

RUGUAY Steve & Jill McCarthy

Jan 2022 * mccarthymission@gmail.com * www.mccarthymission.com * 518.636.6716



Miracles Are What God Does

I once heard it said, "Impossible is where God starts. Miracles are what He does." Over the past 18 months we have seen how true these words are. We were just days away from having our first teams arrive and launching the Hope for Uruguay 100 project when COVID-19 hit. Borders and schools closed. Large gatherings like churches were suspended. And we debated whether it was truly the right time to launch an initiative of this magnitude when there were so many financial challenges and no construction teams from the States could enter the country. However, we couldn't shake the thought that in spite of these challenges, there were still lost people that desperately needed to know Jesus. We decided to move forward and trust God to do the impossible.

Without a doubt. He has! We've seen miracle after miracle. 14 new churches have been built in the last 14 months, all with local volunteers. Every church has been fully funded and there is an excitement among the national church leaders here to establish new churches. We already have 20 people interested in our year long mentorship and training program for new church planters that kicks off in March. It is a special season of harvest here and we love seeing the miracles that God is doing.

As a result of your prayers and generosity, we recently completed the construction of churches in Salto, Cañada Nieto, San Carlos, Pando and Pinamar. It was indeed an intense season of building, but extremely rewarding to know that these permanent structures are places where many will find new life in Christ.

We also had the opportunity to partner with Lucas, a young pastor just starting out in ministry,. We immediately sensed his call and loved his passion for reaching the people of Palmitas. He had recently moved to this new town, was sleeping on a mattress on the concrete sanctuary floor and took on the challenge of relaunching a church and fixing up an old building. Over the past few months we've had the privilege of partnering with him to revitalize this work and restore the building for the launch. It's so exciting to think of what will happen in this place and the great things God has in store for Lucas and this community. Recently the Lord blessed him with a wife and together with Ana, these newlyweds are reaching the community of Palmitas together. Thank you for your incredible generosity and helping us build hope for pastors like Lucas and people all across the nation of Uruguay.

As part of the 75 year celebration of the work of our fellowship in Uruguay, we were asked to share at regional gatherings for pastors. It was an incredible honor to speak on the topic of church planting and dream together about how we might continue to reach people across this nation.

We are so grateful to the Lord for ALL He is doing, and grateful to you! Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

Love,

Steve, Jill, Lucas, Josh & Julia



CHURCH DEDICATION IN CAÑADA NIETO



CHURCH DEDICATION IN SAN CARLOS



CHURCH DEDICATION IN **SALTO**

"Missionaries are very human folks, simply a bunch of nobodies trying to exalt somebody." —Jim Elliot









LUCAS: I finished third grade! My school celebrated the end of the year with a special show for the parents. I spent weeks practicing the same song and dance over and over at home until the point that Mom and Dad said I needed to take a break! But hey, practice makes perfect, right? I brought a soccer ball to have all of my school friends sign - a combination of two things I love - playing soccer and being with friends! In fact, I was a little disappointed that Thanksgiving fell on a school day ...and even worse...a gym day! Who wants to stay home and eat stuffing (ew!) when you could be playing sports with friends! Oh well, I did enjoy the desserts so it worked out ok!

JOSHUA: I graduated from kindergarten, complete with a cap and gown! We also put on a show for the parents and I surprised Mom and Dad with some great dance moves! I'm looking forward to summer and being able to play with Luke and JuJu, as I call them. I also LOVE the Christmas season and am so happy that Luke and I have our own mini Christmas tree in our room. Sometimes it falls over because it gets played with a lot, but no big deal! Mom said, "thank goodness for shatter-proof!" - whatever that means!

JULIA: I have gone from "toddling" to running now! I do my best to keep up with the boys, and I love to play with them no matter what it is - soccer, legos, video games...I just like being close to them! I also have my "girly" side too which Mom loves - until I pull all of her shoes out of the closet! hehe I am so friendly and love waving and greeting everyone around me whether we're at a store or on our walk or at church. I can even say "hola" or "hi" depending which language the person speaks!







PLEASE PRAY

-FOR THE SIX CHURCHES THAT WILL BE BUILT THIS YEAR
-FOR GOD TO CALL THE NEXT GENERATION OF CHURCH PLANTERS AND
FOR WISDOM AS WE TRAIN AND MENTOR THEM
-FOR A HARVEST OF SOULS, THAT DISCIPLES WOULD BE MADE AND NEW
CHURCHES ESTABLISHED ALL OVER URUGUAY

-FOR FINANCIAL PROVISION AND CONSTRUCTION TEAMS TO HELP BUILD THE NEW CHURCHES

-FOR HEALTH, STRENGTH & SUPERNATURAL PROTECTION
-FOR ANOINTING, WISDOM & FAVOR
-FOR OUR FAMILY, ESPECIALLY LUCAS, JOSHUA & JULIA



THANK YOU TO OUR NEW PARTNERS

-CELEBRATION CHURCH, FAIRHOPE, AL -SANTIAGO ALMANZAR, NEW CASTLE, PA

MINISTRY



RIBBON CUTTING IN CAÑADA NIETO



CONSTRUCTION IN PINAMAR



SHARING AT DEDICATION SERVICE IN SALTO



LUCAS & ANA
NEW PASTORS IN PALMITAS