



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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Praise God for all the blessings that He has bestowed upon us! We never cease to be amazed at the wonders of our God. He is indeed an Awesome God – and we draw our strength from Him.

We are past the mid-point in our language studies. The past 6 months have gone by so fast – and yet we still have so much to learn! God set us on this path – and we can count on Him to be with us every step of the way.

Spiritual Happenings



Welcome sign for the Emmaus pilgrims at the Methodist Center in Alejuela, Costa Rica

One of the privileges we have had here in Costa Rica is to be a part of the Emmaus Community. If you are not familiar with the Walk to Emmaus program, ask at your church. It's a wonderful experience. Anyway, in May, both of us had the opportunity to "work" at a local "Walk". Of course the "Walk" was all in Spanish and presented a challenge for both of us. But we learned a lot about Spanish, ourselves, and what a blessing it is to be a worker and helper to fellow Christians "Walking toward a closer relationship with God".

We are also teaching the 5 and 6 year olds in Sunday School. This has been a humbling experience listening to these small children chatter away in Spanish, using correct tenses, and even subjunctive! The one problem we have had is how to quiet a room full of energetic kindergarteners with a limited vocabulary! "Silencio por favor" just doesn't seem to work.

We have also become involved with student activities. The school has a group of women who help the students with various household chores, including cooking local Tico food. The students provide a Bible study for these women each week. Linda has been in charge of this program this trimester. The Bible study has been a great opportunity to have conversation and study The Word weekly, all in Spanish – por supuesto!

Missions Work

Before we went back to the US for our Commissioning at our home church, Dina Perez, one of our teachers, asked us if we could possibly get some used baseball equipment. She and her husband, Jose, are from Nicaragua and work with a group of pastors there. We sent an e-mail to our church, Cannon United Methodist, and they were already collecting equipment when we arrived. Meanwhile, not knowing about Dina's request, the pastors started praying that God would provide them a way to start a baseball ministry in their churches.

By the time we left Atlanta to fly back to Costa Rica, 9 duffle bags of supplies had been collected!! We were amazed – and a bit puzzled as to how to get all of the

donated equipment to Costa Rica. Well, God wasn't done yet. A dear friend from our Sunday School class works with Delta Airlines, and he was able to prevail upon someone (we don't know who or how) to ship the 5 extra duffle bags on Delta Dash. They arrived the next week and Jose helped us get them out of customs (quite a procedure in itself!). We want to thank everyone who helped us on this endeavor. God was working in the hearts of the people at our church while the pastors were praying in Nicaragua! WOW!!!



Nicaraguan pastors receiving donated baseball equipment

Praise God for Prayers Answered!

MONTHLY SUPPORT – Our home church, Cannon United Methodist in Snellville, Georgia has committed to providing a major increase in our funding. Our support has stayed at the level needed while we have been in language school, but when we move to Paraguay in January of next year our expenses will increase dramatically. So once again we are shown to “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:33).

DRILL RIG FUND – As we reported in the previous issue, the Decatur, Georgia Rotary Club has raised the amount needed to purchase the drill rig we will use in Paraguay. In order to complete the process, we needed to contact a local Rotary Club member in Paraguay to serve as the foreign liaison. Our timing was critical for the request to be in the next annual budget. We prayed over the e-mails and left it all in

God's hands. John Eisenburg, our Team Leader in Paraguay was able to find just the right person for us and we now have a local contact in-place.

We continue to seek sponsors for water wells at a cost of \$2,000 to \$4,000 each. We expect to be able to drill a well every 2 to 4 weeks once we are fully operational in Paraguay (God willing).

TRUCK FUND – We are still raising funds to purchase a sturdy, 4 WD, diesel vehicle in Paraguay. We have over \$6,000 raised of the \$20,000 (used price) needed.

Prayer Requests

We ask for your prayers for language acquisition.

We ask for your prayers that we will **BOLDLY** proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ at all opportunities.

Please pray that we will each have a national friend when we get to Paraguay. We ask that God will make ready the hearts a two special nationals.

Please pray for the Mission Society for United Methodists, for the missionary team in Paraguay and for the Evangelical Methodist Community in Paraguay.

Please stay in touch

Check out our web site for more details about what's happening in our lives on a semi-monthly basis, or to view previous newsletters. Also, we LOVE to get “snail-mail” at the following address:

Ed & Linda Baker
Instituto de Lengua Espanola
Apartado 100-2350
San Jose, Costa Rica
E-mail: edlindabaker@yahoo.com
Web site: www.aguadevida.org

Yours In Christ-
Ed and Linda Baker