

Evangelical Mission to Uruguay

Evangelical Mission to the Unreached

the EMU Newsletter

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

Volume LVIII

January 2015

Number 1



*Ken & Joan Jensen
Director*

ALONG THE WAY . . .

Christmas has ended. The ornaments are in their nests for another 11-month hibernation. Many of Joan's world-array of Nativity sets have been returned to their perch overlooking the den and others to their closet grotto awaiting another post-Thanksgiving pilgrimage to prominence around

our house. The electric candles have been extinguished from our front windows, the garland unwoven from the porch bannister, and the out-of-doors window-wreaths laid to rest. Feasting has given way to fantasies of fitness - from kingly portions to monkish collation. The only reminder of Christmas-past is the errant glitter from well-wishers' cards or children's presents which will be impervious to eradication until a new batch is introduced next Christmas.

It is both customary and conducive to reflect on the year that was and project expectations for the year to be in a January newsletter. "New" seems like an appropriate designation for many of last year's events. Four of our missionary couples gained a new family member with the arrival of babies: **Anna Jensen** in April; **Thomas Cole** in May; **Henry Martyn Farmer** in November; and **Hope Hancock** in December. This is the first announcement of the Hancocks' new arrival in this paper, so some stats are in order. **Hope Eliora** was born on 12-13-14 at 3:03 AM in Bangkok, Thailand. She was 7lbs. 12oz. and 21 inches long (tall).

Hope Hancock not only met her parents and two brothers her first day, but also her Grandmother Christenson, who had flown from Pennsylvania to Southeast Asia to help her daughter Becky during this time. She was also a help with getting Hope's passport in near record time. The Hancocks' drive from Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to Bangkok was true "travelling mercies." Neither Matt nor Becky speak Khmer good enough for what transpired at the border when they had to change drivers and vehicles. But the Lord worked things



*Hope Hancock proudly displaying
her new U.S. passport*

out even better than they could have imagined. The Hancocks (minus Matt, who drove) and Ruth Christenson flew back to Phnom Penh on December 19 in time to have Christmas at their house in the capital of Cambodia.

Another "new" for two of these families was their new homes. The Hancocks moved to Cambodia in April, and the Jensens followed at the beginning of July. The **Hancocks** departed the same week as their commissioning service at Trinity Bible Church of Greer, SC, and the **Jensens** flew out the same week that Josh was ordained at Hampton Park Baptist Church of Greenville, SC. Both families found comfortable lodging just a five-minute drive from each other, and all four adults are up-to-their-eyeballs in Khmer language training. We are so thankful for how these two households have adapted to life in Cambodia.

During my February/March visit to Uruguay, two "news" happened. The first was having EMU board member **Nelson Neal** accompany me to Uruguay for the family camp and workers' conference. (A minor first happened to me between those two weeks when I literally walked out of my shoe on a hike up and down Sugar Loaf Mountain!) At the very end of our stay in Uruguay, **FEBU** opened its doors as the first Bible "college" in Uruguay. This project of many Bible-believing churches and mission organizations in Uruguay has been a dream of many Christians for a long time. This first year of classes seems to have been a success, but important decisions need to be made to improve FEBU. From EMU, **Matias Espinel** and **John Mark and Deborah Steel** are teaching in the college.

During the EMU Board meeting at the end of August, we added several new board members, with another added a few weeks later. At the August meeting we also lost three of our long-serving members due to ill health and age. A new feature was also added to the **Board of Directors** to involve the members more in the "running" of EMU. Four committees were created: Home Office Finance, Uruguay Ministry, Prospective Missionaries, and Missionary Care. We appreciate these men's willingness to serve on various committees to improve our operations and contact with the missionaries.

An unusual situation for our Board meeting was that for the first time in several years none of our on-furlough missionaries in 2014 were in town to join us at the Board luncheon. **The Espinels and Tim Chapmans** were stateside to visit supporting churches and friends, but not in our area. **The Crowleys and Nuñezes** were in the States at other times for brief periods for meetings. They will both be taking longer furloughs in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

A number of our other missionaries are slated for **furlough** in 2015, too. **The Coles** return from France on January 20. They will be traveling out of the missionary parsonage of their sending church,

(continued on back page)



Please Remember the Camp Scholarship Fund





Pedro, Patricia, & Maxi Donzè
in Montevideo & Camp Emmanuel



Vanessa Reyes
part-time office secretary
in Montevideo

EMU International

Evangelical Mission to Uruguay



Julia Alvarez
in La Charqueada



Rubito, Victoria, & Marita Rodriguez
in Treinta y Tres



Sara, Carlos, & Beatriz Alberti
volunteer secretary of Camp Emmanuel



Luis & Adriana Rios
at Camp Emmanuel



Diego, Esteban, Noemi, & Juan González
in Montevideo



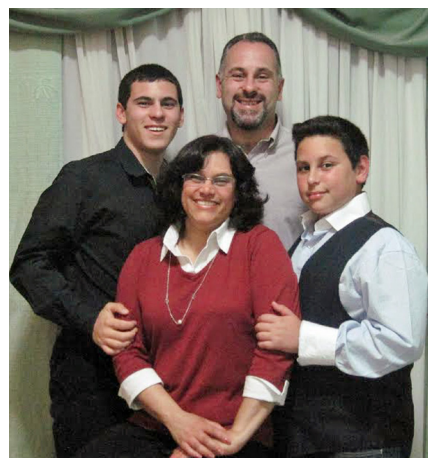
Natalia, Graciela, Jonathan, Carlos, & Priscila Pereira*
in Tacuarembó



Hector & Graciela Gomez
in Rivera



Ricardo & Mayka Windmoller
in Vergara



Marcos, Rosanna, Gabriel, & Lucas Gomez
in Montevideo



Alicia Rossi *
in Montevideo



Ariel & Elsa Camacho*
in Montevideo



Marianne Rauter
in Montevideo



Gustavo, Elias, & Alejandra Oliveira
in Montevideo



Jose Kowalczyk †
in Durazno



Mabel & Carlos Olivera
in Pando



Ursula Thiessen & Maria Teresa Rodriguez
in Montevideo



Jeferson, Cristina, Frederico, Pablo, & Anderson Billafán
in Colón



Docila Torres *
in Pando



Julia Piedad *
in Montevideo



Daniel, John Mark, Elizabeth, & Deborah Steel
in Uruguay



Denis, Ovidio, & Yusara Acevedo
in El Cerro



Alberto, Analia, Nelson, Micaela, & Carolina Diaz
in San Fernando



Matias, David, Kristine, & Sofia Espinel
in Uruguay



Joan & Ken Jensen
Director of EMU



Marilyn & George Jensen
President Emeritus of EMU

EMU International

Evangelical Mission to Unreached



Ted & Marla Allston
10/40 Window



Mel & Jan Wingrove
USA Representative



Connie & Tom Chapman
in Antofagasta, Chile



Ellie, Christian, & Candelaria
Sarao in Cancún, Quintana Roo, Mexico



Marco & Gwendolyn Nuñez
in Cancún, Quintana Roo, Mexico



Jose Luis & Martha Uc
in Becal, Campeche, Mexico



Caleb, Steve, Luke, Jacob, & Charity
Erkens, Assistant Director of EMU



Micah, Cheryl, Tim, Abigail, & Lauren
Chapman in Lima, Peru



Amairany, Eidy, Julissa, & Nacho Sarao
in Limbano, Tabasco, Mexico



Ezekiel, Toño, Yohani, & Karina Alvarado
in Puerto Morelos, Quintana Roo, Mexico



Ciro, Dolores, & Odalis Alvarado
in Santa Martha, Chiapas, Mexico



Becca, Amy, Anna, Joshua, & Isaiah
Jensen in Cambodia



Isobel, Judson, Jeremy, Henry Martyn, Eden,
Bonnie Ruth, Salem, Gloria, & Abigail
Farmer in Cambodia



JD, Kim, Taylor, Jenna, & Nathaniel
Crowley in Ban Lung, Cambodia



Hope, Becky, Jedediah, Matt, & Jonathan
Hancock in Cambodia



Lydia, Sophia, Brianna, Hugh, Brian,
Mia, Jackson, & Julia Kane
in Ban Lung, Cambodia



Lupita, Vicente, & Deysi Puc
in Valladolid, Yucatan, Mexico



Katherine, Tomas, & Kleyni Noh
in Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, Mexico



Javier, Pascual, Aurora, Leydi, Rebecca, & Mirna
Balam in Chemax, Yucatan, Mexico



Kristina, Kornel, Marko, Natanael, Tanja,
& Andrea Crnkovic in Koprivnica, Croatia



Miriam, Zacharie, Ruth, Micaiah,
Tim, & Gabriel Bixby in France



Adeline, Michael, Viviane, Thomas,
Liz, & Mathieu Cole in France



Cambodia

Crowley, JD and Kim

Field of Service: Ban Lung, Ratanakiri
Ministry: Christian Literature Writing & Translation, Bible Teacher
Entered EMU: 1993
Children:
Jenna - May 22, 1993
Taylor - March 5, 1995
Nathaniel - May 10, 2001
3 - married

Farmer, Jeremy and Bonnie Ruth

Field of Service: Northeast Cambodia
Ministry: Laotian tribal groups
Entered EMU: 2009
Children:
Abigail - March 17, 2004
Isobel - April 20, 2005
Gloria - August 14, 2006
Eden - April 16, 2008
Judson - February 7, 2010
Salem - October 12, 2011
Henry Martyn - November 22, 2014

Hancock, Matt and Becky

Field of Service: Cambodia
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2013
Children:
Jonathan - August 10, 2010
Jedidiah - February 12, 2013
Hope - December 13, 2014

Jensen, Joshua and Amy

Field of Service: Northeast Cambodia
Ministry: Translation, Bible Teacher
Entered EMU: 2012
Children:
Rebecca - November 26, 2009
Isaiah - June 1, 2012
Anna - April 11, 2014

Kane, Brian and Lydia

Field of Service: Ban Lung, Ratanakiri
Ministry: Bible Teacher, Translation
Entered EMU: 2003
Children:
Mia - July 17, 2004
Sophia - April 15, 2006
Hugh - November 17, 2007
Jackson - August 30, 2009
Julia - July 21, 2011
Brianna - December 23, 2013

Chile

Chapman, Tom and Connie

Field of Service: Antofagasta
Ministry: Pastor of Emmanuel Church
Entered EMU: 1987
Children:
6 - married

Croatia

Crnkovic, Kornel and Tanja

Field of Service: Koprivnica
Ministry: Co-Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church
Entered EMU: 1994
Children:
Andrea - November 16, 1998
Kristina - July 31, 2000
Marko - July 3, 2004
Natanael - January 14, 2008

France

Bixby, Tim and Ruth

Field of Service: Northern France
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2007
Children:
Micaiah - June 5, 2003
Miriam - February 20, 2005
Zacharie - December 16, 2009
Gabriel - February 8, 2012

Cole, Michael and Liz

Field of Service: Northern France
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2007
Children:
Viviane - March 18, 2007
Adeline - December 16, 2009
Mathieu - September 20, 2011
Thomas - May 13, 2014

Mexico

Alvarado, Ciro and Dolores

Field of Service: Santa Martha, Chiapas
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2000
Children:
2 - married
Odalis - November 19, 1989

Alvarado, Antonio “Toño” and Karina

Field of Service: Puerto Morelos, Q.R.
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: Toño-2000; Karina-2003
Children:
Yohani - November 28, 2009
Ezekiel - February 18, 2013

Balam, Pascual and Leydi

Field of Service: Chemax, Yucatan
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2001
Children:
Mirna - September 30, 1995
Javier - December 3, 1996
Aurora - April 20, 2006
Rebeca - February 25, 2011

Noh, Tomas and Kleyni

Field of Service: Playa del Carmen
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2009
Children:
Katherine - September 12, 2012

Nuñez, Marco and Gwendolyn

Field of Service: Cancūn
Ministry: Pastor of First Fundamental Baptist Church, Bible School Director
Entered EMU: 1995

Puc, Vicente and Deysi

Field of Service: Valladolid,Yucatan
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2010
Children:
Lupita - March 3, 1997

Sarao, Christian and Candelaria

Field of Service: Cancūn
Ministry: Assistant Pastor of First Fundamental Baptist Church
Entered EMU: 2014
Children:
Elizabeth - October 4, 2013

Sarao, Nacho and Eidy

Field of Service: Limbano, Tabasco
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2004
Children:
1 - married
Julissa - July 7, 1993
Amairany - December 20, 1996

Uc, Jose Luis and Martha

Field of Service: Becal, Campeche
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2003
Children:
1 - married / 1 - single adult
Lucy - June 16, 1994

Peru

Chapman, Tim and Cheryl

Field of Service: Lima
Ministry: Church Planting
Entered EMU: 2004
Children:
Lauren - January 23, 2003
Micah - September 14, 2005
Abigail - February 14, 2007

USA

Erkens, Steve and Charity

Residence: Taylors, SC
Ministry: Assistant Director of EMU
Entered EMU: 2003
Children:
Caleb - September 18, 2004
Luke - February 23, 2006
Jacob - October 24, 2007

Jensen, George and Marilyn

Residence: Taylors, SC
Ministry: President Emeritus, Retired
Entered EMU: 1967
Children:
3 - married

Jensen, Ken and Joan

Residence: Taylors, SC
Ministry: Director of EMU
Joan - Office Administrator
Entered EMU: 1976
Children:
3 - married

Wingrove, Mel and Jan

Residence: Leicester, NC
Ministry: EMU Representative
Entered EMU: 2001
Children:
2 - married

10/40 Window

Allston, Ted and Marla

Residence: Greenville, SC
Ministry: Bible Teacher in 10/40 Window
Entered EMU: 2008
Children:
3 - married

Uruguay

Acevedo, Ovidio and Yusara

Field of Service: El Cerro
Ministry: Pastor of Emmanuel Church
Entered EMU: 1988
Children:
1 - married
Denis - January 7, 1996

Alvarez, Julia

Field of Service: La Charqueada
Ministry: Ladies’ & Children’s Ministries
Entered EMU: 1972

Billafan, Pablo and Cristina

Field of Service: Colon
Ministry: Pastor of Siloe Church
Entered EMU: 2004
Children:
Jeferson - December 5, 1994
Anderson - April 6, 1997
Frederico - July 6, 2006

Camacho, Ariel and Elsa

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Retired Pastor of Gethsemani Church
Entered EMU: 1972
Children:
2 - married

Diaz, Alberto and Carolina

Field of Service: San Fernando
Ministry: Pastor of Emmanuel Church
Entered EMU: 1993
Children:

1 - married
Analia - June 7, 1991
Nelson - December 2, 1993
Micaela - January 4, 1997

Donzé, Pedro and Patricia

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Office Manager, Camp Director (Patricia: Bible Correspondence Director)
Entered EMU: 2005
Children:
Maximiliano - April 11, 2006

Espinel, Matias and Kristine

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Bible Professor
Entered EMU: 2009
Children:
David - January 18, 2011
Sofia - December 12, 2012

Gomez, Gabriel and Rosanna

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Pastor of Gethsemani Church, Bible Institute Director
Entered EMU: 1987
Children:
Marcos - August 10, 1996
Lucas - March 4, 2001

Gomez, Hector and Graciela

Field of Service: Rivera
Ministry: Pastor of Calvary Temple
Entered EMU: 1987
Children:
3 - married

Gonzalez, Juan and Noemi

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Evangelism Director
Entered EMU: 1996
Children:
Esteban - December 12, 1999
Diego - April 15, 2003

Kowalczuk, Jose

Field of Service: Durazno
Ministry: Pastor of Calvary Temple
Entered EMU: 1982

Oliveira, Gustavo and Alejandra

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Pastor of Calvary Temple
Entered EMU: 2009
Children:
Elias - February 16, 2004

Olivera, Carlos and Mabel

Field of Service: Pando
Ministry: Pastor of Bethel Church
Entered EMU: 2004
Children:
2 - married

Pereira, Carlos and Graciela

Field of Service: Tacuarembó
Ministry: Retired Pastor
Entered EMU: 1987
Children:

Priscila - May 29, 1988
Jonathan - April 9, 1990
Natalia - July 15, 1994

Piedad, Julia

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Retired
Entered EMU: 1950

Rauter, Marianne

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Visitation, Translator
Entered EMU: 1953-60, 1980
Children:
3 - married

Rios, Luis and Adriana

Field of Service: Guazu-virá
Ministry: Camp Emmanuel Caretaker
Entered EMU: 2001
Children:
1 - married
Luis Carlos - October 8, 1987
Vanessa - October 12, 1989
Matias - February 18, 1992

Rodriguez, Maria Teresa (Chicha)

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Radio, Bible Classes for Women & Children, Translator
Entered EMU: 1962

Rodriguez, Rubito and Marita

Field of Service: Treinta y Tres
Ministry: Pastor of Calvary Temple
Entered EMU: 2005
Children:
Victoria - June 8, 1998

Rossi, Alicia

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Retired Widow
Entered EMU: 1979
Children:
4 - married

Steel, John Mark and Deborah

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Bible Professor
Entered EMU: 2009
Children:
Elizabeth - January 30, 2006
Daniel - October 30, 2010

Thiessen, Ursula

Field of Service: Montevideo
Ministry: Ladies’ & Children’s Ministries, Visitation, Translator
Entered EMU: 1953

Torres, Docila

Field of Service: Pando
Ministry: Retired Widow
Entered EMU: 1963
Children:
2 - married

Windmoller, Ricardo and Mayka

Field of Service: Vergara
Ministry: Pastor of Calvary Temple
Entered EMU: 2009

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ALONG THE WAY...

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Cleveland Park Bible Church of Spartanburg, SC. The **Crowleys** return from Cambodia at the beginning of February. The **Kanes** follow in March and the **Farmers** in May. All of these families will be taking 4-6-month furloughs. Pray that they will be able to visit as many of their supporters as possible in the interim. Going in the "other direction," **Joan and I** will be leaving the USA for 3 weeks in February and March to be with the speaker (and his wife) for the family camp and workers' conference in Uruguay - **Brad and Peg Lapiska**. Then later in 2015, Joan and I hope to visit the Tim Chapmans in Lima, Perú - the one ministry of EMU we have yet to see firsthand. This second trip is being paid for with travel miles from American Airlines, for which we are thankful.

We also appreciate the Americans and others who traveled to Uruguay in 2014 to preach and teach in churches, camps, and FEBU: **Pastor Segundo Rodriguez** from Perú; **Rev. Bill Hill** from Greensboro, NC; and **Dr. Gary Reimers** from Greenville, SC. And, as has been his custom for many years, in October **Rick Jensen** took a team of workers to Camp Emmanuel in Uruguay for just under two weeks: **Britt & Titus Hopper** and **Pat DalPorto**. **Steve Erkens** joined the team mid-way through their visit and then remained for another week.

Over the past year, Steve and I have made good progress towards Steve becoming the next director of EMU. And Joan and Kami in the office have been excellent teachers for Steve as he learns the office procedures.

Looking ahead to the coming months, it is difficult for me to predict what will happen. Often, even the things I think are a "sure thing" evaporate in a flash of the unexpected. Without a knowledge that God loves us and is in control, these turn of events would be far more discouraging. Also, a lifetime of seeing Him bring greater blessing out of



All of our churches in Uruguay have Christmas banquets, like this one at Calvary Temple of Montevideo. Rather than turkey or ham, the main dish was succulent grilled beef. Nice custom!

seeming tragedy is a comfort. So I will refrain from prognostications. I can pretty much promise that there will be changes - expected and otherwise.

However, some things do seem fairly certain, such as the travels mentioned above. Along with those I will add the camps to be held in Uruguay in January at **Camp Emmanuel**: Staff Training is the 7th-10th; Children's Camp is the 12th-17th; Jovenes Camp is the 19th-24th; and the Adolescent Camp is the 26th-31st. Our pool of volunteer staff has dwindled in recent years so that more work is placed on fewer people. Pray for these who have a vision for the camp ministry in Uruguay. Also pray that sufficient sponsorship donations will be given (even in the few days before camp) to help with the cost of each week of camp. One of our greatest needs at Camp Emmanuel is ongoing support of the camp from outside sources committed to camp ministry. (Every Christian camp facility and program I know of in the U.S. and overseas requires donations far beyond the income from camper fees to continue operating weeks of camp at costs that campers can afford.) Pray with us that these needs will be met.

Another "sure thing" for 2015 is that the

Lord will supply what we need, as He did in 2014. This assurance does not preclude our need to set **budgets** in the Home Office and for the ministries in Uruguay. Though the latter budget will not be set by the Uruguay Board of Directors until March (the fiscal year is April to March), there are already some difficult decisions we are having to make based on projections. Pray that the Lord will give us wisdom as we consider issues that affect missionaries' lives.

We are hoping that this pictorial newsletter will be useful to you: a prayer reminder, putting faces with names, names with places, and names and numbers with families (the information sheet). We begin another year by thanking the Lord for friends like you who are taking an interest in at least some aspect of a ministry or missionary family with EMU International. And we trust that He will prosper you in all ways, but especially spiritually. Every year past is another year closer to seeing Jesus Christ face-to-face. May we never forget that! ✝

Email: office@emuinternational.org

Website: www.emuinternational.org

Phone: (864) 268-9267