

The EMU Newsletter

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

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Ken & Joan Jensen
Director

ALONG THE WAY . . .

September 2016 has been recorded in my mental database as possibly the worst September, meteorologically, that I can remember since I began gardening over forty years ago. This transition month is supposed to display a cooling trend from hot-to-mild as autumn begins. In so doing there are generally multiple frontal systems that bring rain, and even the occasional hurricane cannot be ruled out. And, no doubt, most of the USA experienced a normal September. But not at MY house. The daytime and nighttime temperatures were almost always about 10 degrees above average, which translates to "hot." And our home-rain-gauge never registered as much as 1/10th of an inch. That does not mean that other parts of our county fared the same. There were days when storms were all around us, but the heavens parted when they got over our neighborhood - literally. Joan and I have spent hours every week watering just our potted plants. The Bible speaks about the rain falling on the just and the unjust; I'm wondering what 3rd category we are in that we received no rain. And it's not like we haven't been praying for rain. Weather-wise it was a very frustrating month.

As Christians, we know that we are going to have times of great blessing and of troubles. The Bible promises these things. However, sometimes there seems to be a dearth of blessing, and troubles seem

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NUTS, BOLTS, AND SOULS

by Ken Jensen

As the Director of EMU International and the editor of the EMU Newsletter, I have spent considerable time trying to divine through logic and past experience what the prime time is for presenting various needs that require funding, and doing so in such a way that readers of this paper would most likely be moved to give towards those necessities. Through logical evaluation of my past experiences, I have learned that (a) there is no good time to ask for financial help, (b) I have no clue as to when to present the needs, or (c) I'm not an inspiring solicitor. None of these conclusions is particularly encouraging as I undertake this article. However, folks, the only real controvertible option is to say nothing about these very real needs. May the Lord direct you as you continue reading.

These needs fall into three distinct time periods: October 2016, January 2017, and year 'round.

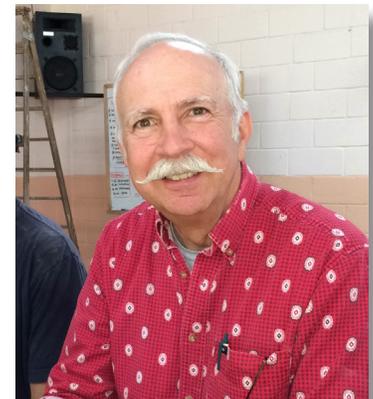
On Saturday, October 22, my brother Rick flies to Uruguay with 3 other men to work on projects at Camp Emmanuel. (I will not be accompanying them this time. Pray that Rick and the Uruguayans he works with will make themselves clearly understood when it comes to important things, such as procedures and measurements.) In the June EMU Newsletter, the article "Ministry and Maintenance" announced this "Rick Team" trip, including a list of the projects and cost for each project. Because of the lack of response to that article, we were only able to purchase half of the treated lumber for making the bunkbeds. We also needed to purchase a table saw for camp. Buying the table saw and making the bunkbeds ourselves at camp will save us money in the long run. Among the many Uruguayans who plan to be at Camp Emmanuel to help with the projects is a family of furniture makers from Bethel Church in Pando.

Besides the construction of bunkbeds, the built-in desks in the camp office need to be replaced due to tiny beetles that have honey-combed the wood, which is also the reason for replacing the bunkbeds. In addition, there is

electrical work to be done, and 4 gas water heaters that need to be replaced. (Because of the salty air, the heaters tend to rust more quickly, even when they are kept painted.) And then there is tree cutting that needs to be done. Many trees have fallen because of strong winter storms that hit the Uruguay coast. (The last one, in September, was a category 1 hurricane, though they are not called hurricanes in South America. This storm not only took down several trees at Camp Emmanuel, but caused considerable damage at Camp Las Flores in the far northern interior. At Camp Las Flores, a powerful gust of wind lifted the roof off of the men's dorm and deposited it across the road as a heap of rubbish! I have no idea how much this will cost to replace. Pastor Hector Gomez of Rivera is in charge of the church/camp in Las Flores.)

I told Rick and Pedro Donzé, the director of Camp Emmanuel, that when they had the price list for the supplies needed for the projects in Uruguay, that I would present it in this newsletter to see if folks could help with the expenses. I am also including some of the prices from the June newsletter that still need funding. (Although Rick and Kathy Jensen would not want me to mention this, my pride in my brother is clouding my judgement. Rick works full-time at The Wilds, and Kathy has had to quit her part-

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Rick Jensen

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to come one-after-another, like watching train cars pass while sitting at a railroad crossing. Occasionally, it seems like the line of freight cars are endless, and you will be stuck at the RRC forever. And we wonder if God is using us as the subject of another book of Job! I can say, from personal observation, that most of us have sat at that train crossing, but I know some of our EMU missionaries and some of my non-mission friends who have not only been there, but are still “counting boxcars.”

As you know from the last two EMU Newsletters, the Kanes have had unexpected difficulties for some months now. It was a blessing for Joan and me to be with **the Kane family** for a meal at our house before they flew back to Cambodia on Friday, September 23. In spite of a full house, we were able to talk with Brian and Lydia and get reacquainted with their 6 oldest children and meet the 7th. The Kanes’ saga began in mid-May, just before they left Ban Lung, Cambodia, for Ching Mia, Thailand, for Lydia to deliver Natalia on June 2. Of course, their unplanned return to the States was due to the death of Lydia’s father, Dennis Potts, at the end of August. After the funeral, the Potts family was able to spend a few vacation days together in the Tennessee mountains. Joan and I were on vacation with our daughter Caroline’s family at North Myrtle Beach, SC, that same week – just in time for Tropical Storm Julia to also visit the SC coast. It wasn’t a total washout, but the rains were quite impressive and unexpected at times.

On the Saturday before the Kanes left Greenville, SC, the kids were playing in a local park. **Julia** was enjoying herself on the monkey bars when her hands slipped off the bar, and she landed on her arm – resulting in a broken right arm, at the wrist and just above the elbow. (Another train car!) An operation to set the bones was not deemed necessary. Julia seemed to be handling her new condition when the Kanes visited us. The family is back home in Ban Lung now. The whole family, but especially Brian and Lydia, have been looking forward to resuming their ministries and routines, which have been in flux since the end of May! Pray for the family as they take up their jobs once again.

JD Crowley left Greenville, SC, on Saturday, September 3, for Cambodia. His time back home in Ban Lung was short-lived. He returned to the States on October 6 to speak at Frontline Missions’ FX conference October 13-15 in Minneapolis, MN. Today we received the Crowleys’ prayer letter telling of some recent blessings among the Tampuan people. You can receive that newsletter

by either contacting the EMU office or JD Crowley. It can be sent as a PDF or a hardcopy via snail-mail. This report is just another example of how the Gospel of Jesus Christ changes lives in a miraculous way.

The Hancock family left the States via California on September 14. The wedding of Becky’s brother in CA was the catalyst for their trip, during which they traversed the width of the USA with ministry opportunities. They are back in Kampong Cham on the Mekong River in central Cambodia. The 3 missionary families who are there to establish a Khmer church are working with contacts from around the city. Pray that hearts will be open to the Gospel along this river as Lydia’s was when the Apostle Paul preached the Gospel to her by the river in Philippi.



Josh & Amy Jensens’ “new” house in Oyadao



The September 2016 Jarai Bible School - Josh is the bearded white face

Josh, Amy, and their 4 children are settled into their new rental house in Oyadao, Cambodia. Though Oyadao is a Khmer town, there are Jarai villages within just a few minutes’ walk. This is considered Jarai country. The Vietnamese border is just a 15-minute car ride from Oyadao. The bulk of Jarai villages and the Jarai population live east of that border. Amy posted 2 interesting articles – with photos – of life in Oyadao on The Jensen Dimension website. Josh has already been asked to preach several times in Khmer to Jarai groups, including a funeral (his first) and the September Jarai Bible school. (Years ago, when JD was just starting the Bible schools in Ban Lung, I would announce them beforehand in this newsletter and ask for prayer. Now, there are so many Bible schools taking place for the Khmer, Jarai, Krung, Tampuan and other tribes that I only hear about them after the fact. It is amazing to see the progress of the Gospel in northeastern Cambodia during the last two decades.)

Continue to pray for **the Farmers** in Stung

Treng, a heavily Laotian ethnic city, as Jeremy works on learning Laotian, as well as continuing to learn Khmer. Pray that the Lord will continually encourage them as they are so far away from the other EMU missionaries in Cambodia. Also, pray for Bonnie Ruth, who is anticipating delivering their 8th child later this month (October).

(We have been asked not to use the last name for **Steve and Charity** in Beijing. Hopefully, you already know who they are!) Upon returning to Beijing in January of this year, Steve and Charity’s family returned to the Three-self Church they had attended before leaving China 2 ½ years before. After becoming re-involved with the church and again teaching various classes, they realized that the head pastor had started teaching new members using materials from the Witness Lee Movement. After speaking with other church teachers and looking into the Movement, Steve and Charity realized they needed to change churches for doctrinal reasons, as a number of fellow teachers had done and were doing. In looking for another Three-self Church to minister in, friends told them of the Yanjing Seminary Church in northern Beijing. This is the campus church of the Protestant seminary in Beijing. After reading the church’s literature and conversing with several

people who attend and teach at the church and/or seminary, they chose this church. Because a number of people there already know Steve and Charity, the church leadership has invited them to become teachers at Yanjing Church. It is our hope and prayer that Steve and Charity will not only have a godly influence at the church, but also among the seminary students who will be future pastors of Three-self Churches. I believe this is a tremendous opportunity and privilege for Steve, Charity, and their boys to touch the lives of future religious leaders in China.

The Steels will be making a short visit to Greenville, SC, beginning October 20 and ending December 9. John Mark will finish teaching Systematic Theology in the Bible Institute before he leaves. Their children will attend a local Christian school during November. JM plans to take another course at BJU towards earning his doctorate. (Just as a reminder to you, these credentials will be important to the future development of FEBU.) JM and Deborah will also be able to attend their 20th class reunion at BJU.

On September 21, the Steels drove to **Camp Bethel** in the Department of “33,” where **Deborah** was the main speaker at the spring ladies’ retreat that began that evening and continued into Saturday.

On the same day, **the Espinels** drove to

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2016 Ladies' Retreat at Camp Bethel - Deborah is wearing the blue coat, kneeling at left

the opposite side of Uruguay for a youth retreat sponsored by FEBU. This was an excellent opportunity for them to talk to young people about the Bible college and encourage them to consider studying there in the future. More importantly, it was a time to remind the teens and 20-somethings of the need for pastors and missionaries in Uruguay and around the world.



FEBU Youth Camp in Paysandu, Uruguay - the Espinel family is the cluster of 5, second from left

On Sunday, September 25, the church that **Tom and Connie Chapman** started in Antofagasta, Chile, honored them by celebrating the Chapmans' 25th anniversary of serving the Lord in Chile. We, too, congratulate Tom and Connie for this milestone.



Tom & Connie Chapman's 25th anniversary in Chile

Just in case you "miss" the accompanying article in this newsletter about the work team that **Rick Jensen** is leading to Uruguay on October 22, I ask you here to please pray for this trip. There is a lot of work to be accomplished in just 8 working-days.

Besides Rick's team of 4, there will be a good number of Uruguayan men from various churches helping with the projects.

Billy Judson and the board of the 360 Conference in India continue to work towards the first such conference to be held November 9-11. If you have followed the posts about this conference

on Facebook, or if you are involved in the conference, you know what a huge undertaking this is. Several thousand dollars still need to be raised to offset the cost of the conference. Pray that the funding will be forthcoming, and pray for the men and women who will be traveling to Hyderabad, India, from around India and the USA. Ted

Allston and Jeff Davis of EMU will be two of the speakers at the conference.

The Global Opportunities Week at Bob Jones University was held last week, October 4-6. **Mel and Jan Wingrove**, and **Jeff and Joanna Davis** represented EMU International during those days of missions focus.

This was the Davises' first opportunity to be involved in the three-day conference. Both of these couples participated in various ways speaking to students about missions. (The Davises currently have 2 daughters at the university.) Pray that all of the students - and faculty and staff - will become even more committed to participating in global missions throughout their lives.

We ask for your continued prayers for **Pastor David Yearick**, who serves on our Board of Directors. A few weeks ago he had another evaluation, and it was found that his lung cancer had grown and spread. His strength has been decreasing since then, and he and Mrs. Yearick have not been able to attend church. The Yearicks have been an integral part of our family and of EMU for more than 40 years.

Alicia Rossi is the widow of pastor Jose Luis, one of our church planters who passed away 17-years ago in Uruguay. Since that time, Alicia has continued to have a Bible class for neighbor ladies whenever possible. She is also a faithful member of Calvary Temple of Montevideo. In her July prayer letter, Alicia let us know that she had been diagnosed

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Nuts, Bolts, and Souls
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time job because of the advancement of her M.S. Yet every year this couple insists on paying for Rick's plane ticket and for 1 to 2 other tickets for team members who would not otherwise be able to go to Uruguay. One or two other couples have consistently sacrificed over the years to make these trips happen, and the Lord has blessed them in kind. HOWEVER, if just 10-15 other families or churches from our pool of thousands of newsletter readers would join this small group of people who are vitally interested in the camp ministry in Uruguay, there would be no need for me to have to decide when to write an article like this. Pray about it, would you?!



The new table saw for making the bunkbeds at Camp Emmanuel

- Table saw..... \$1,700
- Camp office desks..... \$590
- Plumbers Bi-Metal Hole Saw Kit.....\$24
- Craftsman 100-pc Accessory Set Drill Bit Driver Screw Tools Kit.....\$19
- 14-pc. Power Nut Driver Set SAE & Metric.....\$7
- 50 lb. of assorted screws for beds.....\$144
- Star driver bits.....\$8
- Hitachi 60-pc. Drive Set.....\$12
- Skill 14-pc. Drill Set.....\$15
- Makita 220 volt Palm Sander.....\$80
- 5 Packs of Full Sheet Sand Paper.....\$32
- DeWalt Hammer Drill DC725 (tool only).....\$64
- DeWalt 18vt XRP batteries.....\$85
- Round over Router Bits 1/4" Shaft.....\$43

That is the Nuts and Bolts part of this article. But all of these things have only one ultimate purpose and that is to preach and teach God's Truth to campers for the strengthening of the Kingdom of God in Uruguay and assisting individual churches. At the end of the main road that runs through the community where Camp Emmanuel is located is another "camp." It is called a resort for marketing purposes, and it is actually quite nice - much flashier than the facilities at our camp. And a lot of money is used to maintain the ocean/river front vacation spot. But there are absolutely no spiritual benefits to the souls of those who use the amenities.

For 40 years now, children, young people, families, and our Uruguayan missionaries have been attending camps at Camp Emmanuel - even before the buildings were complete. The first "meeting hall" was

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with lymphoma. The doctors started her on chemotherapy immediately. Between July and September, she had 4 chemo treatments and told us that it has not been as bad as she expected. Her son, who, along with his wife and daughter, has lived with Alicia for many years, and is at the end of chemotherapy for cancer he has had for some time. In her September prayer letter, Alicia added this short paragraph: "It doesn't seem possible, but just now, with my being sick, and after my being a Christian for 43 years, my extended family has been asking me things about the Bible. Until now, they never let me say more than two words about salvation in Christ. God works all things together for good." I met Jose Luis and Alicia 43 years ago, and I know of her prayers and concern for her relatives. Her children are all faithful Christians and have been since they were young. I wish all of you could know this dear, sweet lady.

Well, since starting this article until this point (which has actually spanned several days!), it still has not rained here, though the temperature is a bit more seasonal. I don't even have much hope that Hurricane Matthew will relieve our drought. (Can you tell that I'm easily discouraged?) Yet, in all honesty, even when there seems to be a drought of blessing, physical or spiritual, God's blessings far outweigh the trials. The children's song, "Count Your Many Blessings," has been used countless times to turn my eyes heavenward and shame my grumbling spirit. Another reminder of my (our) blessings is when people tell us that they are praying for us and the ministry of EMU. It is then that we know that there are others standing with us, even in times of trouble, as we serve our Lord Jesus. Thank you for your prayers and gifts that help sustain EMU International. ✚

Nuts, Bolts, and Souls

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a huge, tan, tarpaulin tent. And for most of those years, if not all of them, certain campers have received financial assistance in order to attend camp. For the last 15+ years, we have had an organized program for sponsoring campers - some with full scholarships and many more with partial financial help. I have learned that October is the best time to announce this program each year. In planning for the summer camps in January, Pedro Donz  would like to know how much money is available for sponsorships so he can contact all of our pastors before the end of November. They, in turn, determine who they will be able to help with camper fees.



*Children,
adolescents,
and Jovenes
Sponsorship
recipients in
January 2016*



A full sponsorship is \$95 for one week of camp. Pedro has done an excellent job in keeping the cost for a week of camp at about the same level for many years now. (I'm not sure how he does it!)

Your help in sponsoring a camper or several campers would be greatly appreciated.

And as if the above two appeals are not enough, I would like to add that the monthly ministry of Camp Emmanuel is still in need of at least \$5,000 per month. This amount is not for camper fees, but rather for the general maintenance of the camp. (The \$95 camper fee only covers food, and utilities.) Most of the funds that are available for camp maintenance come from camp rentals. However, the number of rentals fluctuates from year-to-year and are never sufficient to cover the needs of the camp. Immediate needs and emergencies get funded at the expense of general upkeep. (We had just such an emergency a couple of weeks ago when it was discovered that another of the septic drain field systems was clogged with tree roots. The roots don't just clog the pipes; they destroy the distribution boxes. And repairs cost over \$1,000 - an expense that was not budgeted.)

If you have a burden for camp ministry, I ask that you seriously pray about helping Camp Emmanuel on a monthly basis.

By this point I figure I have lost at least 90% of my readers. But even the 10% of you still reading could make all the difference in the world in the health of EMU's camping program in Uruguay. I look forward to hearing from you! ✚

Email: office@emuinternational.org
Website: www.emuinternational.org
Phone: (864) 268-9267