



Agua de Vida

Bringing the Water of Life to Paraguay

The Periodic Newsletter of Ed & Linda Baker, Missionaries to Paraguay, SA

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Feliz Navidad!



*A light for revelation to the gentiles
And for glory to your people Israel (Luke 2:32)*

We're on our way!

After a year of prayers, decisions, training, support raising and a million "to do" items on our lists – we are finally on our way! Our first 5-year term as career missionaries starts January 2, 2001. We will spend our first 8 to 12 months in language school where we will be attending the Spanish Language Institute near San Jose, Costa Rica. The Institute has been teaching Spanish to missionaries for over 50 years and is considered to be one of the best.

After we complete language school, we will return to Atlanta for about 3 weeks to pack before moving onto the field in Paraguay. We will also be returning to Atlanta during our semester break for our Commissioning Service at Cannon United Methodist Church on April 22, 2001. All are welcome!

Our recent trip to Paraguay

When we were initially assigned to Paraguay by the Mission Society, it was recommended we visit the country to meet the team we would be working with. On October 27th we left Atlanta with several other Mission Society representatives for 12 busy days in Paraguay. It takes about 16 hours to get to the capital city of Asuncion, via Miami and Sao Palo, Brazil. We had a very rewarding trip and saw many of the churches we will be working with and met the missionary

team. We will be reporting to Rev. Pablo Mora who is the President (similar to Bishop) of the Evangelical Methodist Community in Paraguay. He is a wonderful man and it will be a pleasure to serve God with him. Rev. Mora would like for us to live outside of the capital city of Asuncion since there are several missionaries currently living in the Asuncion area. The church is expanding its presence in other parts of the country. At this time, we are not sure where in Paraguay we will be stationed, but God will lead us to the right place in His time.



Methodist Church at Cerrito, Paraguay

The Paraguayan team consists of four couples with the Mission Society. Two of the couples are pastors and two couples are in community development. These activities include running a mobile medical clinic, building a Christian school and agricultural

ministry. We will be joining them to augment the community development activities with our village water, sanitation and hygiene programs.

We also had some time for sight seeing. Rev. Ben Reyes and his wife Genni live in Ciudad del Este on the border of Paraguay and Brazil. They took us to visit Iguasu Falls, which are about 20 miles into Brazil. Iguasu Falls are truly breathtaking!! The water flow on the Iguasu River is about 9 times that of Niagara Falls and Iguasu Falls are about 2 miles long.



Iguasu Falls in Brazil near the Paraguay border

All in all, we had a very rewarding trip. We were very pleased to get the opportunity to meet the team we will be working with and to see the country that will be our new home.

Support raising update

We continue to be awed by the outpouring of support from our friends and family. Our monthly support is about half way there! We are also working on funds for special projects, which are listed below. Any donations for special funds should be noted on the check.

DRILL RIG FUND – We need to purchase a specialized drill rig made for Lifewater International designed for use in remote villages. The cost of the drill rig, including spare parts and shipping is about \$8,000.

TRUCK FUND – We need a heavy duty, 4-wheel drive truck with a diesel engine (the predominant fuel in South America). The estimated cost of a used truck in Paraguay is \$20,000.

WATER WELL FUND – Each water well and hand pump costs between \$2,000 and \$3,000. We expect to be able to install about one well per month once we are “up and running”.

Prayer Praise!

HOUSE IN ATLANTA – We did sell the large house that we raised our family in and decided to buy a smaller “cluster home”. Our daughter, Kara, who is a college sophomore, has decided to stay in the house while we are on the field. She has even learned how to mow the lawn!

Please stay in touch

The easiest way to reach us is at the e-mail address below. However, e-mail is slow and expensive, so please stick to news; no “forwards” of the latest jokes. Also, pictures can be a problem. We do not yet know the address at our apartment in Costa Rica so just send letters, etc. to the school at the address below. This address is shared with all the students so it is a MUST our name appear on the first line. Our web site (see below) will also have the latest info posted.

In His Service – Ed & Linda Baker

Financial Contributions can be made to:

The Mission Society for United Methodist
P. O. Box 922637
Norcross, Georgia 30010-9804
(770) 446-1381

Designate gifts to: “Ed & Linda Baker Support”

Mailing Address (At Spanish School):

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