

# EMU<sup>+</sup> INTERNATIONAL

Evangelical Mission to the Unreached

Evangelical Mission to Uruguay

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

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Ken & Joan Jensen  
Assistant Director

## ALONG THE WAY . . .

In his recent prayer letter, Gabriel Gomez (Gaby), the pastor of Gethsemani Church in Montevideo, Uruguay, began his letter by stating, "It seems to me that it was only yesterday that we were welcoming 2023, and now we are working on the Christmas program!" My sentiments exactly! Though no one has tasked me with working on a Christmas program or even participating in one, other than as a spectator – a wise decision on everyone's part. However, I am sure that most of our other EMU missionaries relate fully to Gaby's perspective as they plan, practice, and perform Christmas programs this month. And some will be engaging in the performance aspect multiple times as they travel to other churches with their choirs. This is certainly our longest season of celebration, unless you consider that every Sunday is a celebration of Easter's Resurrection Day.

Today, just before I began writing this column, I read words from another of our EMU missionaries that actually "shouted" their appropriateness for all of us as we enter December. Though written in his Commentary on Romans, and not for Christmas, **JD Crowley** wrote the following: "*Hundreds of millions of Gentiles have now become children of God because Christ was willing to give up the rights and comforts of heaven to become an obedient Jew for 33 years. This should be strong motivation for you and me to*"  
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## SPRING WRAP-UP DOWN SOUTH

by Pedro & Paty Donz , MEU office administrator & director of Camp Emmanuel

The retreats we have had this spring were a great blessing. The Youth Retreat and the Couples' Retreat were the final MEU/Camp



Spring 2023 Couples' Retreat at Camp Emmanuel

Emmanuel sponsored retreats for this year. We continue to host church and school retreats for other organizations until mid-December. These are groups that rent our facilities, but we supply the maintenance and meals. Our prayer is to use every opportunity to make our Lord known. It is very exciting to see the camp full every day. Some groups have more than 100 children! The work is not easy, so pray that God strengthens us and helps us maintain and take care of the camp during this time. Also during this time we are teaching classes every week via Zoom for the 2024 summer staff training.

I appreciate your prayers for the **Sponsorship Program**. There are groups of children and adolescents in the north of our country that we would like to reach. Many of these kids are from low income families, and if transportation costs are added, it is especially difficult for them. But we trust that we can reach many of them, as in previous years, as a result of your love offerings for this fund.

I would love to give you all the details of our family's anticipated trials due to economic cuts related to MEU's budget shortage, but it would be very long - and you know that I write a lot anyway! Today, we can share with you that the budget shortage has been covered for now. This allowed us to, once again, postpone the decision to change our family's health insurance. Please pray for God's provision to cover the EMU funds needed to prevent the cuts from occurring in the future. These trials take us to the limit in some cases,

but it is a joy to see how God responds and cares for us. So, October was a very stressful month

in many

ways. (kj – Paty Donz  received a kidney transplant after a disease destroyed her kidney. The transplant and anti-rejection drugs, and control of the disease, require continuing costs. The Donz s have an insurance policy that covers some of these costs. Over the years, the monthly premiums have increased, but, as with insurance in the USA, other insurance companies will not cover pre-existing conditions, making it almost impossible for Paty to be covered by another plan. We were all aware of Paty's health care costs when the Donz s were asked to enter the mission and leave his financially secure secular job with a major bank. Even all of our Uruguayan missionaries approved. Over the years, the Lord has always supplied the extra funds to cover Paty's medical expenses, and we trust He will continue to do so.)

I ask you to pray for my mother. She has not been well after fracturing a lumbar vertebra, and her recovery has been quite long. We are helping my parents, but it is not easy for Paty. Her physical condition, between camping activities and cooking for my parents, has pushed her to her limit. We ask for God to give us wisdom to address this as well. Our son, Maxi, graduated from high school in November, though he will have to take some final exams in December. We are excited for him to finish this stage of education, and Lord willing, next year he will attend a university.

(kj – the following are some paragraphs from the prayer letters of **Henry Castro**, the Camp Emmanuel caretaker, and **Marcos**  
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# God's Word for Our Times

by Billy & Saritha Judson, teaching ministry throughout India

Providentially, we completed a four-day conference from October 25–28 on the theme of “God’s Word for Our Times.”

We had only one conference speaker: Pastor David Marini. Pastor Marini is known for his verse-by-verse expositional teaching. He traveled to India with Dr. Daniel Karunakaran, who is of Indian birth but is an American citizen, and his wife, Eva Karunakaran, who is from Germany.



Telugu translator with David Marini

Both of these men attended Shepherds Church in Cary, NC, while I was studying at the seminary there. Dr. Karunakaran is an evangelist and missionary to the northern part of India. They are friends



Good News 360 Conference - 2023

of our ministry and actually funded this conference.

On the first day, we had three one-hour sessions with Pastor Marini on Genesis 2 and Titus 2. Other sessions were led by our leadership and coordinators who shared their ministry reports and testimonies.

On the second day, we studied Daniel 2 and 9. Another couple of leaders shared their reports and testimonies about the sustainable teaching ministries of Good News Bible College and Seminary,

On the third day, we studied Revelation 13 and 19. My father and I shared our vision

and mission to advance the task of “every local church as a college classroom.”

The fourth day was geared more to interaction, questions, and commissioning. The motto of this day was “Each one, reach one, encourage one to walk by the spirit.”

Pastor Marini followed his teaching notes, and these notes were displayed on the LCD projector screens in both English and Telugu as part of the expositional teaching and preaching methodology for our learning and understanding. Many of our pastors and leaders do not use notes from the pulpit, so this was a unique experience for our 126 participants. †



Billy Judson

## ALONG THE WAY . . .

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give up our rights and comforts to reach other cultures and races with the gospel.” What a fabulous example and application for the Christmas message! “Giving” is a common theme for this season, but seldom do we really contemplate and encourage “sacrificial giving” – first to God and then to others.

In the last Newsletter in Along the Way, I mentioned **my mother's** 92nd birthday and how well she was doing. There is a **stark update** on that topic. The week after her birthday, on Saturday afternoon, Mom was using her walker to navigate across her room at Shepherd's Care, where she has resided for a few months short of two years. She does not recall the circumstances, but for some reason she fell backwards, first landing on her bottom and then hit her head on the floor. She had the wherewithal to press the distress button hanging around her neck and received staff assistance right away. Because she hit her head fairly hard, the resident nurse felt she should be transported to the emergency room at Prisma of Greer for an x-ray. She had a slight concussion, but further x-rays revealed that she sustained three fractures in her pelvis. Mom remained at Prisma for about a week to get stabilized and was then transferred to National Health Care's rehabilitation unit in Mauldin. Her week there was not productive at all and ended when chest pains landed her back at Prisma for another week. During this time, she made no progress at rehab. (In order to return to Shepherd's Care she has to be able to move herself from her bed to a wheelchair

and vice versa, as this is only an assisted living facility.) The chest pains seem to have been caused by anxiety over the hip pain and her aversion to engaging in rehab. Her overall condition greatly deteriorated during these three weeks, leading the doctors to recommend putting her on “comfort care,” i.e. no rehab or special intervention other than pain medication. On Monday, November 27, after Thanksgiving weekend, Mom was transferred again, this time to National Health Care of Greenville to the full nursing care wing. She is in and out of lucidity, but her pain seems to be controlled. Her children and their spouses have been involved in every step, but we, nor the doctors, know where this is going. We did clear out her room at Shepherd's Care, as currently there is no prospect of her returning there. One moment we are encouraged that improvement is possible, and the next we have no encouragement for improvement. So, we ask for your prayers for God's will for Mom's life and future on earth, and that He will give us wisdom as we have to make tough decisions concerning her care.

In closing this subject, let me gift all of you – old and young – with this simple advice: make a feasible plan for situations like this. Not everyone dies “with their boots on.” And the problems of aging can be complicated and amazingly expensive. My parents made plans, and we are grateful that they did. I am blessed with a wonderful brother and sister and their spouses, and a wife who can handle most everything. I cannot conceive of doing this by myself. Remember, God will supply even in spite of our ignorance, but seldom in our negligence.

In happier news, **Brian Kane** has let us know that the Krung New Testament is at the printer and should be ready for the planned multi-church Bible dedication of this new publication in February. For a while it seemed that this would not be possible, but the Lord supplied in many ways. Brian and other leaders among the Krung are looking for a facility to rent that will hold all those who wish to attend this momentous ceremony. Brian also sent us pictures of the **Thanksgiving gathering** of all the EMU Cambodia missionaries in Stung Treng. There were no group photos taken, so this dinner-table shot will have to do. There were many other pictures of smaller groups.



EMU Cambodia missionaries' Thanksgiving  
Brian Kane (lt) is the photographer

On the Sunday after Thanksgiving, the fall session of the **Ratanakiri Pastors' School** began in the afternoon in Ban Lung, Cambodia. We do not yet have a report on this four-day conference, during which Romans 12-16 was covered, with the aid of JD's Romans Commentary. However, one of the non-EMU teachers at the conference,  
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## Spring Wrap-up Down South (continued from page 1)

**Gomez**, the assistant to Pedro Donzé, to help round out the camp activities.)

### Henry Castro:

October brought end-of-year school retreats. It was the first time for some of the schools to rent the camp. They shared how amazed they were with the environment, the facilities, and the desire on our part to serve them. Everything was in order, and they enjoyed their time at camp! Another returning Christian school said they always find 'something new' each year that brings them joy. The school director thanked us and commented on how beautiful the new dining hall bathrooms are. Maybe it's because they are new, but I noticed that campers are using the new bathrooms more than the bathrooms in the cabins and the chapel. Thank you, brothers and sisters, for your help, prayers, and gifts that have provided for the improvements of the facilities in the camp.

Last Saturday, the camp hosted a meeting of young people from all of the MEU churches in southern Uruguay. It was wonderful to see them here. We do not assume that all the young people who come to camp or attend their parents' churches are Christians. Our

prayer is that all of these young people will come to know Christ and/or grow in their relationship with God. May God bless the time they had here. The messages they heard from the Word were good.

One reason for prayer today is for God to send rain. I think I mentioned this request in a previous letter. The well that supplies water to the camp is having trouble. (*kj – there are 2 water sources for the camp: "city" water for drinking and our well for bathrooms and outside watering.*) A few days ago, we turned it on again to be tested. It continues to have problems and the only solution is rain. At this moment, while I am writing, it is raining. We have not run out of water, thank God, but the well has been giving indications that there is only a little water in it. Be praying that God continues to send the rain that we need so much, so that the water table will rise.

Another prayer request is the financial situation of the Mission, which also impacts the camp. Pray that God gives wisdom for the budget to those who oversee it. Also pray for the sale of the Mission house in Montevideo and the best financial outcome for MEU and its ministries. This money will be put toward the Mission's budget. (*kj – I'll give more history about the Mission House after it is sold, but for now this short explanation will do: For at least 50 years the house was the center of mission activities and where the MEU office for Uruguay was located. All that has changed over the past decade, and thus the house is being sold.*)

The work of the Lord in Uruguay

and at camp can continue because He is faithful, because He loves us, and because He glorifies Himself using methods and people from around the world. Every day He encourages us to continue serving Him and enjoy our service to Him.

### Marcos Gomez:

A couple of weeks ago we hosted the annual Ladies' retreat. We are grateful to the Lord for the great time they were able to enjoy. For this camp I was serving in the kitchen, together with Pastor Nicolas Gómez (my cousin), Pastor Gabriel Gómez (my father), and Paty (my aunt and Pedro's wife). It was very good to be able to serve with them, as we were able to serve the Lord as a family.

There have been many details to take care of for the summer camps. I have finished preparing the advertisements for the different retreats and weeks of camp, and I am now finishing the design for the T-shirts. I am also working on the hand-out booklets for the campers for the Children's, Adolescents, Youth, and Family Camps. We are also training the personnel for the summer camps in January and February. We appreciate your prayers for this ministry.

Thank God we are fine. In the last week I have had a small health problem - a partial facial paralysis. But with medication, I am already recovering the mobility in my facial muscles. After the treatment is finished, I will have a CT scan to ensure that this is only an isolated event and not a major issue. Also, we continue to pray that the Lord will allow us to buy a vehicle. We would appreciate your continued prayer for this need. May the Lord bless you and continue to use you for His work. †



Spring 2023 Youth Retreat at  
Camp Emmanuel

## Cancún Converts

by Marco & Gwendolyn Nuñez, Church Planters in Cancún, Mexico

We spent most of September visiting eight supporting churches in North and South Carolina, West Virginia, and Georgia. We had not visited some of these churches in seven years, so it was certainly good to see them again.



Adriana

In August two people were saved here in Cancun, and on October 1 they were baptized. Since Junior High School, Adriana has been friends with a lady who is already in the Cancun church. Though they had kept in contact all these years, Adriana was always very hard

toward the things of the Lord. However, she started coming to our church and hearing the Word, and in August, she put her faith in Christ! The other baptismal candidate was Anderson, who was saved the same month. Anderson is a Junior High student who



Anderson

lives with his mother in a different city in Mexico. But when he is at his fathers' house here in Cancun, his father brings him to church.

The picture at the very bottom of the page is from Tono, Karina, and their children's recent visit to see Brother Ciro's family in Chiapas (Tono's parents). Please pray for the Chiapas church. One young lady was recently saved there. We are so glad Ciro's family is a light for the gospel of Jesus Christ in that small town. Truth has not been forsaken completely there.

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Two upper elementary school age children in the Valladolid church have been forbidden to attend by their parents. Please pray they will be permitted to come back to church and that the things they have already learned will bring forth much fruit, even in their youth.

The Valladolid church has two weddings soon—young girls who were saved and grew up in Cancun, but they are now living in Valladolid. We thank the Lord for His providing godly husbands for both of them. †



(l-r) Dolores, Ciro, Odalis (Ciro's daughter), Candelaria (Ciro's sister), Toño, Ezequiel (Toño's son), Jose Luis (Toño's brother), Yohani (Toño's daughter)

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## ALONG THE WAY...

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(l-r) Brian Kane, JD Crowley, Jeff Lai, Josh Jensen, Jeremy Farmer, & Matt Hancock

**Jeff Lai**, did post a picture of all the teachers – at least I think it is all the teachers!

The **Farmers'** most recent prayer letter was a great blessing. As Jeremy says, this was a decade in the making. The first baptismal service was held for believers in the Lao church of Na Ong Village. The five Lao Christians were joined by a lady from the Khmer church that Jeremy has been helping with for the past five years.



(l-r) Vong, Von, Hien, Lon, Tun, & Reuen



Jeremy Farmer (rt) & Reuen - the only Khmer baptized with the Laotians

**Rubito Rodriguez**, the pastor of Calvary Temple in the interior city of "33," wrote to us about a prayer request the folks in his church had. This church, and several other churches in the interior, hold several camps every year at **Camp Bethel** in the Department of "33." The number of folks attending this camp has outstripped their lodging capacity, and several people pitch tents on the property in order to join in the programs. A major problem has been bathroom facilities, which were designed to handle the dorms. It was decided to build a bathhouse to accommodate the increase in attendees. Though they started the project without having all the money, the Lord provided through an unexpected donation from the States. So, the construction has been funded. (I've been there many times, and this addition will be a great blessing!)

**Tom and Connie Chapman** will be in Greenville in early December. They are beginning a furlough of several months. But first, there will be a reunion of the Chapman family at a Christian camp in eastern North Carolina. They have done this a few times in the past. This is a Christmas gathering. **Tim and Cheryl's** family will be down from Midland, Michigan, and I believe all the Chapman kids connected with UCLA in Monterrey, Mexico, will be there. This is a musical family, so singing and instrument playing will be a major part of the venue! Joan and I are expecting to host Tom, Connie, and Tim here at our house during the first couple of weeks of December. The Chapman clan is truly a blessing to so many people!

**Jeff Davis** leaves the shores of America on December 1 to begin an almost two-week trip to France and Croatia. He will be with the **Bixby family** from Dec. 1-7. On the 7th, he wings his way to Zagreb, Croatia, where the **Crnkovičs** will meet him in the capital and drive him north to Koprivnica, where Kornel and Tanja minister. On Dec. 13, Jeff returns stateside.

**Joan and I** were blessed to have the privilege of meeting the congregation of **Beacon Baptist Church** in Alamance, NC, in mid-November. This church supported my parents for many, many years until they retired from EMU. They also support three of our other EMU families and give towards the home office expenses. My parents always visited this church, so I never had occasion to go to Alamance. A mission conference at the church and a missionary cancellation conspired to take us up for a service on November 12. I've known about Greg Barkman through my father since Greg started the church in 1973, but I had never met him. It was the first time I had given a PowerPoint presentation of EMU in almost 12 years! Wow, those poor people who attended the evening service! But they were gracious, and Joan and I made many new friends.

In closing, let me remind you of the **Christmas Fund Offering** and the **Camp Emmanuel Sponsorship Fund** that were presented in the November Newsletter. We are very grateful for those who have already given. And to the rest – it's not too late!

May each of you truly have a Christ focused and filled Christmas. And reread JD's words from the 2nd paragraph. It is worth some meditation time. Thank you for your interest in and prayers for the ministries of EMU. You have helped us through another year of service to our great God. †



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