



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Life does not always go as expected. God has often brought different and sometimes difficult circumstances into our lives to help us grow in our faith. We might not have always appreciated them in the heat of the moment, but we are thankful for them. We are far from perfect, and that is why we are so thankful that God's way is perfect.

The last few weeks have been chaotic. Our email of many years crashed and we lost our contact list making it temporarily impossible to send out an update. Recovery of our contact list was slow. We changed from Yahoo to a Gmail account, so please change our email address in your records saving this new Gmail address. We will still keep the old yahoo account active just in case. I also had an unexpected knee surgery two weeks ago. For those of you who knew about the surgery and prayed for me, thank you. As far as I can tell, it went well. I will explain a little more about it at the end of this update.

The highlights from this quarter begin with a big tract and sign language booklet distribution we did with our church at the beginning of the year. We enjoyed fellowshiping together while canvassing the city center. It was especially nice watching our church kids get excited about handing out tracts. Please pray for God to do a work at our next large tract/booklet distribution that we have planned for later this month. Mid-January we held a special party for our Sunday school kids and we had quite a few visitors that week. Pray for the children in our ministry, because they need Christ as much as our deaf adults do. Keep in prayer two sisters, Dayana (12 yrs old) and Maribel (9 yrs old). They have been coming every once in awhile since we started our church five years ago. From what we know, they have a rough home life, and when they do come to church they often seem upset. Jessica has witnessed to them various times, but they've never made any decisions. They have been on our hearts lately, so please pray with us for them.

February was a busy month for us. The Bible translation team started up again after taking the month of January off. The Bolivian Bible Society, who heads up the project, signed two new people onto our team. The new members are CJ and Alison Johnson, good friends of ours that come to our church. Since CJ and Alison received a good education in the US, they have been a valuable addition to our team. They are involved in the technical aspects of the translation project, helping with the videography, computer programs, and determining facial expressions, positioning while signing, etc. We have asked for prayer in the past for this family. And praise God, since that time, Alison has shared her salvation testimony with us, and we have recently seen her thirst to grow and to be involved at church. But her husband CJ still admits to not being saved. He is not directly involved in the actual Bible translating, but since he is there he is getting to sit through our deep discussions of Bible history, culture, doctrine, etc., and he always has excellent questions. He is definitely searching, so please pray for his salvation.

In our last update we prayed for God to supply Pastor Rodolfo with a new motorcycle, and thanks to a few of you, God provided exactly what was needed. Pastor Rodolfo thought we were kidding when we surprised him by taking him to the dealership and told him he could take a new motorcycle home. When we convinced him it was real he was moved to tears. So an extra big thank you from Rodolfo and us! We don't have enough room in this update to explain to you all the reasons this was such a huge blessing to him, just trust us that it was.



PASTOR RODOLFO EXCITED ABOUT HIS NEW MOTORCYCLE



GLADYS (CHURCH KID)
HANDING OUT TRACTS/BOOKLETS



LUKE & PASTOR RODOLFO
CHURCH'S ANNIVERSARY



15 YEARS IN BOLIVIA!!

At the end of February my family and I celebrated 15 years of serving on the field of Bolivia. It has been an amazing journey. We have lived in three different locations in Bolivia and have been involved in five different church plants/ministries during that time. Thank you for being an important part of our ministry!

In the beginning of March my oldest daughter Keira and I returned to the states for a quick week and half trip to pick up my girls' school supplies, visit a new supporting church, and take Keira to Pensacola Christian College for college days. We came to Bolivia in 2008 with Keira when she was two, and now she will be attending PCC next year. We can't believe how fast time has gone by. We are really proud of the Christian young lady Keira has become.

Aside from that trip, and aside from our typical weekly ministry activities, the highlight of March was when we celebrated Bolivian Father's Day by having a big special activity after church. Our activities always draw in visitors from the deaf community, and this one was no exception. Everyone had a great time while the ladies of our church made us men feel special.

In the end of March we were blessed with the opportunity to attend our mission board's field conference in Brazil. The last field conference we were able to attend was five years ago. Our whole family had a great time meeting other missionaries, sharing stories and burdens, and being refreshed with great preaching. Thank you to all the churches that helped financially make our trip possible.

Our church, Iglesia Bautista Sordos Para Cristo (Deaf for Christ Baptist Church), was so excited to celebrate its five year anniversary the first Sunday in April. It was a big affair in our church with a special service, including several skits put on by our deaf adults and special music done by Jessica's Sunday school kids, and a meal at the end. With many visitors, we had about 85 people attend this special service, making it the highest attended event at our church so far!

In the end of April I had knee surgery on my left knee, as I mentioned before. I went from walking normal and having no pain to barely being able to walk the last couple of months. My doctor, here in Bolivia, told me I had extensive damage to the cartilage in that knee, mostly due to several past accidents. I am just now finishing up my two weeks of mandatory bedrest and will be starting physical therapy next week. I would appreciate the continued prayers for healing. It will take anywhere between six months to a year for me to regain full use of my knee again.

We are so thankful for each and every one of you. Thank you for your prayers and the financial support that have kept us ministering here in Bolivia for 15 years!

For the Gospel's Sake,

Luke & Jessica Marie