

## *JULY 2008 NEWSLETTER*

As I look back over this past month I am first amazed at how God has been moving and secondly that it has only been one month since our last newsletter. We had some very cold days and even colder nights with frost one or two nights. Right now we are in some unusual but glorious warm weather of 80 degrees. I know that it will not last for much longer so I am enjoying every minute of it.

We have said good-bye now to Bethany and Jessica who were here with us. We worked them hard but they both say they are coming back. We appreciate all that they did in their time here. They most certainly got a "hands on" experience of everyday life and work of the camp, children's home, visiting neighbors and house churches.

One of the areas that we have been working very hard at is maintaining our budget for each area of our ministry. With the U.S. dollar continually dropping and inflation causing the price of almost everything we purchase each month to rise, it has not been an easy task. Just when we were thinking that we may need to make some drastic changes, the Lord steps in and reminds us who is really in control. Dan had put our children's home on a list for food donations from a Canadian based ministry operating here in Paraguay more than a year ago. Towards the end of June we received a call to come pick up some food from that ministry. Not knowing what to expect, Dan went to get the food donations. The children's home received 10 bags of a dehydrated vegetable soup mix, enough noodles for a month and enough rice for 2 months. Praise the Lord! It has helped the budget for at least the next two months.

Then two weeks ago, due to rising fuel prices, we realized we were going to come up short on our budget for fuel which we have for driving our three high school kids to school. We prayed about what to do. That same week Dan received a call from a man who had an offering for our home and he was very pleased to have it go toward paying for the fuel. Once again the Lord showed us who was in control. That offering covered the difference in fuel costs for two months. We have also made the needed changes in our budget and everything balances out again.

Our children just received their mid year marks and it is incredible to see the improvement in their grades. It is amazing what proper nutrition, a proper nights sleep, time to do homework and a loving environment can do for these children. Every one of them have increased their level in school. Praise the Lord for this as well.

I have been trying to find ways to take care of some of the details for Dan so he can do other things. For a couple of days I went with Dan to see a judge with one of our girls. Then after her first court appointed visit to their psychologist took her back to Carapegua on the bus so that Dan didn't have to go. Then on her second and final visit I went with her because Dan was double booked and then I took her out on the bus to meet Maria. After a few days I was tired and have a new appreciation for some of what Dan does and then I realized that that was only a small part of his time.

This month we rented the camp twice with all the food included. Jessica, Bethany and I helped Maria in the kitchen for the first camp. The second camp I was the cook with Jessica (Bethany had left by this time) and any of our guys that I could pin down helping us. We have never rented the camp in June before as this is winter and still during school time. We are thankful for these blessings. We also have the camp rented twice in July.

This past Sunday we had our first baby dedication in our church at the camp. These parents were married, baptized and joined our church in March. I know that God has good things in store for them.

We also had 4 first time visitors in service. Two of our visitors, both ladies in their early 20's came to the altar for prayer for their marriages. The one young lady stayed to talk to us after the service. She has been married for less than 1 year to a neighbor we have watched grow up beside the camp. He is living and working in Argentina with another woman. This young lady has agreed that if her husband will come back to talk to Dan she is willing to do marriage counseling with us.

Today I received a message from a friend of mine here for prayer as she is ready to leave her husband. She and her husband are extremely anointed and gifted people that we are working with here. Please help me pray for these people and that God will help us as we minister into marriages.

Dan Writes:

Gwen seems to have taken over the writing of the newsletters for which I am very grateful, however I just had to share the highlight for me personally during the month of June.

During the month of March when our team from Canada came to help with the expansion of the children's home, they also brought a donation of more than 160 children's soccer jerseys from the Collingwood and area youth soccer program. Gustavo officially began our "Soccer School for Kids" in May. We are using the soccer school as part of our children's ministries and an outreach to children and youth of the area. As I have mentioned before, Paraguayan's are fanatics for soccer.

Now, every Saturday afternoon from 1-3pm, Gustavo is hosting between 30 and 40 kids at our soccer school. These are for the most part un-churched non Christian kids. A few weeks ago, I was there to help him and watch him as he lead these kids in the exercises, the discipline, the practice and then a game of soccer. I was really impressed as he imparted the rules of fair play to the kids and they seemed to understand and apply the rules in their game. However that was nothing compared to how the Lord's presence seem to come down upon this group of kids at the end of their game when Gustavo shared the love of Jesus with them and then lead them in a prayer of thanksgiving. My guess would be that 80-90% of the kids sincerely prayed with him and it was by far the highlight of the month for me. I look forward to the day when many of these kids begin to give their lives to Christ.

God is blessing every day. Sometimes we want to see everything happen quick and easy but He has His timetable and He is at work. Please continue to pray for each of the ministries that we are currently operating. Please pray for the church planting, the children's home, the local church and its missions, the youth camp, our children's ministries, and the soccer school.

Blessings,  
The Millers