



The Ackerman Family - Missionaries to Bolivia

Feb. 24, 2015

Dear Prayer Partners, and family. We are now almost 3 months into 2015! And just think it was not but 15 years ago some were saying the big Y2K was the end. Well here we are 15 years later. And God in his mercy has given us more time to share His Gospel with the lost and to encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ. I do hope you are being faithful to do so, because so many still need to hear it.

The Family Conference that was cancelled in September and then again in November is rescheduled for March 24-27.

The Aldana and Segovia families were baptized a few weeks back, what a blessing to baptize these seven. After several postponements, bad weather, work schedules, and rising rivers we were finally able to have a wonderful church picnic and baptism. In late January we were able to have our bi annual kids club in the communities of San Lorenzo and Canasmoro, more than 60 children heard the Gospel of Christ. It is always a lot of work to prepare for these clubs but it sure is worth it when you see their smiles and especially when one of them accepts Christ as his or her Savior.

Last week started the almost month long Carnaval here in Bolivia, it is indeed the most vile time of the year. But however we were able to escape the main festivities, when it was San Lorenzo's turn to host. Almost the whole church came to our house for a day of devotions, recreation, and fellowship, some even spent the night. It was good time for all.

The church has had experienced many blessings but they have also come with trials. The family Aldana had a motorcycle stolen while we were in church, it was never recovered. Therefore they bought a new one, as it was their only transportation to work. Well Brother Rider hit some loose sand 2 days later and crashed, both he and the bike were banged up pretty good. My mother in Florida was hospitalized in the ICU in Jan, then released, then back to hospital this week. Praise God she is out again. (This was a trial for my family). We have had some extreme rains here in the valley and on the 11th of Feb it rained so hard and so long the river rose, and then 2 small dams up river busted and the river overflowed its banks causing much damage, Praise the Lord it only came within 30 yards of our house. But it was tense the following week as it continued to rain hard. Now God has given us several days of sunshine ☺

It is official we will be returning to the states for a short 3.5 months. On May 4, I will have a total knee replacement done in Wisc. On June 13 our Sharon graduates from Shepherds College. After a time of recuperation from the surgery we plan on traveling to Alaska to visit our supporting churches. I have sent e-mails to some of you in Alaska and some letters. If you are a supporter in Alaska and you have not heard from me, something has gone wrong, please contact me at rickyack@gmail.com. We only have 1 month to be in Alaska so, I am doing my best to fit all of our Alaska churches in. Then we have to be in KC to fly back to Bolivia on Aug 4.

Prayer requests Please pray for; The health of my parents, Allan and Joan Ackerman; That Rider would heal quickly from his fall. For our upcoming trip to the states and my surgery. **Praises:** God's goodness and faithfulness and His provision of providing someone to take care of our home and ministry while we are gone, Ellis and Jillian Narcisse missionaries in Bolivia.

For His Glory, Matt. 5:16
Rick & Sheila Ackerman

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