

# Paraguay Missions

AUGUST 2009

## MINISTRIES

- Church Planting Ministries
- Children's Home
- Youth Ministries
- Youth Camp
- Missions Teams
- Tapé missions, a practical missions training facility.

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## CAMPAMENTO CRISTIANO

# Tierra Prometida

Greetings once again from Paraguay.

We have had almost four weeks of back to back mission teams and it has been a wonderful blessing to all of us. The first team came from Seneca South Carolina with five team members and focused on the children's home here in Carapegua. In less than ten days they were able to completely paint the home inside and out. What an incredible difference to the home. They also spent a lot of time sharing and playing

with the children. I think Marcello, our 6 year old boy, probably broke a record for thanking the team members for painting his bedroom.

The second team which is still here as I write this has eleven team members and comes from High Point North Carolina, West Virginia, and Florida. This team has focused on ministry at our children's home in Carapegua, the children's homes in Itagua, as well as our seventh national leadership retreat at our camp facil-

ity in Carapegua.

Many times we are asked if short term mission teams really work? Are they really a blessing to the people here on the mission field and to the team members? Please read the testimonies on the next page and decide for yourself. If you or your church is interested in putting together a team to Paraguay for next year, please let me know. Together we can make it happen.

## Gwen's Notes

I have been so blessed this month with old and new friends.

When the Seneca team stated that they were going to paint the children's home in Carapegua, inside and out in their time here, I must admit I didn't think it was possible. Randy and Debra took charge of the project and the rest of us just tried to keep up with them. Not only did we get the home completely painted but we also painted their playground equipment as well. I have never enjoyed painting but I must admit that it was a lot of fun. First, because it was for the kids and we had lots of laughs as we worked together. We got to go visit the school and give out baby clothes to some needy families in the community. The team spent a lot of time with the kids in the home and made some very real and lasting connections with them.

There were two highlights for me with the High Point team, first, the Leadership Retreat where they poured into the ministry here. The classes, worship and preaching was amazing and just what we needed. A bonus for the women, which were mostly pastor's wives, was some pamper time. The ladies of the team brought everything for facials and hand treatments. All the ladies had a great time and loved the special time that was just for them.

The second highlight was just for me, the team ladies spoiled me. We had planned a pajama party for when we arrived out at the camp but they surprised me with new pajamas, a Chonda Pierce dvd and chocolate peanut butter cups. We had lots of good fun and laughter.

Thank you to both teams for all your love and hard work. Your servants hearts were shining through and we appreciate all you did for us and the people of Paraguay.

Prayer!

Please pray for the events noted below.

August 7-9, Leadership Retreat currently underway at the camp property.

We also ask you to pray for one of the team members from High Point and a friend of ours, Bill Ellas. He has been sick since arriving here in Paraguay and needs the Lord to touch his body.

# Praises and Prayer

Mariea Shean from High Point writes: This is my 6th trip bringing mission teams to Paraguay. Each time I come, I receive more than I give. With each trip, I see old friends from previous trips and I see that they are still faithful and continue in the Lord's work. My blessing comes from bringing people here from North America and watching the Lord build relationships. I

enjoy watching the Lord inspire our people to take what they learn here back home with them and apply it to their lives there.

Jerry Hawkins from West Virginia writes: What a privilege it is to be in Paraguay. I was wondering what I could do to contribute to this trip and I have found that I have received a lot more than I could possibly give. One thing that I

have received is the enthusiasm to do more when I get back home. I have come here and cannot speak Spanish and realize how inadequate I am to minister here, however back home I can speak to almost everybody. I am talking about doing more witnessing one on one. The Lord has challenged me to do what I can where I am. I have my own mission field.

## Photos from the Seneca Mission Team

**Jeremiah 29:11**

**For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.**



←Randy Jackson takes time during the evening to draw and color with Laura after painting all day.



↑ All the exterior brick walls had to be sanded and then pained with a sealer to protect them from the rain. Here Caroline and Jose are working together.

On every team, the highlight is always the relationships that are made. Elena has found herself a new Grandmother in Granny Hazel. →



←How often would you let a 4 year old paint your house? Deb Jackson is teaching Liz how to paint the laundry sink. Rhonda Cooper, the team leader, having some fun with Sofia in front of the children's home.→





I thought I would ask a few of the children from our home to share with you what they often share with us so that you can hear from them directly.

Miriam says: I am very thankful for the clothes that the people send to us. I know that they have sent them to us with love and that you love us a

lot. I see lots of people here that do not have many clothes and I know we are blessed. Sometimes when we have extra clothes we are able to give some to others that do not have any. I am thankful to God that I am here in our home. It was with your help that I am here so that I could come to know God. Here in our home, I do not lack anything. God knows that if we ever need anything, He is faithful with lots of love to provide it through you. Thank you very much.

Monika says: I am very thankful for Aunt Gwen and Aunt Maria who look after me. I am also thankful for all the clothes and shoes that you have sent

to us. I am thankful for Uncle Ebli and Aunt Jessica and for all who come to visit us.

Miguel says: I am thankful for Pastor Dan Chatham who came to visit us. I am also thankful for the gifts of clothes and shoes that you send to us. I thank everyone that painted our home from Seneca. It is really nice.

Rosio says: I am very thankful to all of you that are helping me and allowing me to study and covering all our expenses. I am also thankful for all the beautiful clothes you have sent. I am very happy here. Thank you for everything.

Kevin says thank you to pastor Dan

## Photos from the High Point team



←Bishop Ebli de la Rosa, from Miami Florida is leading the worship during our opening night service at the leadership retreat.

Pastor Wilfredo Perez from High Point preaching the opening message on "Discovering My Ministry" at the retreat. ↓



←Stephen Schaefer from High Point and Ruben Barrios from Paraguay doing the worship together.

The entire team took a couple of days to cross over into Brazil and see the Iguazu Waterfalls. Yes, it does get cold here too.→



↑ Mariea Shean, the team leader from High Point along with the entire team took all the children from Itaugua to a clothing store near Asuncion and purchased all of them some new clothes, shoes and coats. She is standing here with Luhann and Gloria.



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On Wednesdays, she is in the office.



## Final Thoughts



## Donation Information as follows:

For the purpose of tax receipts and benefits, each individual will need to make their donations in every form (ie. Checks, cash, credit Cards etc.) payable to their local church. Please do not send any donations in our names or payable in our names. Please do not send any donations directly to us in Paraguay. All donations need to go through our local church for accountability purposes.

Each local Church will then mail a check for the total amount payable to **The Collingwood Church Of God Of Prophecy**. On a separate note, please write "Paraguay Support" along with any pertinent information (ie. Miller Family, Children's Home, etc). We ask that you would mail your checks no later than the fifteenth day of each month so that the Collingwood Church is able to process your support and transfer it to Paraguay no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Some Churches may choose to send several months or one year at a time rather than send a check each month. If that is your choice, please also send a letter with your check explaining that to our treasurer. You are welcome to do that with our thanks.

If you are not able to donate through a local church or wish to donate through a different avenue, please contact me to see what options are available.

Once again we wish to say thanks to each of you that write to us. We check messenger, skype, and facebook several times a week and will do our best to respond quickly. We really appreciate hearing from you.

Dan writes.....

One of the testimonies we hear over and over with mission team members is this; "We came to be a blessing and we have been blessed." Or " We thought we were coming to pour ourselves into the ministry here and I think we are taking more blessings home than we have given to the people here."

It is amazing to watch how the Lord works in the lives of everyone involved in a short term mission team. It is like the Lord opens the doors of heaven and simply pours out his blessings upon everybody.

What I know for sure is that He changes lives every time. Thank you Lord.

Blessings From The Miller's