

EMU

INTERNATIONAL

Evangelical Mission to the Unreached

Evangelical Mission to Uruguay

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

Volume LXVIII

October 2025

Number 10



*Ken & Joan Jensen
Assistant Director*

ALONG THE WAY . . .

As this column is shortened to make room for other articles, I will try to be more succinct in covering the following subjects, beginning with an update on **JD & Kim Crowley**. In August we announced that JD was discovered to have cancer in his colon - thought to be noninvasive - and would need an operation before returning to Cambodia. That surgery was scheduled for Friday, September 12. However, at the end of August, JD had what was to be an outpatient procedure on a less serious problem. The operation did not deliver the expected results, leading to several days in the hospital and a painful recovery, a recovery not fully realized by September 12.

The cancer removal took place as scheduled, which entailed the removal of several inches of colon and a large number of lymph nodes for biopsy to determine if the cancer had spread. All of the lymph nodes were clear of cancer - except one. At this writing, JD is awaiting an appointment with an oncologist to plan future treatment.

The Crowleys' October flight to Cambodia has been cancelled until further developments. JD is resigned to not making it home to Ban Lung before the Pastors' School, rescheduled for November. This will be the first Pastors' School he has missed since beginning the school in 2016. But JD believes this second block of study on biblical finances is in good hands with **Ryan Quey, Joshua Jensen, Matt**

(continued on page 3)

A FRUITFUL WINTER

by Gabriel & Rosanna Gomez, pastor in Montevideo, Uruguay

Although winter arrived with intense cold, flu outbreaks, respiratory infections, and a wave of unusual viruses, we've still been able to accomplish many things—and we praise the Lord for His mercy and strength.

Rosanna began coughing in July and still has a lingering cough. Thankfully, it's not contagious, just allergy related. The initial medication wasn't effective, but cortisone helped. However, she could only take it for six days due to its impact on her blood pressure and diabetes. Her cough has returned, though it's milder now. She had to reschedule our church's ladies' meeting once, but thankfully it wasn't a major disruption.

I wasn't home much in July or August. First, we had the winter youth camp at Camp Emmanuel. Our second son, Lucas, served on staff, and I helped in the kitchen. Rosanna stayed home due to her work and health. We ended July with a special mission-wide youth gathering at Gethsemani Church, welcoming young people from churches across Uruguay—about 70 to 80 attendees. Rosanna and I, along with another couple, prepared “tortas fritas” for everyone. (*kj* – “tortas fritas” are much like our fried donuts – only more scrumptious!)

In August, Lucas and I moved to Camp Emmanuel for two weeks to help with the “Rick Projects,” returning home on the weekends so I could continue my church

responsibilities. The second semester at the Bible Institute also began in July. Since classes are on Zoom, I was able to teach from camp. This semester, I'm teaching Biblical Counseling to 20 students from across the country. Also, in early August, while Rosanna led the ladies' meeting at church, Lucas and I attended a seminar on Christian approaches to mental health. It was a meaningful time—not just for the biblical insights, but also for the father-son connection.

Back home, we hosted my brother Héctor and his wife Graciela, the former pastor of Rivera's church. They were preparing to fly to Spain on August 11 to finalize paperwork for entering Equatorial Guinea. This year's trip will be shorter, and they've invited a young man from the city of Treinta y Tres to join them. Just days before traveling, Graciela faced a health scare—she lost hearing in one ear last year and suddenly couldn't hear from the other one either. Doctors recommended extensive testing, and it seemed she wouldn't be able to travel. But thankfully, she was cleared to go, and the tests were postponed until next year. They're now in Spain, working to gain entry into Guinea.

Finally, on August 25—a national holiday in Uruguay (*Independence Day*)—we held a short camp just for our church at Camp Emmanuel in Guazuvirá. The weather was beautiful: sunny and warm

(continued on page 4)



August Winter Retreat for Gethsemani Church

Surrounded In Prison

by Maria "Chicha" Rodriguez, children's & women's ministries in Uruguay

Because of God's redemptive goodness, many of us from different nations have come to know Him as our God and Savior. In a few days, I will be back in Uruguay, but I would like to share with you a few of the opportunities God gave me here in Greenville, SC. In almost every store we visit, it is easy to notice the presence of many foreigners, most of whom speak Spanish. I always carry gospel tracts in Spanish with me so I can take the opportunity to share them with folks and offer them an invitation to attend a Spanish-speaking church.

In July, I was invited to be the speaker at the monthly ladies' meeting at the Iglesia Nuevo Amanecer (*kj - Latino church started by Morningside Baptist Church of Greenville*). We enjoyed a precious time of fellowship and blessing. It was lovely to see that one of the women who attends regularly brought along two Hispanic guests.

Soon afterward, I received an invitation to participate in a prison ministry. I was interested in this because I have spent many years visiting the women's prison in Uruguay to share the message of the gospel. It is always very exciting to share the Good News that there is hope in Jesus Christ! So, a few days ago, Susana (my nephew's wife) and I joined a group of 30 volunteers to share the gospel at a prison in a small town in Alabama. The prison is a large gray building that houses more than



Chicha Rodriguez at Camp Emmanuel

700 inmates and operates under very strict safety rules. We took a large number of gospel tracts in English and were prepared to share the gospel in that language. What we didn't know, however, was that many of the prisoners were from Hispanic countries. Many of them live and work in this country but do not speak or understand English well. Out of our entire volunteer group, Susy and I were the only ones who could speak Spanish. I cannot fully describe to you in this simple letter all we experienced there!

At first, we were taken to speak with small groups of Spanish speakers in the main areas for visitors, but as the day progressed, the chaplain got permission for Susy and me to share the gospel in a high security section of the prison that is normally closed

to visitors. This section had an even higher ratio of Spanish speaking prisoners. The chaplain led us through a heavy security door that opened into a large room. Then, he turned around and left us standing *alone* in front of a large group of gathered prisoners! They quickly came forward and surrounded the two of us to find out why we were there. For the next 45 minutes, 75 men from different Hispanic countries listened in respectful silence. At no time was there any mockery or laughter. We felt that God was giving us a great opportunity to give His precious message, and with all our trust in God, we spoke to them of the gospel. We did our best to persuade them from God's Word to be reconciled to God. Many came up to us afterwards to thank us for coming to tell them about God, while others had questions about God and shared prayer requests. Thankfully, we had an abundant number of Spanish tracts in Susy's car, which were originally given to me to take to the women's jail ministry in Uruguay. We were able to retrieve the material and distribute it among these men.

Please join me in praying that God will bring understanding and repentance of sins so that many of these men will be saved. May the seed planted there bear fruit for eternal life, both in their souls and in the souls of their families. May many from all these nations and backgrounds come to praise the Lord with all their hearts. †

Ministering To Three Language Groups

by John & Suzie Lehman, Words Fitly Spoken, ministering worldwide

Biblical Counseling Ministries Worldwide (BCMWW) offered counseling training at Igreja Baptista Da Paz (*Peace Baptist Church*), in Luanda, Angola, August 7-10. You may be ahead of me, but I didn't realize Angolans speak Portuguese. There were many folks who attended, some coming from as far as 500 miles away, or in this case 804.672 kilometers, to be exact!

BCMWW held another training module at Iglesia Bautista Imanuel in Siguatepeque, Honduras, August 21-24. The church and attendees have committed to receiving four sessions of this training, occurring every six months, to complete their Counseling certificates. Lord willing, I'll be with them for their final sessions in February 2027.

Ridgeview Bible Church, Chadron, Nebraska, offered a Marriage and Family conference September 5-7. This contact came as a result of my role as a supervising Fellow within the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC). Flying into Rapid City, South Dakota, and driving to and returning from our conference site revealed a spectacular part of our very own USA!

It has been a blessing that my trips to Angola and Honduras were funded by gifted or award flight miles.

After this year's ACBC Conference in Fort Worth, TX (October 6-8), I'll be heading to Calcutta, India, for an Evangelistic Crusade and the 25th anniversary celebrations for two churches (October 11-22).

¡Dios te bendiga! (God bless you, in Spanish)†



Peace Baptist Church BCMWW Conference in Angola



Iglesia Bautista Imanuel Conference in Honduras

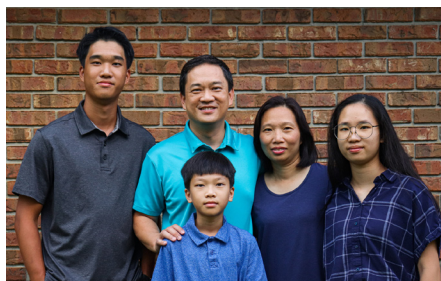
A Wild(s) Two Weeks

by Cedric & Candy Wong, missionaries to the Far East

Summer has come and gone quickly, and we are grateful for all that the Lord has allowed us to do. We were able to visit several new churches, and a couple of them have taken us on for support. Praise God, we are getting a little closer to our goal. One of the highlights of this past summer was the opportunity to serve at The Wilds Christian Camp for two weeks.

The first time we visited The Wilds was about 15 years ago. At that time, we thought it would just be a short visit, but God used it to build meaningful friendships and ministry partnerships over the years. This year, we were able to minister there because of a special connection. Years ago, I helped arrange for our friend, brother Bob Roberts, to teach at a local secondary school in Hong Kong (YMCA School). Through that relationship, the school decided to send students to The Wilds for summer camps. Last year, they sent a group, but the feedback was that the students had difficulty understanding the preaching in English. Since we now live close enough, we volunteered to go and help in whatever way we could. Because of our previous camp ministry experience in Hong Kong, the staff graciously welcomed us to serve.

This summer, 18 students and 3 teachers traveled from Hong Kong. Their journey was difficult—after a 20-hour flight, they were delayed for 12 more hours at the



Joshua, Caleb, Cedric, Candy, & Celia

Chicago airport, and many of them became sick with fevers. Thankfully, they eventually arrived safely at camp. My main duty was to interpret every service from English into Cantonese. Although I had interpreted before, this was the first time I had done simultaneous translation. It was exhausting at times, but praise God, many brothers and sisters encouraged me and expressed appreciation. Besides translating, we were also able to help the group understand cultural differences so they could better enjoy camp life.

It was busier than we expected, but we were thankful because it meant we could be useful. Both Candy and I have missed serving in a camp setting these past few years, and this reminded us how much we love this kind of ministry. We look forward to serving in similar ways when we return to Asia. Candy was especially blessed to spend

time with two of the teachers, speaking with them in her mother tongue, which she has had fewer opportunities to do here in the States.

Toward the end of the second week of camp, a young man named Luca made a profession of faith in Christ. Please pray for his spiritual growth and that his teacher will be able to help him connect with a local church back in Hong Kong. The school is already planning to return next summer, and I have spoken with a Chinese church here in Matthews, NC, to encourage their young people to join that same week so they can serve and interact with the students.

On the family side, Candy recently had a medical procedure. We are thankful that it went well, her recovery is good, and our insurance covered most of the cost. Please continue to pray for her health. Also, pray for our son Caleb. Moving several times these past few years has been difficult for him at his age. This year, we signed him up for a homeschool co-op a couple of days each week so he can not only learn but also build friendships during this transitional time.

Lastly, please continue to pray that God will connect us with more supporting churches, so that we can get to the field as soon as possible. †

Upcoming Good News 360 Conference

by Billy & Saritha Judson, Bible college educator / church planter in India

After a long and careful search, we have moved our family into a “new” apartment building. Though 28 years old, it has been recently renovated. The girls are adjusting well to the new living conditions, while also focusing on their mid-year exams.



Billy, Saritha, Keren, & Bernice Judson

In the midst of this transition, I have been traveling extensively - meeting with our Good News Bible College and Seminary coordinators, pastors, and church leaders to promote the upcoming **Good News 360 Conference, scheduled for October 8–11**. Along with these visits, I have had the privilege of preaching in various churches. At the same time, I continue to minister online for the evening services at our Good News Baptist Assembly in Hyderabad. For security, we have limited sharing our activities on social media.

At the 360 Conference, we will study the book of Ephesians in 14 sessions to equip

and encourage church leadership across India. Each session will include a one-hour teaching lesson, followed by the participants breaking into 10-15 discussion groups. These groups will engage using insightful

questions before presenting their conclusions to the larger gathering. This approach is designed to promote not only deeper learning but also give active participation, collaboration, and practical applications of the truths found in Ephesians.

We are preparing for up to 150 participants from different parts of the country. At present (in early September), 79 participants have registered. We anticipate and pray that many more will join before the conference begins. Thank you again for your prayers! †

ALONG THE WAY...

(continued from page 1)

Hancock, and several other missionaries from other boards. Please pray for the Pastors' School, and pray especially for JD and Kim as they navigate the weeks of treatment ahead.

Ted Allston will leave again to teach in India November 6-23. I believe Ted is travelling solo this time. Pray for his health and safety.

On October 23, **Joan and I** will be flying to Paris, France, to spend eleven days with the Bixby family in Sarcelles, northeast of the capital. This will be our first visit with them in France since they moved to the Paris area several years ago. Tim asked me to speak each of the two Sundays we are there. Pray that the messages will be clear and beneficial, and that this trip will result in blessings to all involved.

Though not mentioned in **Cedric Wong's** article, he and **Jeff Davis** spent much of August and September traveling together to churches, conferences, and Bible colleges. Pray that good results will come of this.

As we enter this time of year when seasons change - along with temperatures and the color of leaves - I want to thank you for your steadfast interest and prayers for the ministries of EMU International. †

Page 4

A Fruitful Winter

(continued from page 1)



Pastor Gabriel teaching at the winter retreat

in the afternoons, though still chilly in the mornings and evenings. The new HVAC units we installed earlier in August made a wonderful difference. John Mark Steel taught six sessions on the Psalms, and we held two roundtable discussions on the nature of the Church and the responsibilities of its members—an introduction to a study we'll begin soon on Sundays at our church.

Before closing, I'd like to share a few prayer requests:

- *Pray for wisdom for Lucas. Though he's working as a photographer, he's considering going back to college—but hasn't yet decided what to study.*
- *Pray for guidance and health for Héctor, Graciela, and Diego as they seek to enter Equatorial Guinea.*
- *Pray for the salvation of young people from Christian families who attend our church.*
- *Pray for spiritual growth and wisdom for several young people we are mentoring.*

Thank you for keeping these requests in your prayers. †

Growing Where You're Transplanted

by Brian & Lydia Kane, Krung Bible translation in Ban Lung, Cambodia

At the beginning of August, we returned to the US both to get our children settled into college and for our regularly scheduled furlough. Mia, our oldest, has returned to BJU for her senior year and is planning to graduate in May. Sophia and Hugh are entering as freshmen, Sophia majoring in Nursing and Hugh in Mechanical Engineering.

Please pray for each of them as they continue their studies, and especially for Sophia and Hugh as they, too, make this transition to this new place they will call home.

We have already had a wonderful beginning of reconnecting with family and friends—some new friends, and many long-time investors in the work in Cambodia. One of the greatest highlights was getting to be a part of the 100th birthday celebration of my grandfather, who, not only has been an example of godliness, but also has faithfully supported the work in Cambodia, especially in prayer. A godly heritage is an extraordinary gift from God. Please pray that God would enrich these friendships and encourage those who have faithfully invested in Cambodia.

Work on the OT translation continues even while we are here in the US. Since we've



*(standing l-r) Huge, Mia, Lydia, Brian, Jackson, Julia
(sitting l-r) Brianna, Natalia, Brian's grandpa, & Sophia*

returned, Saruen and Teah have finished their draft of the book of Judges and have begun drafting the book of Deuteronomy. Huun has finished recording the audio reading of the book of Joshua and is currently re-recording the book of Genesis, that we recently revised. On that note, we

praise God that we were able to finish the checking of Joshua/Haggai and the revisions of Genesis in time to do a printing of the finished portions of the OT. Our team is currently in the process of distributing those to the churches. Please continue to pray for these men as they do this important work. Pray not only that they would have the wisdom and skill they need, but that God would bless and protect their hearts, using even the Scriptures they are translating to enrich their own spiritual lives.

Thanks to each of you for bringing these prayer requests before the Lord. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the coming months. †

Email: office@emuinternational.org

Website: www.emuinternational.org

Phone: (864) 268-9267