



Dear Prayer and Ministry Partners.

11 of March 2026

I bet some of you are wondering what is going on with us, as we have not written since our return. For that I apologize, our lives were thrown into a cyclone in our transitioning back into Bolivian Life. For sure, coming back to the mission field with limitations after several months of absence is not like coming home from a 2-week vacation.

We arrived in Tarija late on the 23rd of January and drove home. We cleaned a little and decided to clean more deeply and kick the spiders out of the house in the morning. We then headed for bed after a long a trip and we found our bed wet and moldy. We looked up and noticed the roof had been leaking for a long time, right over our mattress. So, we have been busy with roof repairs, ceiling repair and we bought a new mattress.

The church van and our vehicle also began to have problems caused by the gasoline, and we had to repair them. The church van just up and quit on us. Actually, the whole country was having vehicle problems. What happened was the socialist party was mad they lost the election so some people inside the refineries decided to sabotage the gasoline for the whole country by dumping chemical wastes from factories in the gas supply. The government said the chemicals were of several different compounds including liquid rubber. This bad gasoline ruined many engines in the country. The majority of those in our congregation that have vehicles were affected. This cost them a lot of money for repairs during a time of economic crisis. I pulled the gas out of our church van and found a half a gallon of this bad stuff in the tank. Our car was less affected, but I cleaned the tank on both vehicles and installed new filters, so far, they are running well.

The church and ministry are doing well. We made it through Carnival intact, but some families had some serious issues because their older teens during that time became entangled in sin. That also meant we were involved in ministry more, trying to help these families get through their crises. Many of our church members live in the middle of a community that resembles Sodoma and Gomorra during Carnival. It's sad, because there are always casualties in the wake of this month-long sinful celebration.

My back is healing well, but I feel my limitations. My struggle is trying to balance my day and not trying to do too much, which sets me back. A lower back fusion takes a year to recover from and if a person does not listen to the doctor the fusion could fail and parallelization could be the result. We certainly do not want that, as I am person that has done some dumb things in the past, when my mind says yes and body says no. That is even more critical now that I am 66. Sheila is doing well, and she is the best gift ever to me.

Please pray for: Our health, the economic crisis in Bolivia, and those 3 families struggling with their teens

Praise: for the goodness and faithfulness of God, the recuperation of our lost airfares. We praise the Lord for those churches who gave some large donations to the ministry in January, you were a big blessing to us.

We thank the Lord for your prayers for us, and this ministry. Thank you for your sacrifice in giving to this ministry.

For His Glory, Rick & Sheila Ackerman

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The link for making online donations is; <https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/NX87WD/>

If you desire to give, please put "Ackerman" in the memo section of the online gift.