



# The Ackerman Family

Missionaries to Bolivia

June 2, 2009

Dear Family, Friends and Prayer Partners, Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

There has been a whirlwind of activity since the last letter went out. We had a graduation ceremony for our oldest son Brandon and prepared a meal for over 70 people who visited. We rented a nice place with a thatched roof and I believe Brandon will remember that special night. When we planned the graduation we did not realize that the fiesta of the Cross was the same night, so many of the roads leading to the place of the graduation were blocked by crowds of people drinking in the streets.

The fiesta of the Cross is the celebration of the Cross of Christ. However for many Bolivians it is only an excuse to drink heavily. While studying the 10 Commandments recently I printed a simple children's version of the commandments of the Catholic Church and one from the Bible in Exodus 20. Despite the fact that the Catholic version does away the 2<sup>nd</sup> commandment and splits the 10<sup>th</sup> to make two and still comes up with 10, we noticed that the 4<sup>th</sup> or "keep the Sabbath Holy" was changed to say "keep the fiestas." It is no wonder there is no reverence for God as they are taught to keep the traditional fiestas.

Our Sunday school for kids is still going on and we are thankful we made the switch from the Hora Feliz to the Sunday school format. We have had some children coming very regularly to learn about the Lord and do some crafts.

Mothers Day in Bolivia is May 27 so we had a dinner for the mothers who come to church and also the mothers of the youth. The youth and I did all the preparation, cooking and serving, singing, and cleaning up. Yes, you read that right they also cleaned up! We had about 10 mothers come and there were 20 young people. The mothers ate lavishly and the youth ate the leftovers. I was very pleased with their participation. However I was sad for those young people whose mothers did not come.

We have also found ourselves ministering to many physical needs we have made several trips to the hospitals and doctors for those who attend the church services. Increased opportunities through these needs have given us opportunity to address some spiritual needs as well.

**Please pray** that the Believers here would grow strong in their relationship with Christ; for Bruno (55yrs) to recuperate from his appendix surgery and that his return to the Lord is serious. For Yuli, (17) one of our faithful youth who is suffering from Bulimia, for Yamil (15) who is having a difficult time at home being the only Believer, for Louis (13) who had an emotional break down the other day after recalling a tragic event in his past.

**Praises:** Yoelma (17) and Rafael (15) have started a discipleship course. Brandon has graduated and Nathan will be graduating July 10.

Simply His Servants and for His Glory

*Rick & Sheila Ackerman*

## **Sending Church**

Mt. View Baptist Church  
Copper Center, AK  
(907)-822-5262

## **Mission Agency (Support)**

Baptist Pioneer Mission  
P.O. Box 5114  
Kincheloe, MI. 49788  
(906)-495-5203  
[www.baptistpioneermission.org](http://www.baptistpioneermission.org)

## **Field Address & Correspondence**

Rick Ackerman  
Casilla #490 (New Box #)  
Tarija, Bolivia  
South America  
[www.theackermanfamily.net](http://www.theackermanfamily.net)