

Project Paraguay

Heart Aflame ...  ... Mind Renewed

In the Service of Christ the King

June 19, 2023

Dear Friend of Project Paraguay,

We pray for security and stability amidst an ever-changing World, so that God's Kingdom can go forth in peace. "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." 1 Tim. 2:1-2.

We pray for the new President and new legislators of Paraguay elected at the end of April. The Colorado Party which has dominated the political life of the nation for the past 70 years became even more dominant than before, sweeping most offices in a landslide and crushing the opposition. A salient foreign policy issue was the opposition's promise to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China if they were elected. The Colorado victory ensures continued recognition of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and in terms of social policy, the continued illegality of abortion and same-sex marriage. However, please pray that the new Government under President Santiago Peña will reverse the trend established under President Abdo Benitez towards the centralization of power, especially in the Educational Ministry, which has arrogated to itself increased authority to control the policies and curriculum of private schools like the ones Project Paraguay supports.

Please also pray for our Church leaders, both in Paraguay and the United States. Paraguay suffered an especially bad mosquito-borne Chikungunya epidemic—three of our Pastors and numerous others were affected. Please pray for their health and continued zeal for the Kingdom. Here at home, we learned that the Lord called his faithful servant, Dr. Harry Reeder, home in May through a tragic car accident. Dr. Reeder, through his work and daily podcasts, has been an inspiration for many of us. Please pray for his family and his Church, Briarwood Presbyterian Church, which has been a vital partner and supporter of Project Paraguay.

In our last letter, we described our plans for La Roca Church. Thanks to your prayers and financial support, we are happy to report that the wall construction is now almost complete (see pictures page). We are focusing this Summer's Mission Trip on La Roca—painting the wall, installing electricity, conducting two medical fairs, and outreach to the local community with the love of Jesus Christ. We will also be helping the Mother Church, El Renuevo with certain renovations. Jen Finelli, our Medical Director, is currently in Paraguay working out the details of the medical fairs that we will hold at La Roca and another church.

Our team this year consists of 12 individuals representing Providence Christian Church (Cape Coral, FL), Gainesville Presbyterian Church (Gainesville, VA), Heritage Presbyterian Church (Warrenton, VA), Berea Baptist Church (Fredericksburg, VA), 1st Presbyterian Church (Stanley, NC) and Burke Community Church (Burke, VA). This is our first team composed of members traveling from three distinct locations: Florida, Virginia, and North Carolina.

Besides construction and medical fairs, our team intends to do outreach activities with the students at the El Renuevo and Barrio Parque Schools as well as with the indigenous people group close to Barrio Parque Church. Barrio Parque's outreach to the Mbya Guarani Community has been very encouraging and the Holy Spirit is clearly working in that Community. Pastor Tim Revett of United World Missions, who works closely with Pastor Miguel Diaz stated in his newsletter: "On Easter Sunday, the first member of an urban Mbya Guarani community publicly identified herself as a follower of Jesus through baptism. 'T' boldly professed her faith before an audience of mostly strangers from a different culture and language group. She made her decision in spite of a range of opinions from her Mbya neighbors and relatives. Some of them believe that following Jesus translates into ceasing to be Mbya. Others are on the verge of making the same decision that T made." The leader of that community, Fidellino, has also been attending Barrio Parque. This baptism and others occurred at Barrio Parque Church (see pictures). Please pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work through us in opening up the indigenous community for Christ.

Former Dutch Prime Minister and Theologian, Abraham Kuyper famously said, "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, 'Mine!'" Whether it is our view of government policy, our approach to missions, or our personal conduct, may we be transformed to conform more and more to God's standards and the likeness of Christ.

For the PP Board,



Gordon Caylor
Projects Director



Albert R. Veldhuyzen
Executive Director



Kean Hyltoft
Finance Director

P.S. The pictures page shows some of the recent happenings in Paraguay. Your support for Project Paraguay's work is very much appreciated. Our estimated budget for 2023 is \$66,537. Given that we are all unpaid volunteers, these funds go directly to the support of the work in Paraguay. Thank you for your faithful prayers and actions in support of Christ's Kingdom! God Bless.

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