



## Adventures in Costa Rica: The Dreessen Family

73<sup>rd</sup> Edition

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### *Living in Costa Rica*

In February, our presidential elections took place and for the first time in Costa Rica, we have a "presidenta", a lady president. Her name is Laura Chinchilla and she won very easily. She represents the party that has been in power for the last 4 years.

Maybe one of the reasons she did so well is because of some of the accomplishments of her predecessor's administration. Perhaps the biggest being the completion of the highway to the pacific. For about 30 years now, there has been a plan to build a quality highway from San Jose to the Central Pacific. Every once in a while, a little progress like the construction of a bridge was completed but no highway. Well, one week before the elections, coincidentally, the highway was completed. In the past, to get to the pacific coast required a 2 to 2 ½ hour drive of very curvy roads up and over the mountains. I used the new highway to go to a wedding and made it in 1 hour and 15 minutes. This new 2-lane highway with passing lanes and no curves was worth the wait, an amazing accomplishment for this little country.

We keep up with the news and can't believe the U.S. is experiencing one of their coldest, snowiest winters. We are in the dry season with sunny days and temperatures in the mid 80's. Aaaah, we love living in the tropics.

### *Family*

Denae is in her second semester of her junior year. During her break, she was very busy with many work opportunities such as babysitting, day camp counselor, dressing up as a princess for a 5-year birthday party, and catering with a close family friend. She is playing soccer now and getting ready for a big tournament in Panama City. The team is undefeated and might I add that she has scored 5 goals already this season. She ran the CDS Fun Run and won the high school division and came in 2nd place overall in the ladies division.



Dina and I are doing well. Every week we have plenty to do and find ourselves working hard to keep up with everything. Dina continues to lead our Worship Ministry as our worship leader and leads a ladies bible study every week. She keeps up with all the church administrative responsibilities as well.

I continue with all the responsibilities of pastor. I am preaching a series on the Ten Commandments and if you would like to hear any of these messages, you can go to our website, [www.ibccostarica.org](http://www.ibccostarica.org) and listen to past sermons. We continue to broadcast our services live every Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Central time.

### **UBA Values**

**Revelation – People – Results – Innovation – Diversity – Excellence – Cooperation**



## ***Ministry***

We celebrated two new conversions in our last baptism service with Larry Schulman, a former Jew from New York and Bobby Ugiagbe, an officer in the Nigerian military.

For the last several years, we have had a part-time secretary, Jilma Rivera, who has been a big help in the office. She has now joined us in a full time capacity. She has helped us immensely and we are truly grateful!



After the Haiti earthquake, we were able to have 4 of our missionaries representing different organizations go into Haiti to help minister and give aid. We were able to get firsthand information from them as to what was going on in Haiti. Most of the Haitians we know did not lose family members, but one former attendee who has since returned to Haiti lost his brother. We continue to pray for Haiti and that God would be glorified in the midst of this tragedy.

We appreciate your continued prayers for our ministry here. Please let us know how you are doing as well. If you know someone who is not receiving this newsletter but who would like to, have them contact us and we will get them on our list.

## ***The Dreessen Family***