



THE PAULICHEN MISSION

Bringing the hope of Christ to the people of Uruguay

April 2022 Edition

First off, I would like to thank you for all the well-wishes for our 23rd wedding anniversary in March. We're truly blessed both by another year and by the love you showed to us.

Thank you also for praying for rain here in Salto. Over the past 24+ months, our area has had the worst drought in almost 100 years. As you can well image, both crops and animals have suffered. In February, the dryness sparked the largest wildfire in Uruguayan history. By God's grace, regular rainfall has finally returned. Our river is full once again and, with the help of high humidity, things have turned from dreary yellow to a luscious green.

For the most part, it was another hot summer here in Salto, reaching a record high of 42.5C/109F. To escape the heat of January, our family took a few days off and headed to an area on the coast we hadn't been to since our first survey trip back in 2009. It was definitely a time to cherish; with our kids getting older, we don't know how many more of these we'll be able to do as a family. We got to

know some new cities, taste some good food (fresh seafood!), as well as savour some rest and refreshment before the business of the new school year.



Ezequiel and Maria

A TIME TO SOW, AND A TIME TO REAP

We continue to go out into the community to evangelize as weather and circumstances permit. On Saturday the 26th of February, I came to the house of Ezequiel and Maria. We got talking and she shared with me how she was a regular attendee at a local cult, but had become very disenchanted by what she was hearing and seeing there. A few weeks prior to our meeting, Maria collapsed on the sidewalk while walking home from a Sunday service and woke up in hospital several days later. The doctors didn't know what happened to her nor did they know how to help her. Ezequiel was given all of her personal belongings and told to prepare for her funeral. By God's grace, she didn't die. Because of this episode, Maria firmly believed that God was trying to get her attention. To her, my visit was also providential. They both were eager to listen to the gospel and accept Christ as their Saviour. Praise the Lord, the fear of death has lost its sting.

I would never have thought that my Bible falling apart would end up being a blessing. Because Christian items here are limited, I thought it best to try rebinding my Bible instead of buying a new one. That quest led me to Teófilo, a leather worker we had known for a few years. While



Teófilo

Praise Reports

- Another year of marriage, a time of refreshment, and rain!
- Ezequiel, Maria and Teófilo's salvation
- Encouraging youth camp, and a thwarted break-in
- Opportunity to encourage a new church and visitors to ours

Prayer Requests

- Salvation for Eduardo, Carlos and Maria, the others we are seeking to win for Christ; that God would build a youth group
- For us to be filled with the Spirit & receive needed wisdom
- Funds to purchase a building; a replacement car window

we were going over the plan for the rebinding, Teófilo and I got to talking about the thing contained in The Book. After three hours of questions and answers, Teófilo chose to make a profession of faith. Praise the Lord for this blessed fruit.

It's hard when you have the answer to someone's problem, but they're not willing to accept the solution. One of our church ladies put us in touch with Eduardo. His wife of 29 years and teenage daughter had recently left him. He was depressed so she thought I could help. After spending a few hours listening to his sad story and sharing the gospel with him, Eduardo turned to me and said, "If God puts my family back together, and my wife and I have nothing better to do, we'd go to church." That was his response to the presentation of the answer he was looking for. How very sad. Please pray for Eduardo's salvation as well as for me as we stay in touch.

CHURCH MATTERS

In February we completed two years of preaching and teaching through the book of John. It's been a blessing seeing our people grow as the foundation of the gospel and life of Christ is preached.

After a year hiatus, youth camp was once again held in February. (When I say, "youth camp", I mean "anyone single and under 30", lol.) Less than 2% of Uruguayans claim to be born again, so finding Christian friends is a difficult task, especially for younger people. Our "youth" were excited to attend and decided to make the 12 hour roundtrip journey by themselves. They enjoyed the time of

fellowship. They came back encouraged and are now motivated to create and expand our own youth group. Please pray for Josh and Josephine as they take on this challenging endeavour.

There was an attempted break-in of our church building in March. Because break-ins at churches or places of business are so common, it is normal for someone to live either in the actual building or somewhere on the property. That night, two of the four would-be robbers were able to get over the locked fence and into the side passageway. Thank the Lord they were caught before anything bad happened.

At the end of March I was invited to fill the pulpit at the new church plant on the border of Brazil. Myself and a few people from our church made the 2.5 hour trip that Sunday afternoon and were encouraged by the hospitality and brotherly kindness that was shown to us. We were able to share some special music as well as preach. We returned home exhausted but with cups that were overflowing.

We continue to have new visitors come to church. Carlos and Maria are such a couple. They have been attending almost every service for the past few months

and cannot seem to get enough of the fellowship. It touched our hearts the other day to hear that this was the first time in a long time that they feel like they have a family. We give God the glory. Please pray for Carlos and Maria: they're not saved...yet.

Yours for Uruguay,
Marco, Tricia, Josh & Josephine

P.S. - Please note that we have a new family photo attached.



Outside of the new church plant



A blessed time of fellowship!

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