

## Mercedes, URUGUAY

August, 2024

Dear brethren, friends and family

Writing to you all from the **warm Canadian summer!** We are very grateful to each one of you that, month by month and over so many years have supported us in so many ways, praying, writing, giving etc....we know God has been, is and will continue to be by our sides. Thank you for your part in our corner of God's vineyard.



A lot of things have happened since our last newsletter. We praise God for regained health and strength. **Rob** is slowly getting back to normal, and he was able to teach a full term at the Bible Institute in Mercedes. He is taking responsibilities in preaching also but being careful that his load doesn't become overwhelming! God is good. **Cecilia** is keeping well, making sure she complies with the Doctors orders and checkups. She has to go back to the Oncologist in November for a 6-month check.



Our **Young People** from different generations are **getting married!!** We have had 3 weddings so far and 2 more to go before the end of the year. We are so thankful to see them married in the Lord and some of them staying in our city. As you know pretty well all the Y.P. go to the capital city to pursue their studies at different Universities. This leaves the interior churches with a depleted group of youth at a very important age and service. Once they careers in Montevideo they don't usually come back towns. We are very thankful that this year **we are**



finish their to their home **gaining four**

**couples** that after doing Bible School and marrying have decided to stay in Mercedes. For this we PTL.

The **monthly Ladies' meetings** are very well attended, and we are getting some unsaved and new faces. The Gospel is presented in a clear way and while we share refreshments at the end, we are able to get to know them better. **Please pray** with us for their salvation and restoration.



**July** was the month for the **winter camps and the missionary trip.** Fifteen from the Bible School project, made the trip to **Paraguay**

(1800 klm each way) to serve at a camp and work alongside a national Uruguayan missionary. Their experience was invaluable and came back rejoicing. We had to divide the group of Adolescents from Young People for the winter camps. The numbers have really grown and we had **85 for Y.P. and 105 for Adolescents.** Our capacity at Camp is 100 while the students are being housed.



We are **in Ontario** right now until September 11<sup>th</sup>. We came up mainly to be with **family**, as Rob's youngest sister Phyllis passed away suddenly back in May. We will hold a celebration of life for her on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September with all the **siblings** being present from different parts of Canada and Uruguay.

Please **pray** for the results in the celebrations that will take place on the Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> for **Children's Day**. The team of over 20 S.S. teachers and helpers have worked very hard to bring games, a live play with a Bible message, and serve a meal for the kids and adults present. We are **expecting around 100**.

Please keep in your prayers the upcoming **National Ladies' Retreat**, mid-September. We are already over 300 inscribed. This is a precious time around the Word of God for ladies, young and older, from all over the country. The fellowship is so sweet and it's an opportunity to see one another at least once a year.

Once again **thank you very much** for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

**Love you** in the Lord, our wonderful Savior Jesus.

*Rob and Cecilia Russell*



Gift bags made by Cecilia for Fathers' Day



*Cecilia loves making the bridal bouquets. She was kept busy*



We ladies always have a good time when we get together at Camp