

Newsletter from Bolivia Tim & Kallie Hutton

December 2017

## Season's Greetings

Thanks so much for partnering with us over 2017! Here are a few of our highlights leading up to the Christmas season.

## The Up & Coming

This past month leaders representing college and career age youth across the country came together to hold their annual retreat/ convention. Each Bolivian Baptist church has a Youth Union—like a college and career group—with an elected president, treasurer, etc. These church unions are represented by larger regional youth unions (ten in all) based on geography. Finally a national board is elected to serve as the Bolivian Baptist Youth Union.

The convention's goals are twofold: administration and leadership development. Each of the ten regions report on their challenges and successes over the past twelve months, as they collectively undertake a five year plan.



We worked with Carola, one of CBM's project staff members, to develop three workshops which she ran for the youth over the course of the retreat. Kallie was also invited to preach one evening. It was great getting the chance to share with and encourage this dynamic group of young people.

### Wonder Women

Over this past year, Casa de la Amistad has expanded their scope to support not only children but also their mothers. With their spouses in prison, these women face the tremendous pressure of raising and providing for their kids mostly on their own.

Casa staff saw an opportunity and decided to run a series of training sessions for the moms on parenting. Many of them had troubled childhoods themselves and struggle to find the best way to raise their own children. These classes gave the mothers new confidence and left them wanting more.



Feeling motivated and inspired, the mothers asked for further skills training. This later lead to a pilot initiative to provide basic instruction around sewing and baking. This past week the ladies put on a small exhibit to show off their work and to thank CBM and Casa for the support they're receiving.

In the coming year we hope to better establish this aspect of the Casa de la Amistad project. By enabling these moms to build on their sewing fundamentals, they'll have potential to turn their skills into something marketable, and increase their economic stability.



## Schools Out... for Summer

Kallie recently wrapped up her seminary course on Ethics and Integral Mission. We've pulled together some quotes shared by students from a reflection paper which we found encouraging (it's nice to know they actually learned something!).

"At first it was hard for me to wrap my mind around mission being carried out within our local community; for me, missions were always done in other countries. Understanding what integral mission really means, I can see how my ministry must start in my own community—with those within my reach—and stretch out from there."



"I'm learning that we should not only preach the Gospel, but that this beautiful truth should be accompanied by developing a bond of friendship and trust; we need to get involved in people's lives and learn their stories. The maximum expression of the Gospel is through both word and action and has the power to transform lives. Each believer must be a reflection of the love, mercy and character of Christ."

"Every good work glorifies God. In the Great Commandment, Jesus tells us to love our God and our neighbors; He isn't talking theoretically. We must live out our faith and demonstrate truth through action." "These past few months together have made me think about my faith in a whole different way. I thought God wanted me to focus on spiritual things and that material things weren't as important, but I should never have separated the two. I can't just read my bible and pray while ignoring my community. I've had to re-think the way I approach my ministry."

# Merry Christmas, Tím & Kallíe

### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray for young Bolivian leaders as they engage in Kingdom work in their churches and communities.
- Pray for women participating in CBM projects as they strive to care for both their families and themselves.
- Pray for us as we spend another Christmas away from family, but in the company of good friends.

### **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 currently 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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