



Evangelical Mission to the Unreached

EMU INTERNATIONAL

Evangelical Mission to Uruguay

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

Volume LXI

January 2018

Number 1



Jeff & Joanna Davis  
Director

ALONG THE WAY . . .

I pulled a book from one of the shelves in my new office, and on the fly-leaf it read, “for Jeff Davis . . . preach the Word!” The note was signed W.W. Wiersbe. The prominent author of over 440 books gave me a signed copy of his book, “Bless You,” following a funeral I had led for a mutual ministry friend. As I skimmed through the book, I was reminded of the many times in Scripture that

we see Bible characters receiving and sharing the blessings of God. I am certainly a recipient of the blessings of God. I want to share some of those blessings with you and hopefully challenge you as we begin this new year.

In the summer of 1986, I told God that I would preach if that was what He wanted me to do. At the time, I didn’t feel called to preach, I just knew I was willing. Over the next year, God made it apparent to me that my life’s calling was to “preach the Word.” For twenty-five years that was accomplished through pastoral ministry as an assistant, a church planter, a senior pastor, and Christian school president. God gave me many opportunities to preach, not only in my churches, but at camps and conferences, in school chapels, on several international mission trips, and in a daily radio ministry. I never tire of preaching the Word.

In the Spring of 2015, through the Holy Spirit’s leading and the Word of God, the Lord led me to step out in faith and wait for Him to direct my next step in ministry. Little did I know, at the same time God was leading Steve and Charity Erkens back to China, and Ken Jensen was praying for the Lord to lead him to the person who would become the next director of EMU International.

When the Lord brought Ken and me together in the early Fall of 2015, it became apparent that this was going to be the next chapter in both of our lives. For both of us, it was going to make for an interesting story. In a lot of ways, the story was predictable. Ken and I think a lot alike. We share many of the same strengths and the same interests. As we faced each challenge together during the past couple of years, Ken invited my input, and without exception, we were “on the same page.”

I have thoroughly enjoyed the time I have spent with Ken over the last couple of years. I have not only found a mentor, but a friend. Let me remind everyone that even though I am assuming the official title of Director, I will still have Ken as a mentor. As he mentioned last month, he is not retiring. The Board of Directors has officially

named Ken as Assistant Director. Much of the work he is currently doing, he will continue to do, including his work on the newsletter. I am hoping that in the days ahead he will also find time to compile a written history of the ministry of EMU International. By continuing to work in the office, he will free me up to travel representing EMU and to continue “preaching the Word.”

The Lord has allowed me to visit several of EMU’s supporting churches and a few new churches. I would love to have the privilege of visiting all of EMU’s supporting churches. It is my desire to share what God has done and what God is currently doing through the ministry of EMU International. As Dr. Wiersbe’s book entreats us to receive God’s blessings, it also challenges us to share the blessings of the Lord.

As we enter this new year, this new chapter of ministry for EMU International, it is fitting that we reflect back on the blessings of God this past year. If you have some time, I would encourage you to visit the EMU webpage at <http://emuinternational.org> and read the newsletters from the past year. This exercise for me has truly been a blessing.

When I consider what God is doing through EMU’s intentional efforts to train nationals, I am amazed at God’s continued blessings. Ted Allston travels into the 10-40 Window teaching nationals. Last year he taught in Kenya and Morocco, and he traveled to both Togo and India twice. He will be traveling to Mongolia this month.

In 2017, our Cambodian team of JD Crowley, Jeremy Farmer, Brian Kane, Josh Jensen, and Matt Hancock taught Systematic Theology and Church History at the Pastors’ Schools held in Ban Lung in May and November. There were 71 matriculated students. The next school will be held in May 2018 and will cover lessons written by Jeremy Farmer on Biblical Theology.

A milestone was marked on December 3 as FEBU (Facultad de Estudios Biblicos del Uruguay), the country’s first 4-year Bible college, celebrated its first graduation with five young people



First graduates from FEBU

(continued on back page)

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Back Page

ALONG THE WAY . . .

(continued from page 1)

receiving their degrees. The Espinels and the Steels teach in the Bible college. Please pray for vision and direction for the future ministry of FEBU in Montevideo, Uruguay.

In Uruguay, “the Plan” continues to progress. All of the MEU (EMU) churches are now incorporated and their pastors are considered employees of their churches, not the mission. MEU continues to supplement some of the pastors’ salaries through the churches, but the amount decreases every 6-months. This is a great step toward having truly autonomous churches. We are also praising the Lord that all but one of our pastors in Uruguay now own their own homes.

Last year brought many changes for our ministries in the difficult country of France where the Bixbys and Coles serve. Now that the Sarcelles church is officially incorporated (May 2017), it appears the Lord is opening the door for a new meeting place for them. In December a meeting was held with the owners of an auto dealership to hear their rent-to-own proposal for the purchase of their 5,000 square-foot building. Though money is a huge obstacle, the Lord knows the need. Please pray for God’s wisdom and provision.

Another change worth noting is the Coles’ move six hours (by car) south to Pessac in the Bordeaux region. Michael has been named the pastor of Bob Bixby’s church. Bob was Tim’s dad, and he went home to be with the Lord last year. Michael has a five-year plan with a goal of transitioning the church from a missionary-led church to an autonomous church. As with any leadership change, Michael and Liz face major challenges and need our prayers.

David and Kristin Chapman have been assisting his parents, Tom and Connie

Chapman, in Antofagasta, Chile, for the past year and a half. The Lord is leading them back to Monterrey, Mexico, where they served previously. They will be missed.

Tim and Cheryl Chapman’s new church, Grace Baptist Church in Lima, Peru, celebrated its 1st anniversary on May 7. They also were encouraged by a group of 32 people from their home church, Calvary Baptist Church in Midland, MI, who visited them in August as a short-term mission team to assist their ministry.

Kornel and Tanja Crnković in Koprivnica, Croatia, were also blessed last summer by short-term mission trips. They had two teams of young people from Northern Ireland who visited and helped with outdoor children’s ministries and with literature distribution.

Following a busy summer of primarily camp ministry, Steve and Charity Erkens have returned to their ministry of teaching in Beijing. Steve continues to teach in the university, and they both continue to serve in their church. They will be visiting supporters and family in the US beginning the middle of this month, when they take a 5-week furlough during their winter school break.



Charity leading the children’s Christmas choir at their church in Beijing

It has been a blessing to see pictures from the numerous baptisms held in Cancun for the congregation of the First Fundamental Baptist Church, led by Marco Nuñez. God

has also directed Gwendolyn to begin a new English class called “After Babel,” that she is broadcasting over the internet. She has also been officially granted permanent residency in Mexico.

Billy and Saritha Judson continue their work with Good News Bible College and Seminary. This year they will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the ministry started by his father, Dr. Jaya Sekhar. In the past twenty years, 49 Bible colleges have been started in churches around India.



The women’s choir from the first graduation class in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh State, India

We hope that this pictorial newsletter will assist you in praying for our missionaries as you put faces to names and names with places. Pray with me that God would continue to open doors not only for me, but for all of our missionaries to “Preach the Word!” Pray that God will “cause His face to shine upon us” and that God’s favor will be on each of our missionary families. Pray that He will receive the glory as He accomplishes His will in a way that only He will get credit. (Psalm 67) May we not only recognize His blessings, but share those blessings, and in so doing bring praise and glory to His name. †

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Please Remember the Camp Scholarship Fund





*Patricia, Maxi, & Pedro Donzè  
Uruguay office & Camp Emmanuel*



*Vanessa Reyes  
part-time office secretary  
in Montevideo*



*Julia Alvarez  
in La Charqueada*

# EMU INTERNATIONAL Evangelical Mission to Uruguay



*Victoria, Rubito & Marita Rodriguez  
in Treinta y Tres*



*Alberto & Carolina Diaz  
in San Fernando*



*Beatriz & Carlos Alberti - volunteer  
secretary of Camp Emmanuel*



*Luis & Adriana Rios  
at Camp Emmanuel*



*Marianne Rauter  
in Montevideo*



*Ursula Thiessen &  
Maria Teresa (Chicha) Rodriguez  
in Montevideo*



*Ricardo, Mayka, & Gabriel Windmoller  
in Vergara*



*Graciela & Hector Gomez  
in Rivera*



*Lucas, Rosanna, Gabriel, & Marcos Gomez  
in Montevideo  
Marcos part-time worker with camp & office*



*Ovidio & Yusara Acevedo  
in El Cerro*



*Elias, Alejandra, & Gustavo Oliveira  
in Montevideo*



*Mabel & Carlos Olivera  
in Pando*



*Kristine, Matias, Megan, Emma, Sofia,  
& David Espinel - FEBU*



*Elizabeth, John Mark, Daniel, & Deborah  
Steel - FEBU*



*Jose Kowalczyk †  
in Durazno*



*Jeferson, Cristina, Pablo, Anderson, & Frederico  
Billafán in Rivera*



*Juan, Noemi, Esteban, & Diego  
González in Montevideo*



*Carlos & Graciela Pereira \*  
in Tacuarembó*

*\* = active retiree  
‡ = widow(er)*

*Inactive retirees:  
Ariel & Elsa Camacho  
Julia Piedad  
Docila Torres ‡  
Alicia Rossi ‡*



Abby, Joanna, Jeff, & Hannah Davis  
Director of EMU



Joan & Ken Jensen  
Assistant Director of EMU

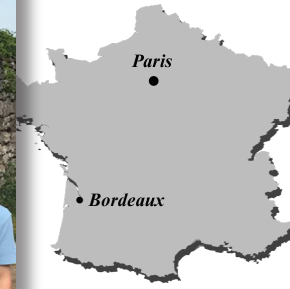


# EMU INTERNATIONAL

Evangelical Mission to Unreached



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



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



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



Caleb, Jacob, Luke, Steve, & Charity  
Erkens in China



Tom & Connie Chapman  
in Antofagasta, Chile



Ezekiel, Yohani, Karina, & Toño  
Alvarado in Cancún, Mexico



Jose Luis & Martha Uc  
in Becal, Mexico



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



Judson, Abigail, Jeremy, Henry, Gloria, Eden,  
Bonnie Ruth, Elisha, Isobel, & Salem Farmer  
in Stung Treng, Cambodia



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



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



Lupita, Vicente, & Deysi Puc  
in Valladolid, Mexico



Gwendolyn & Marco Nuñez  
in Cancún, Mexico



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



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



Brooke Illsley  
in Stung Treng,  
Cambodia

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



Billy, Saritha, & Bernice Judson  
in Hyderabad, India



Ted & Marla Allston  
10/40 Window



Aurora, Leydi, Rebeca, & Pascual Balam  
in Chemax, Mexico

## Cambodia

### **Crowley, JD and Kim**

*Field of Service:* Ban Lung, Ratanakiri  
*Ministry:* Christian Literature Writing & Translation, Bible Teacher  
*Entered EMU:* 1993  
*Children:* 5 - married  
Nathaniel - May 10, 2001

### **Farmer, Jeremy and Bonnie Ruth**

*Field of Service:* Stung Treng  
*Ministry:* Bible Teacher, 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 - November 22, 2014  
Elisha - October 28, 2016

### **Hancock, Matt and Becky**

*Field of Service:* Kampong Cham  
*Ministry:* Church Planter, Bible Teacher  
*Entered EMU:* 2013  
*Children:* Jonathan - August 10, 2010  
Jedidiah - February 12, 2013  
Hope - December 13, 2014  
Hans David - May 28, 2017

### **Illsley, Brooke**

*Field of Service:* Stung Treng  
*Ministry:* Home Schooling  
*Entered EMU:* 2014

### **Jensen, Joshua and Amy**

*Field of Service:* Oyadao  
*Ministry:* Jarai Translation, Bible Teacher  
*Entered EMU:* 2012  
*Children:* Rebecca - November 26, 2009  
Isaiah - June 1, 2012  
Anna - April 11, 2014  
Clara - March 13, 2016

### **Kane, Brian and Lydia**

*Field of Service:* Ban Lung, Ratanakiri  
*Ministry:* Krung Translation, Bible Teacher  
*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  
Natalia - June 2, 2016

## Chile

### **Chapman, Tom and Connie**

*Field of Service:* Antofagasta  
*Ministry:* Church Planter  
*Entered EMU:* 1987  
*Children:* 6 - married

## China

### **Erkens, Steve and Charity**

*Residence:* Beijing  
*Ministry:* Bible Teacher/Discipleship  
*Entered EMU:* 2003  
*Children:* Caleb - September 18, 2004  
Luke - February 23, 2006  
Jacob - October 24, 2007

## Croatia

### **Crnković, 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

## India

### **Judson, Billy and Saritha**

*Field of Service:* India  
*Ministry:* Good News Bible College and Seminary  
*Entered EMU:* 2015  
*Children:* Bernice - October 22, 2013

## France

### **Bixby, Tim and Ruth**

*Field of Service:* Sarcelles  
*Ministry:* Church Planter  
*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:* Bordeaux  
*Ministry:* Church Planter  
*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:* Cancún  
*Ministry:* Youth Pastor  
*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 Planter  
*Entered EMU:* 2001  
*Children:* 1 - single adult  
Javier - December 3, 1996  
Aurora - April 20, 2006  
Rebeca - February 25, 2011

### **Noh, Tomas and Kleyni**

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

### **Núñez, Marco and Gwendolyn**

*Field of Service:* Cancún  
*Ministry:* Pastor of First Fundamental Baptist Church  
*Entered EMU:* 1995

### **Puc, Vicente and Deysi**

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

### **Uc, Jose Luis and Martha**

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

## Peru

### **Chapman, Tim and Cheryl**

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

## USA

### **Davis, Jeff and Joanna**

*Residence:* Greer, SC  
*Ministry:* Director of EMU  
*Entered EMU:* 2016  
*Children:* 2 - married  
Abby - July 17, 1997  
Hannah - December 16, 1999

### **Jensen, George and Marilyn**

*Residence:* Taylors, SC  
*Ministry:* President Emeritus, Retired  
*Entered EMU:* 1967  
*Children:* 3 - married  
Analia - June 7, 1991  
Nelson - December 2, 1993

### **Jensen, Ken and Joan**

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

### **Wingrove, Mel and Jan**

*Residence:* Leicester, NC  
*Ministry:* retired January 2018  
*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

### **Alberti, Beatriz and Carlos**

*Field of Service:* Camp Emmanuel  
*Ministry:* Volunteer Secretary  
*Entered EMU:* 1980's

### **Alvarez, Julia**

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

### **Billafan, Pablo and Cristina**

*Field of Service:* Rivera  
*Ministry:* Co-pastor of Calvary Temple  
*Entered EMU:* 2005  
*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:* 2 - married  
Analia - June 7, 1991  
Nelson - December 2, 1993

### **Donzé, Pedro and Patricia**

*Field of Service:* Montevideo / Guazuvirá  
*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  
Emma - March 10, 2015  
Megan - June 16, 2017

### **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:* Co-pastor of Calvary Temple  
*Entered EMU:* 1987  
*Children:* 3 - married

### **Gomez, Marcos**

*Field of Service:* Guazuvirá / Montevideo  
*Ministry:* Part-time Camp Emmanuel and Office  
*Entered EMU:* 2017

### **Gonzalez, Juan and Noemi**

*Field of Service:* Montevideo  
*Ministry:* Evangelism Director  
*Entered EMU:* 1996  
*Children:* Esteban - December 1, 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:* 2002  
*Children:* 2 - married

### **Pereira, Carlos and Graciela**

*Field of Service:* Tacuarembo  
*Ministry:* Retired Pastor

*Entered EMU:* 1987  
*Children:* 1 - married; 2 - single adults

### **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

### **Reyes, Vanessa**

*Field of Service:* Montevideo  
*Ministry:* Part-time Uruguay Office  
*Entered EMU:* 2011

### **Rios, Luis and Adriana**

*Field of Service:* Guazu-virá  
*Ministry:* Camp Emmanuel Caretaker  
*Entered EMU:* 2000  
*Children:* 4 - married

### **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:* 2008  
*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  
*Children:* Gabriel - February 16, 2017