he SaintS Sharing the love of God in CHILE

August 21, 2018

Dear Prayer Partners,

July and August have flown by and we wonder where the time went. We were able to spend almost two weeks with Nathan's family and enjoyed their help with the ministry as well. One evening we set up a table on a busy street here in town and passed out about 50 cups of coffee along with a gospel tract and an invitation to church. Several promised to come, but our current location might make it difficult for them to find us.

Our average attendance has been up slightly compared to the previous two months, but that is mostly due to the faithfulness of Sergio's family. Coni, Ignacio, and Cecilia continue to come to about half of the services. Cecilia brought her mother with her once or twice and brought a friend with her daughter on another occasion. It's exciting to know that she is sharing her faith with others. Juan Carlos came once or twice as well, but we haven't seen Alejandro and Nora since we last wrote, in spite of attempts to call them and visit them. We continue to pray for more visitors and expect our soon to be more public location will have a big impact in that area.

Which brings us to our most pressing matter – the future church property. We just toured the property and can see that 95% of the repairs have been completed. Some of the permissions from the city have already been granted. They expect another week or two to finish the repairs, and then nobody knows when the city will grant the final permissions for the sale. Their best estimate is still the end of September but maybe not until the end of October.

God has blessed us tremendously regarding fundraising. After we sent our last letter we had a generous donor promise to match up to \$25,000 worth of donations and several churches and individuals sent in generous gifts for the purchase of the property. We currently have \$46,000 of the \$60,000 we need to raise, and the next \$6,300 we receive will still be matched. That means we are very close to having all the funds needed for the next payment. In fact, I believe if every supporting church that hasn't yet had an opportunity to give took a simple love offering for the building and if every adult with a paycheck gave \$10, I believe we could not only reach that \$60,000 payment that will be due in a few months but also reach the \$100,000 total price for the property.

But wait, because the good news doesn't stop there. The exchange rate between Chilean pesos and dollars has changed since we first announced the \$100,000; so that, at the current exchange rate, the price for the property is now only \$94,000! If we can pay it all off before the exchange rate sours, we will save \$6,000! We'd really love to have the money by the end of September so we can make the payment and move in to the property as soon as possible. Again, if you are considering giving towards this opportunity, please do so before the end of September.

We were able to measure the space on the property; and, sure enough, the current meeting space should fit at least as many seats as we currently fit in our living room - maybe even a few extra. As the group of believers begins to give faithfully we are saving up to be able to build out the back of the building, which will triple our space and hopefully seat 60-70 people with plans for a separate auditorium to seat 100-130 later on down the road. There is more than enough parking on this property, and its zoning is suitable for use as a church.

It's on the corner of an important intersection in the middle of the growing part of town. We've included some pictures showing different housing projects or developments that have recently opened or are under construction. Pretty much all of the growth in San Pedro de la Paz (our population has doubled in the last 20 years) is currently happening right around this location. The community ranges from lower middle class to upper middle class people. About a mile from our location, they are currently building a technical college and a mall so the growth isn't going to slow down any time soon.

If a Chilean is going to go to church, he or she needs the church to either be 1) within walking distance (we have an estimated 35,000 people within a mile of us now) or 2) easily accessible by bus (we'll have bus lines driving right in front of our building soon) or 3) have secure parking (this location has plenty). This piece of property is all we could ever ask for, and we can't wait to use it for the glory of God to reach our community for the Savior. As you look at the pictures included, we are the closest church for most of the units pictured, and we are the only church within at least two miles that is not Pentecostal.

To those who have already given, thank you. To those who have not, please consider sending an offering, even if you think it's not much. If every working adult at our supporting churches gave \$10, I know God could take that little bit and make something great. Please send contributions to BIMI at PO Box 9, Harrison, TN 37341. Make sure to include a note that says "Saint building project."

Yours for His service, The Saints



Ministry Goals:

- Evangelize the lost
- Equip the believers
- Establish NT churches

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