

Paraguay Missions

JANUARY 2010

MINISTRIES

- Church Planting Ministries
- Children's Home
- Youth Ministries
- Youth Camp
- Missions Teams

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2009– A year of Blessings. 2010– A year of Hope

Greetings Friends. As 2009 came to a close and 2010 began, I found myself for several days thinking of many of you personally as well as your local churches. As always at the end of a year we reflect upon all the blessings that we received during the year. As I looked back over the past year and thought of all that has been accomplished, all that **we have done together**, my single reoccurring thought was "wow".

There is a children's home operating very well because of your blessings. It has been identified by the Ministry of Children and Youth as a

"model home for other homes to duplicate". Eighteen children and youth live here on a permanent basis. Their lives and the transformation of their lives is a testimony to you and your support. You help make that possible every day.

There is a local church in Arazaty, Paraguay because of your blessings. We have an average attendance of 35-45 each week and you help make that happen every week.

There is a beautiful youth camp facility in Paraguay. Many of you are responsible for its existence. Literally thousands of young lives have been touched because of this camp. You help

make that happen year after year.

During the past couple of months, we were able to help start a new church in the Chaco and a new mission in the north. I was the evangelist for the Chilean Youth Camp where 35 more youth committed their lives to Christ and 24 youth made commitments to enter the ministry. You helped make all this and much more possible, so my thought is "wow"!

It always amazes me what God can do when people who love him work together. Thank you Friends. God Bless. Have a great 2010.

Gwen's Notes

Albertito is back home with his mom! We were to have this adorable baby for 2 to 3 days and it ended up being 68 days. He quickly won the hearts of everyone because he is such a happy little guy. The day that we turned over the baby we had to spend almost 4 1/2 hours at the Palace of Justice office waiting for people and signatures. In this time Albertito truly reconnected with his mom, even falling asleep in her arms, so it made it so much easier for me to hug and kiss on him and turn him over to her. The good thing is that because they live about 20 minutes from us we will see them again in town from time to time.

The Lord is so good to me! He always gives me what I need! New Year's Day I woke up thinking and praying for youth camp. As I was thinking about all that I still need to do and plan, I started praying for God's help because I was getting overwhelmed. Just then I grabbed my cell phone to check my messages. Someone from an unknown number send me a message at 2am. It was Joshua 1:3,5 and 9. "Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." My testimony is... God sent me a text message! It was exactly what I needed at the moment and I have read it a few times everyday since.



Praises and Prayer

Prayer Requests:

National Leadership training in Capiata on January 8th-10th

National Youth Camp. (Gwen is in charge) January 14-17

National Ministers Retreat—April 7th-9th.

National Convention April 10th and 11th

Please pray for the following communities: Quyquyho, Maria Antonia, Espiniar, and La Colonia.

We are very thankful to have a Chilean family of five with us for ten weeks. David, Patricia and their three kids, Camilo, Francisco, and Carla are missionaries in training from Chile. They have been studying and preparing at a missions school in Santiago to become missionaries to the country of Kenya in Africa. During their summer break, they were required to choose another country in South America to do a ten week excursion as part of

their preparation.

The directors of that school are friends of ours from a number of years ago here in Paraguay where they also served as missionaries. Through that contact, we are able to host this family for their summer work study.

They are responsible for all their expenses and are required to help in our ministry where ever we need their help. During the past week since their arrival,

they have been a wonderful blessing in helping us out at the camp. They have also been spending time with the children and will begin helping on Sunday's as well. David preaches and his children are musically talented. Please join with us in prayer for them as well as the plans God has placed in their hearts for their future work planting churches in Kenya.

Youth Ministry is Growing

Over the past couple of months, Kyle has been working with the youth as their leader. It was not necessarily what he wanted to do, but the majority of the youth wanted him to do it, so he agreed. They were already looking to him as their leader as he was organizing most of their activities. The youth have been working on a schedule of two weeks per month of games, activities and fun and the other two weeks focusing on a message or the spiritual side of things with games after.

We already have a youth group at the children's home with 8 of the kids being older than 12 and two more turning 12 over the next two months so there is a good base for a youth ministry. Outside of the home, many of the neighborhood youth are at our property most days to play soccer and swim so our youth have been inviting their friends to participate in the youth service as well.

This past week they set a new local record since they restructured the youth with 27 youth participating in their youth service. Some of the youth present were there for the first time.

As Paraguay is a nation of youth and children with 70% of the population under 35 years of age, we recognize that this is the target we must focus a lot of energy on. Please pray for our local youth group as they all reach into our community.

Here are a list of youth from our neighborhood and area to pray for that have participated in at least one service: Antonio, Francisco, Ariel, Edu, Alcides, Jose, Ismael, Luis Ramon, Carlito, Pollo (his nickname which means "chicken") and Rodrigo.

Romans 10:14

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?



We spent the Christmas and New Year's holidays in the children's home with the kids. We stayed in the home from December 20th to January 2nd to give Maria and Osvaldo some much deserved vacation time.

On Christmas Eve, which is when everyone celebrates Christmas here,

we had probably every 10-13 year old boy in the neighborhood in the Home's front yard. Almost all left around 10:30 but 2 asked if they could stay for the B.B.Q. They joined us along with 3 other neighbors who were alone for Christmas because the rest of the family had gone elsewhere. We have 4 houses in front of the camp property. Miguel asked me if we could go and visit the 4 homes after midnight (a custom here). One of the families was away at the in-laws home. We already had the people from 2 of the homes and the third family came to the Home after midnight. Miguel came up to me and said "now we can't go to the neighbors houses because they are all

here!"

New Year's Eve we had our new friends from Chile and 4 neighborhood youth. After dinner as Dan and Kyle set off the fireworks we had a few more neighbor youth come and hang out until around 1:00am.

The custom in Paraguay is on January 6th, Day of the Wise Men, the children receive gifts in the shoes they have left outside the night before. We had a gift for each child from their sponsors plus we will be taking them on an outing next week to the city. They also received several toys and games paid for through the project we received through the Ministry



Dan cooking up a storm for the crowd!



David praying for our New Year's Eve meal.



Carla playing with a Paraguayan toad.



Camilo, Fransico and Patricia celebrating New Year's Eve in Paraguay.



Shoes with gifts for Day of the Wisemen. Picture taken at 5:00am when Maria and I put out the gifts.



Zulma showing the new Monopoly game that the kids received.

Paraguay Missions

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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 (Checks or cash) 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 25th 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.

When you look back over the past year or even several years, what do you think? Do you see God's hand upon you and the hundreds of ways he blesses your lives every day? A number of years ago in response to Paraguayan Christians saying "God Bless You" as a regular greeting each time they see you, I began to say "always". At first it was taken as a little funny until they began to ask me why my response is "always". I explained that we are always blessed by the Lord. If we wake up in the morning, it is a blessing. If we have a roof over our heads, it is a blessing. If we have food to eat, it is a blessing, if we breath, it is a blessing. If we see, hear, smell, touch, sense, feel, it is a blessing. Now, a bunch of them are responding in the same manner. Therefore, let me say to each of you....God Bless You!

The Miller Family