

Project Paraguay

Heart Aflame ...  ... Mind Renewed

In the Service of Christ the King

June 10, 2020

Dear Friend of Project Paraguay,

The World turned upside down—so tuned the British band at Lord Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown. George Washington and his patriots had turned the World upside down. The Coronavirus is turning the World upside down today. But foremost, it was Christ and his apostles who truly turned the World upside down in a profound and fundamental manner—the Jews at Thessalonica were outraged stating, “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar saying that there is ‘another king, Jesus.’” Acts 17:6-7. Within the Christian tradition, there were further upheavals with Martin Luther and John Calvin splitting the Western Christian World in two, and the Reformation discarding the “divine right of kings” and reasserting the “Crown Rights of King Jesus,” a phrase popularized by the Scottish Covenanters.

We have a rich history of turning the World upside down one country at a time by reaching one person at a time. Each of us met Jesus in a personal way and remember when His Holy Spirit touched our heart and mind and awakened us from the darkness of sin, leading to a revolution in our lives. As each of us grows in faith, we accomplish important objectives. One such objective and the beginning of a new journey in life for Elder Cesar Franco was his acceptance into Seminary last month. Cesar has been a mainstay of El Renuevo Church since its founding, but it is now that he has committed himself to becoming a Pastor. Project Paraguay has established a scholarship fund on his behalf. Please pray for him as he begins his pastoral studies during a very challenging time in Paraguay.

Schools are closed in Paraguay until December by Government decree because of the COVID crisis. Even though there have only been 11 deaths and 884 confirmed cases as of May 27 in Paraguay, the country has imposed draconian measures. In addition to closing the schools, Paraguay has closed its borders indefinitely—as a result, there is no air travel into the country. Starting May 25, Paraguay is slowly easing restrictions internally as the Government has allowed shopping malls, construction projects, corporate offices, private parks, and recreational clubs to reopen. Churches will likely reopen in the July/August timeframe. In the meantime, our churches under the El Renuevo umbrella are conducting joint services online—see for example, the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/iprenuevo/videos/174808910528907/>

Though the response to the pandemic has exerted massive economic damage worldwide, poor nations such as Paraguay are especially hard-hit because the poor rely on their work to survive, more so than in developed nations with advanced welfare systems. The loss of income worldwide will propel up to 50 million people into abject

poverty this year, reversing three decades of gains according to World Bank estimates. The World Food Program also predicts a hunger pandemic could eclipse the coronavirus—130 million people are expected to join the ranks of the 135 million who were expected to suffer from acute hunger this year, bringing to 265 million the number of those at risk of starvation. Paraguayans are at high risk of poverty and hunger without a steady stream of income. Project Paraguay started a benevolence fund to help individuals with exceptional needs.

The crisis has hit our students and teachers hard. The El Renuevo School relies on tuition that has dwindled, and as a result, teachers and the administrator are looking elsewhere to earn money. Project Paraguay provided some extra funding last month but with schools being closed until December, the amount provided simply will not bridge the gap. Despite these personal hardships, our teachers at El Renuevo and Barrio Parque, in imitation of Christ, reach out to students through the internet and house visits to ensure that education continues and the Gospel is proclaimed.

As described above, there are many needs. Unfortunately, at a time when we want to reach out personally, we are unable to do so because of the Government travel ban and school and church closures in Paraguay. A mission trip this year is impossible, but we are planning to resume trips in the Summer of 2021. However, in this catastrophic crisis, there is an opportunity to give financially. ***Please consider making a generous tax-deductible contribution to the work of Project Paraguay.*** If you can contribute monthly, the PP website (projectparaguay.org) allows you to set up recurring credit card donations.

Let us, as Christians, put our hope in Christ alone and by reflecting on our rich heritage regain confidence that we can once again turn the World upside down in obedience to King Jesus.

For the PP Board,



Gordon Caylor
Projects Director



Albert R. Veldhuyzen
Communications Director



Kean Hyltoft
Finance Director

P.S. Your support for Project Paraguay's work is very much appreciated. Our estimated budget for 2020 is \$67,000. Given that we are all unpaid volunteers, all of these funds go to the support of the work in Paraguay. Thank you for your faithful prayers and actions in support of Christ's Kingdom! 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, Warrenton VA 20188.* 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 the intended purpose becomes illegal, impractical, impossible, or if gifts received are more than required to achieve the intended purpose(s).