

Newsletter from Bolivia

Tim & Kallie Hutton

March 2017

# Greetings from Tim & Kallie

Over the last weekend in February Bolivia celebrated Carnival, the holiday just before the season of lent, leading up to Easter. Many churches use this four day weekend to get away together. We had the chance to join a retreat camp as guest speakers and spend some time outside the city. This also helped us get our February sunburn.



# **Seminary Inauguration**

The school year in Bolivia generally runs from February to November, so over the past couple of weeks families have been transitioning into *back to school* mode. Each year the Seminary (STB) has a tradition of welcoming first year students during an inauguration service.



Tim sharing on behalf of CBM

This is always an exciting time as these young leaders start a new chapter of life, and for many this includes leaving home for the big city of Cochabamba. This inauguration service had students lead music and a drama, there was a message from Emigdio Veizaga (formerly a CBM national staff), and an official 'buttoning' of freshmen. The evening is always capped off with each new student receiving a candle during the final song. We look forward to another school year and anticipate the growth within this new student body.

# New Director of Casa & Jireh

In January we said goodbye to the Director of the Casa de La Amistad & Jireh, Julio Caesar Chacon. Julio had been working in this position for several years and felt his family was ready for a change. They are currently exploring the possibly of living internationally.



Farewell Party for Julio

We are however, excited to announce that that Marcia Rojas has accepted to fill this position. Marcia brings with her a wealth of experience including a Masters in Project Management, service with health and relief NGOs, and she even worked for Jireh itself several years ago. We're thrilled to welcome Marcia to the team.



## Learn the Lingo

The UJBB (Union de Jóvenes Bautistas de Bolivia) is the National Youth Union of Bolivian

Baptists. This institution focuses on supporting the needs of youth throughout the country, provides training, and works to promote mobilization. The term "youth" in Bolivia



is a bit broader as it roughly includes people ages 13 to 25 years old.

Each Bolivian Baptist church has a Youth Union—like a youth group—with an elected president, treasure, etc. These church unions are represented by larger regional youth unions (ten in all) based on geography. Finally the UJBB represents these ten regional associations as the National Baptist Youth Union of Bolivia.



Youth Being Youth

So the UJBB has a big job, particularly as its board consists entirely of young adults itself. While each region is responsible for organizing activities in their respective areas, the UJBB takes on the task of supporting and training the leaders of these groups nationwide. These young leaders recognize that they are not just the future of the church, but that they are the church right now. As such, they work tirelessly to train and mobilize youth across the country put their faith in action.

> Blessings, Tím & Kallíe

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray for the Baptist Seminary as it begins a new school year.
- Pray for Marcia as she takes on leadership as the director of the Casa & Jireh projects.
- Pray for the Youth Union (UJBB) as leaders step up to support young Bolivians and inspire them to serve their churches and communities.

### **Connect with Us**

You can learn more about us and our work in Bolivia by visiting our website at timandkallie.com

Reach us by email at: thutton@cbmin.org khutton@cbmin.org

# Become a Partner in Mission with us:

If you are not supporting us, we would love to see you participate financially in this work. You can donate online at **cbmin.org** or via **timandkallie.com**. You can also donate by contacting Barb Keys by phone at *905-821-3533* or by email at bkeys@cbmin.org

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