



May, 2017

Dear Friends & Partners;

These are busy times! As you know, we are doing quite a bit of work to our house and are making good progress in this endeavor. However, we've also been pretty busy with our work, and things are moving rapidly in this regard. Our main church has seen 23 people make a profession of faith this year, and 8 have been obedient in Baptism. We don't have a baptistry, so we schedule special services at a river, or bring in a portable pool so that people can be baptized. We will have another one of these services very soon and hope to see other New Believers make their faith public. Our Church meetings are good, but we are facing an issue with space. If you read about the "Special Opportunity" at the bottom of this letter; you can see how we are trying to overcome this challenge. Many people have helped us get here and get set-up. However, this is an opportunity to help a Bolivian sister church serving in Tarija.

If you remember from our last letter, we told you about a group of young adults that Sandra and one of her ministry partners, Helen, worked with over 10 years ago. We asked that you join us in prayer as we reach out to these young Believers. This week, we began the process of searching for space to establish a more formal work in this area. Lord willing, we hope this will be a new Church plant in the future. We will keep you informed about the progress of this endeavor as things develop.

We are also in the "initial" phase of launching Bible Studies in 3 new areas. We have two families that drive a fair distance to meet with us as they live in areas where there is no church. Our goal is to begin Small Group ministries in their homes. We will then look at renting a bus to bring those who attend to our main services on Sunday morning. The third area is in the pueblo of a girl who travels an hour and a half to come to church on Sunday's. It is our hope to visit this area to see if it might be viable to begin a new work there as well. There is much work to do yet to launch these ministries and we ask you to pray with us for wisdom.

Another area that we are praying about is reaching out to the English speaking people here in Tarija. It is estimated that there are 250-300 people from English speaking countries residing in Tarija. This would be a unique opportunity here as it would allow us to help Bolivians that are learning English as well. We are not sure where this will lead, but it is a great opportunity to look into.

We want you to know that we love you and are greatly appreciative of your participation in our lives and work. Through your generosity, we are able to be here doing what God has called us to do. It is our hope and prayer that God richly blesses you as you serve Him! We are praying for you as you pray for us.

A Very Special Opportunity

Our church meets in a 12'X18' room. We have about 140 different people who have attended our services at various times. However, we can seat only about 40-50 at a time. Space is a real issue and we need to do something about it. We can build a building here for about \$8.50 per square foot and we have a plan in place to do so. If you would be interested in learning about this project, please go to this website: <http://tiny.cc/Tarija>



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