

Project Paraguay

Heart Aflame ...  ... Mind Renewed

In the Service of Christ the King

September 16, 2024

Dear Friend of Project Paraguay,

If the Lord is first in our hearts, extraordinary and unique feats follow. But that requires sacrificing other mundane matters. As when Jesus told a person to follow him and he retorted that he had some earthly matters to attend to first (Matthew 8:21), we hear much of the same procrastination from Christians today. We are grateful for those who, over the summer, put aside earthly concerns for a moment in their lives and accomplished many firsts of eternal value for the Kingdom of God in Paraguay! “Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” Matthew 6:31-33.

In July 2024, Project Paraguay assembled a team of 21 participants from 10 churches located in Virginia, North Carolina, and Florida. This mission team was a tremendous blessing to the El Renuevo, Barrio Parque, La Roca, and Pura Vida Churches. The number of participants representing such a diversity of churches touching four congregations in Paraguay was a definite first for us. As a team, we were one in spirit and mission with our motto for the first time emblazoned on our t-shirts: Heart Aflame, Mind Renewed, In the Service of Christ the King.

Our primary focus was La Roca Church where we organized a Vacation Bible School (VBS), a Medical Fair, and worked on the construction of a parsonage, installing the electrical wiring, painting, and laying tile floors. To prepare for the first two events, we canvassed the neighborhood passing out flyers and evangelistic tracts, which resulted in our events being very well attended. The VBS was a special time for the children. The construction was also an answer to prayer as La Roca Church has now identified a Christian family to live in the parsonage which is a blessing to them but also for the Church which had suffered break-ins--now much less likely to occur.

The medical fairs at La Roca and Barrio Parque, which treated about 85 patients undoubtedly saved lives as four individuals were identified as hypertensive emergencies (risk for heart attack, stroke, etc . . .) and were sent immediately to the hospital. EKGs were provided for most, ultrasounds for many, and follow-up screening was recommended for about seven persons for cancerous-looking masses. In addition to having two doctors and three nurses, for the first time we also had a dental staff provide dental exams. Our Pastors also had an essential role in providing spiritual counseling at both medical fairs ensuring holistic care of body and soul.

In addition to the medical fair at Barrio Parque, we also held two VBS' there, one for the neighborhood and one for the school. Additionally, for the first time, we helped organize an indigenous fair which provided an opportunity for a local community of Ava Guaraní to display their artisanal products and to teach us their creative techniques. These activities were a blessing to all and helped us establish and build relationships.

We not only distributed flyers and evangelistic tracts in support of La Roca and Barrio Parque, but we also did the same in downtown Asuncion for the Pura Vida Church, a growing congregation that seeks to appeal to urban professionals. One Sunday, our music team also led worship for the El Renuevo Church. This was the first mission trip ever to reach out and minister to four different Churches.

After the departure of the team, the three of us remaining were blessed to visit the Ebenezer Church, which is also part of the group of Churches in the Project Paraguay network. It is a vibrant church with a very healthy generational mix bursting at the seams. It has clearly outgrown its space and seeks to expand its sanctuary, a potential future PP project. Ebenezer is also establishing a Seminary, a blessing not only for the Ebenezer congregation but also for building the leadership of the other Churches noted above. Thanks to your support and the commitment of team members, this trip accomplished many firsts, but we can never rest on our laurels as we plan new and exciting projects to grow God's Kingdom next year.

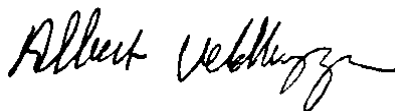
To learn more about our projects and the accomplishments of this past summer, please see our Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/pptrips>) and particularly our presentation at Providence Christian Church (<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/X7eLpUWxySQ5NgP5/?mibextid=WC7FNe>). Over the next few months, we intend to raise awareness in other Churches as well. Please let us know if you would like us to include your Church as we would be more than happy to share the Good News of our activities with your leaders and congregations.

We are experiencing a serious shortfall of funds this year that, if not corrected, will require us to cut back significantly on our activities. Please consider donating generously! We are grateful for your partnership, enabling us to bring the Light of the Gospel of Grace to a lost and fallen World!

For the PP Board,



Gordon Caylor
Projects Director



Albert R. Veldhuyzen
Executive Director



Kean Hyltoft
Finance Director

P.S. Your support for Project Paraguay's work is very much appreciated. 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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