

Project Paraguay

Heart Aflame ...  ... Mind Renewed

In the Service of Christ the King

December 19, 2017

Dear Friend of Project Paraguay,

We are encouraged in the knowledge that “the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.” 1 Cor. 10:26. We proclaim the Lord's dominion and use the land He has provided for the edification of His people.

Earlier this year, Project Paraguay purchased land for the building of a church at Marin. Summer Teams cleared the land and began to lay the foundations of a church. In the last month, we were able to purchase the adjacent lot as well, clearing the way for the construction of additional buildings that will serve as a school annex. Many churches and individuals have invested in this project both in terms of time and resources. We are thankful to all who were motivated by the vision of building a faith community at Marin. The land serves as a starting point—much work remains.

The task going forward consists of raising up Summer teams that will work side by side with our Paraguayan brothers and sisters to continue the physical brick and mortar work. This past Summer, we were blessed with two teams spearheaded by First Presbyterian of Stanley and Alexandria Presbyterian (APC). For 2018, we start from scratch, hopeful that other churches and individuals step up to continue the effort. We are at a time of uncertainty and we walk in faith that God will provide the laborers and resources to continue the vital work. Please keep us in prayer in this critical planning stage.

Although the “brick and mortar” operation is critical, it is only a means to an end; the goal being the faithful preaching of the Word and the education of God's people. In that vein, we are very thankful to those who have faithfully organized Vacation Bible Schools and other educational and evangelistic outreaches. In Paraguay, the growth of the church begins with the children. Once the church provides educational programs and develops a community for the neighborhood children, the mothers and then the fathers invariably get involved. This is the model that made El Renuevo successful.

We are therefore excited that, following APC's Summer youth mission to Paraguay, they were inspired to maintain a continuing connection and have resolved to send teams every other year. Also, Pastor Chris Sicks and Joy Henrichs of APC will focus on reviving the school at Barrio Parque—providing guidance in terms of the curriculum and fundraising for books and supplies. Their child sponsorship campaign is featured on the last page of this mailing and on our website at <http://projectparaguay.org/school>. Please visit and contribute as the Lord leads.

We were a bit apprehensive earlier in the year because of personnel upheavals—Albert Veldhuyzen deploying to the Middle East, Kean Hyltoft retiring and moving to Florida, Pastor Joel Acevedo switching jobs, among other matters—however, in the midst of what appeared to be chaos, the Lord has guided PP to its most successful year. Not only were we able to fundraise for two new parcels, we produced a beehive of activity last Summer, and generous giving has allowed us to provide salary increases for our Administrative Assistant, Liliana, and for Pastor Miguel Diaz.

This year has also marked a milestone in solidifying personal bonds of friendship between Americans and Paraguayans involved in the work. Annalise Jessen, active in previous mission trips, married Angel Sotelo of El Renuevo Church. It's special when marriages result from our mission activities. Also this month, Saul Otono, a previous recipient of PP scholarship funding, visits us in Virginia and participates in our December 11 PP Board meeting as a guest—also a milestone. Further cementing the bonds of friendship, Kean Hyltoft, our Finance Director, makes his fourth yearly trip to Paraguay in January—the Paraguayans have now come to expect his presence at least twice a year (in January by himself and in July with a team).

Our hope for PP is that it would break out of the Virginia-North Carolina axis and that churches and individuals from other parts of the nation will catch the vision and participate. We have hope that we can light a fire in Florida—earlier this year, we made a presentation at Providence Presbyterian Church in Cape Coral. Also, our founding Pastor, Joel Acevedo, has accepted a call to become the Hispanic minister at Briarwood Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, Alabama, starting in January 2018. Please pray for his personal transition and that the Lord opens doors there for a partnership with PP.

In the spirit of the season, please also consider making a generous contribution to the work of Project Paraguay. You can do so by check or at the www.projectparaguay.org donate page. Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

For the PP Board,



Gordon Caylor
Projects Director



Albert R. Veldhuyzen
Communications Director



Kean Hyltoft
Finance Director

P.S. Your past support to Project Paraguay's work is much appreciated. You will find attached a request to help needy children obtain an education. Will you consider becoming a Child Sponsor? For a budget of around \$57,000 per year and all our funds going to the work in Paraguay, you really get the most "bang for the buck" than any other ministry out there. God Bless.

I/We will contribute a gift of \$_____ in support of Project Paraguay's mission.

I/We commit to making a monthly gift of \$ _____.

_____ I will set up a recurring credit card donation online at projectparaguay.org donate page (preferred option) or

_____ I pledge to send a check on a monthly basis.

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ (please provide so we can update you regularly)

Contributions are tax-deductible under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Make checks payable to: Project Paraguay. *Address to: c/o Finance Director Kean Hyltoft, P.O. Box 129, Bentonville, VA 22610-0129.* If a gift is specifically designated for a particular purpose, the Board will make every effort to honor the designation, but reserves the right to redirect funds in case intended purpose becomes illegal, impractical, impossible, or if gifts received are more than required to achieve intended purpose(s).