a cumulative of 2 ½ years in the U.S. So, Jack decided to take a “gap year” and use it for a reverse immersion experience in U.S. culture before entering a university.



We spent the first three months in Denver with Barb’s family. Jack set off for Wyoming to work on the sheep ranch of our friend and supporter, Tomi Strock and her family. He herded sheep, operated tractors, hunted, milked goats, and everything the family does to maintain livestock and feed. Then the last two months he operated a huge haul truck at a nearby coal mine. Now he is back with us in Texas, applying to colleges.

Dwight’s mother was in failing health during this time, so Dwight also traveled to Texas several times. She passed away in June at age 95.

In August, we moved to College Station, Texas, where Barbara entered a Ph.D. program in Youth Development at Texas A&M

University. This is a tremendous opportunity that will equip Barb to expand and enhance the Girls’ Clubs project. **She will begin working this summer to lay the groundwork for *Talita Cumi* in three new countries.**

Barbara’s professor is a leading scholar in the field of Positive Youth Development, which, coupled with our Christian traditions of character development form the foundation of the *Talita Cumi* Girl’s Clubs Program.

William’s transition to the U.S. has meant too much travel, and homeschooling, instead of his usual network of friends at school in Chile. Activities in 4-H Clubs in archery and K-9 training have filled part of the gap. The Rock Climbing club at A&M’s three-story rock wall tops everything as a place where he is flourishing.



He started at a new charter school here in January that teaches in English, Spanish, and Chinese, and we pray this will give him the new network of friends and activities that he needs.

New Special Assignment – In order to meet William’s educational needs and for Barb to

complete a Ph.D. in Youth Development at Texas A & M University, we will be based in College Station, TX for three years. During this time, we both will remain connected with the projects in Chile. Barb will provide mentor training, materials, and ongoing support for Girls’ Clubs in three other countries, and Dwight will work with partners on development projects, initially in Mexico and Nicaragua.

Arising out of deep prayer, and consultation with our Area Director and partners, our new assignment helps us meet a priority need for William’s education and growth, and at the same time enables us to respond to a call, to enhance and expand the Girls’ Clubs project, and to strengthen ties of partnership in development and relief work.

To sign up for the Bolicks’ e-mail newsletter please write them at: dwight.bolick@internationalministries.org. Or visit their IM website: <https://www.internationalministries.org/author/bd-bolick/>