

# EMU<sup>+</sup>

## INTERNATIONAL

Evangelical Mission to the Unreached

Evangelical Mission to Uruguay

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

Volume LXV

August 2022

Number 8



*Ken & Joan Jensen  
Assistant Director*

### ALONG THE WAY . . .

Since June 21, daylight hours have been decreasing as the sun makes its yearly migration toward the Tropic of Capricorn. Though a gardener, by the end of July, I'm thoroughly tired of the hot-and-humid's. And August only shaves off an average of 2 degrees from July! Only September hints at scattered reprieves from the sweltering summer days in the south, with maybe a hurricane or two thrown in just to make it interesting. When August rolls around, I never cease to be sobered by the thought that the end of the year is far closer than its beginning. In our northern clime, first semester of school will start, and most summer vacations will be history, and our "yearly routines" will begin again. May the Lord bless you during this time of transition.

Every now and then this column sports some snippets of interest from letters by our Uruguayan national missionaries, and this is one of those times. Some of these are slightly dated but a blessing none-the-less:

**Carlos & Mabel Olivera, pastor in Pando:** *Mabel's cousin, Hugo Batalla, was shot five times during the robbery of his business. Years ago, we talked to him about Christ. After spending twenty days in the ICU, he now understands that God has given him another opportunity, and he is listening to the Gospel we present. He will be moving to Pando with his wife, Juanita, who is also paying attention to the message of Christ. We will begin a Bible study with Hugo and*  
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## THE WINDING ROAD TO A NEW CHURCH

*by Marco & Gwendolyn Nuñez, church planters in Mexico*

Finally, the date of July 24, 2022, arrived. We had been waiting for this day for a long time. Over three years ago, Daniel Hernandez began his training to be a pastor and eventually move back to his hometown of Bochil, Chiapas, Mexico.

Thirty-five years ago Daniel was born in Bochil. When he was three months old, his parents gave him to his grandmother because they were separating and neither one of them wanted to take care of him. His grandmother raised him the best she could, not having much money.

When Daniel was 16 years old, he was invited by some friends to come to Cancún to work. Of course, they did not have any knowledge of God or our Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. He lived a life of sin for many years. One day he got in a lot of trouble. He was drunk and broke the windshield of a car because he was very angry. He was taken to jail and spent eight months there. I ministered at that jail for over three and a half years and was there while Daniel was incarcerated. At first Daniel would not come out to the services, but finally one day he came to the meeting. After a while we talked and I shared the Gospel with him. He was wonderfully saved. One of the prerequisites for him to get out of jail was to pay for the damage he had caused. I helped him with that, and he was able to get out of jail.

Once Daniel got out, I provided a place for him to stay, and he started coming to church. He found a job and I also began studying the Bible with him. He attended our youth group meetings, and it was there that he met Marisol, who is now his wife.



*(l-r) Marco, Daniel, Yamilet, Marisol, & Daniela - Damaris was not in the service*

About four years ago he was out of a job, and I offered him the job of custodian of our church. While he worked at the church, we also studied. One day Daniel told me he had the desire to preach the Word. I told him to talk with Marisol to make sure she would support him in this desire of his heart. She would, so I met with both of them, after which Daniel began his training. That was

over three years ago.

They now have three children: Yamilet (11), Daniela (10), and Damaris (2). Both Yamilet and Daniela have been saved and baptized.

Marisol has attended our church since she was about nine years old. She was saved and baptized in our church. She also has been studying with Gwendolyn for the last three years.

On Sunday, July 24, Daniel was commissioned as a missionary to go back  
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*Drew & Mary Ellen Conley*



# Camp Emmanuel Winter Update

by Pedro Donzé, camp director & MEU office administrator

The recent activities at Camp Emmanuel have been varied. God allowed us to have three groups in the last four weeks, serving about 130 people. Two groups were from a Christian high school where, although the teachers represent several denominations, they have a burden to present the Gospel. These young people listened to the teaching here at camp, and they enjoyed our campus and the retreat. This high school has been coming to Camp Emmanuel for four years. Each student and teacher of this group sent in the camp evaluation sheets that we handed out, and they shared how much they enjoyed the camp. I thank God for strengthening my wife, Patricia, and Beatriz, the camp's office secretary, who, along with my assistant, Marcos Gomez, the camp caretaker, Henry Castro, and I were able to staff the kitchen. Although none of us have the training to be in charge of the kitchen, we managed, with God's help, to accomplish all the tasks successfully.



*Pedro Donzé speaking to the newly arrived campers*

The last group camp was our mission's youth retreat for 12 to 20 year olds. There were 38 campers. Carlos Olivera, the pastor of Bethel Church in Pando, preached about the Apostle Paul's motivations for ministry, challenging the young people with the Word of God in several areas. In addition, we discussed other topics with the young people. I was able to have workshops about the importance of managing time well and the need for them to give God first place in their daily lives. I explained how to organize a day starting with the Word of God, doing

what they need to do second, and then having time for those things they want to do – always seeking the Lord's guidance. This has been a topic that many have told us is very needed in the lives of these young people as they struggle with knowing and applying priorities in their lives.



*Pastor Carlos Olivera teaching at the winter youth camp*

As I read the testimonies and comments of the counselors, I thanked God for each young person and the opportunity God gave them to be here. We were able to help six teenagers attend camp through the sponsorship program. I am very grateful for those who helped us with counseling and cooking. Again, Patricia and Beatriz managed the kitchen and did a great job. Pastor Gabriel Gomez of Gethsemani Church helped them, along with two other church ladies.

One young lady, who is losing her eyesight, has been coming to camp for several years, as often as she can. She accepted Christ through this ministry. Her time with us is always such a blessing and encouragement to each of us who interact with her. We prepare special material for her. Seeing how this helps her grow is a precious testimony.

We have watched a group of seven young people grow up together. They come from different churches, but they met years ago at a children's camp. We pray that they will follow in the ways of the Lord with lives of spiritual growth and surrender to Him. If they do, they will be a tremendous blessing to their churches and the Lord's work. However, not all of them are believers,

though they all understand the Gospel. We trust the Holy Spirit to work in their lives.

We have had other unique opportunities serving at Camp Emmanuel. Besides the recent retreats, we finished removing most of the dangerous trees around the buildings. A logging company cut them down and

bought the logs. The areas around the cabins are changed completely. There is more natural sunlight, and the humidity problem has less impact on the buildings and furnishings. For a few years it will be hotter in the buildings in the summer, but we were able to plant several species of deciduous trees around the cabins that will create a different environment with special color in each season. The trees will provide shade in the summer and let

the sun in during the winter. Henry, Marcos, and I planted about 45 trees, and we plan to plant 20 more before spring. Some of the trees are fast growing, so we think that in five years they will begin to give sufficient summer shade.



*Camp sign on the new green*

In addition, we created a new grassy area between the dining hall and the chapel. It required a lot of exhausting work, but we think it will be worth the time and effort.

One more thing that we have begun working on is the area where we hope to implement our largest long-term project. It is our multipurpose area, which will include housing for families to increase the opportunities to reach more groups, among other things. For now, we are performing tasks that do not take money from the budget. Everything we are doing is paid for through the sale of the trees that were removed. We are clearing the land in preparation. You'll hear more about this as we go along. We have drawn up small and achievable stages for moving forward, little by little.

We are very grateful for the gifts we have received for other upcoming projects. We have already started the process of buying our shipping container. We hope to have it by mid-August. It will allow us to safely store and protect a variety of items that we only need to use occasionally. Seeing how God is providing for His work humbles us.

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*2022 July Winter Youth Camp at Emmanuel Camp*



## ***The Winding Road to a New Church*** *(continued from page 1)*

*(rt) Harbor Corey, son of Kevin, with a new friend at the commissioning service*



*(l-r) Kevin & Todd Corey presenting Daniel with a plaque for the new church which reads:*

*"To the Glory of God  
In Memorial to Tim Corey  
Servant of God"*

*The Corey family has been a generous supporter of the Nuñezes' ministry since its inception, and the funds for the new church building/house were generally raised by this family. Tim passed away in 2016. His wife, Barb, had to cancel her trip to Cancún for this commissioning service because of health concerns, but grandson Harbor was able to use the ticket.*

to his hometown to preach the Word. Pastor Drew Conley from Hampton Park Baptist Church, our sending church, preached the commissioning service. It was a tremendous

blessing. We had 127 people in attendance. After the service we had a meal at the church. Many of the folks stayed for the fellowship.

We are very excited to see what the Lord is going to do in Bochil. God has had His hand on Daniel and his family. The great blessing is that God provided through His people the funds to purchase a small truck for Daniel to use in Bochil to transport people to the church. God also provided the money to purchase the land where the church/house will be built. In addition, God has provided all of the funds for building the house/church. God certainly is faithful and provides for His people and His work.

A house has been rented for Daniel and his family to live in while the construction takes place. We decided to wait until Daniel is there so that he can supervise the construction.

About two years ago, Daniel's aunt and son came to visit Cancún. They were saved and baptized at that time. They went back to Bochil, so they are waiting anxiously for Daniel and his family to get there to attend this new church, since they have no church to attend there. Also last year, one of Daniel's friends, Martin, who lives in Bochil, contacted Daniel. He shared the Word with Martin for a while. One day Daniel challenged Martin to put his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He hung up the phone and a while later Martin called Daniel and told him, "I have put my trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. I believe He paid for all my sins on the Cross. So, I am trusting completely in Him." Many of Daniel's relatives have shared with Daniel the tremendous change they have seen in Martin. Now when Martin calls Daniel, he says, "I'm waiting for my pastor to

come to Bochil to start the church." Martin also plays the guitar, and he has already purchased a new guitar to use for the services. What a blessing!

Many of Daniel's relatives, including his father, are waiting to attend the church once Daniel and his family get there. Daniel had not spoken to his father for over twenty years. But now they are communicating, and his father is ready to come to church.

On Monday, August 1, Daniel and his family, with as many possessions as they can take in their truck, will leave for Bochil. I will be going as well in our car. Pastor Tomas from Playa del Carmen is going with me. We decided Gwendolyn should not go since some of the regions of Chiapas are not very safe. There is a drug war going on,



*Loading Daniel's new truck for the trip to Bochil, Chiapas*

and different cartels are fighting for control of that part of the State. Pray for us that the Lord will give us a safe trip, that the first service that we have will be a blessing, and that souls will be saved.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support. I know Daniel and his family are going to face many challenges, but with God's protection and power they will be able to overcome. †

## ***Camp Emmanuel Winter Update*** *(continued from page 2)*

We are very excited to begin a new camp we are calling "Retreat for Older Youth," for those 21 years old and up. We will hold the first camp at the end of August. I will be teaching about ministry and challenging the campers to serve and be involved in the different areas of the local church. Pray that God will use me in sowing in this generation of young people and that they will be a generation that will take a stand and continue until our Lord Jesus Christ comes. I am grateful for your prayers in advance.

Patricia now has time to rest from her physical work over the last few weeks at camp. We are grateful for what God has allowed her to accomplish. Continue to pray for Paty's health, as I know you do. This week we will be ordering special supports for her feet. This will help in her walking and spine alignment.

Our son, Maxi, is beginning his school



exams, and we pray that he will pass them. He will have an international English exam in September. Passing this will open opportunities for his future studies.

We will be on vacation during the last two weeks of July. Getting rejuvenated will be very important for the second half of this year.

On August 1, my family will move to the Camp for 15 days. I will be helping replace the floors in cabins 2 & 4. We thank God

*Time for team competition and plenty of time for fellowship.  
(The young man below in the blue shirt is Maxi, the 16-year-old son of Pedro Donzè.)*



for supplying the funds for this project last year. This is the first opportunity we've had to do the work. The Lord has provided eight volunteers to help with the heavy task of removing the old broken concrete floors and pouring new ones. The work begins Monday the first. I will send pictures of all this work when it is finished. †

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## ALONG THE WAY...

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*Juanita after they move. We also continue to work with Ana, who gave her heart to God. She lives near Vergara and Treinta y Tres, in the interior of Uruguay, and listens to our church services via Facebook. She has recovered from her spinal operation and has grown much spiritually. She will be attending the EMU church Calvary Temple in Treinta y Tres.*

### **Jose Kowalczyk, pastor in Durazno:**

*On April 10, I turned 80 years old. The most wonderful gift God gave was the salvation of my neighbors Alejandro and Mercedes Largacha. Alejandro testified that I had been inviting him to church for 24 years, and now seemed to be the time to begin attending. Five months ago when our church member Oscar passed away, Mercedes gave her heart to Christ. This couple has been faithfully attending our services.*

*Another significant date was April 16. On this date 40 years ago, my wife, Maria del Carmen, and I arrived in Durazno to serve at this church. George Jensen requested that we come for at least a year as the church was without a pastor. And though my wife passed away from cancer in 2010, I have been here for 40 years. I can say with Samuel, "Thus far the LORD has helped us." All glory to His name!*

### **Rubito & Marita Rodriguez, pastor in Treinta y Tres:**

*As a result of an evangelistic campaign for young people, we are discipling eight people. Most of them plan to be baptized later this year after the cold winter days end. One young man, who started attending our church in April, was saved out of the drug culture. He not only took illegal drugs, but he was a dealer! God is doing a great work in his life. Now, his mother has started attending our services.*

### **Ricardo & Mayka Windmoller, pastor Vergara:**

*Our son, Gabriel, is attending a new, closer school this year – one that he can walk to each day. One night while Mayka was reading to Gabriel from a children's Bible, with tears in his eyes, he made a profession of faith in Jesus. Also, my younger brother, Alejandro Santos, who lives in Montevideo and works at the Banco República, has been attending Calvary Temple of Montevideo where Gustavo de Oliveira pastors. Alejandro will be starting classes at FEBU, the Bible college, in the coming semester.*

### **Julia Alvarez, missionary in La Charqueada:**

*On Saturday, July 9, we had a wedding at our church in La Charqueada for a lady in our church. It was a simple wedding with a complicated history. It seems that few couples think that getting married is necessary. This has been a problem in Uruguay for a long time. This lady became a Christian only recently. She had lived with a man for several decades, and they have grandchildren together. Though she wanted to get married after she was saved, her unsaved partner resisted it. We all began praying about this situation. One day, he surprised her by going to the municipal office to begin the paperwork for a marriage license. We are so thrilled to see this answer to prayer.*

July and August are travel months for many of our EMU missionaries. **Chicha Rodriguez** is the closest, at this writing, to taking flight. She leaves for Montevideo, Uruguay, on August 3. Not long after arriving in Uruguay, she will take a boat across the Rio de la Plata to Buenos Aires, Argentina, to speak at a ladies' retreat held by another mission organization. This is her fourth year of being a teacher at this annual event. In October, her family in Greenville, SC, is flying Chicha back to the States to undergo cataract surgery, as none of the relatives want to entrust this needed

operation to the Uruguayan health system.

**Brooke Illsley** arrived in the States on July 29 and will be here until August 22. Her first two homeschool graduates, **Isa and Abi Farmer**, are in Greenville with their mother in preparation for beginning their freshman year at Bob Jones University. It was a blessing to have **Bonnie Ruth** and the girls for lunch and an afternoon of chatting a week ago.

**Lydia and Mia Kane** come into Greenville in a few days to begin getting Mia settled to start her freshman year, too. **Lauren Chapman** arrives from Lima, Peru, on August 16 for her job training at BJU and the start of her sophomore year at BJU.

The **Hancocks** spent July in Pennsylvania and Minnesota visiting family. They hope to be in the Greenville area later in August. They have had some sickness in the family since arriving Stateside.

**JD and Kim Crowley** return to Cambodia on August 16. It has been great to have them nearby during their short furlough. The Crowleys' youngest son, Nathaniel, begins his senior year at BJU in August.

**Marco and Gwendolyn Nuñez** made an unscheduled trip to eastern North Carolina July 28-30. Just after the commissioning service in Cancun, they learned that one of Marco's brothers died suddenly in his sleep. Marco and Gwendolyn were able to catch a flight to be with the family for a couple of days.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support throughout the summer for the ministries of EMU International. May the Lord richly bless you as you have been a blessing to us! †

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