



# Paraguay Missions

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MAY  
2013

## EXCITING NEWS!!

Dan and I received the most exciting news that I just had to share with you. **We are going to be grandparents!** Our oldest son, Daniel and his wife, Natalie, are expecting their first child on September 25th. September is already a great month in this family. It is Dan and Daniel's birthday month and will be the first year anniversary of Daniel and Natalie, but now we have something else to look forward to. I am so very excited that I am telling anyone who will listen. When I put it on my Facebook, I had comments from Canada, the U.S., Argentina and Paraguay. Just in case there was one person in the church in Paraguay that hadn't heard the exciting news yet, I announced it during my part in the National Convention.

Our National Convention was great! Dan was on program to preach at 8:30am Saturday morning. We were kind of joking that it would be the two of us plus one very punctual Pastor. I was very surprised at the great turnout, and he gave an inspiring message. There were no surprises for us during appointments. Dan will continue on the National Committee, District Overseer of the Chaco and of Ciudad del Este, Pastor of Carapegua and teacher of the church Seminary. The only change is that Dan was officially named Pastor for Quyuquyo and Mboi Cae. It has been too difficult for Pastor Angel living in the city with his work, Seminary, and now studying to be a mechanic also to do the travelling with us. Dan has been faithfully continuing the work in these two areas and I continue to teach the children on Wednesday nights in Quyuquyo.

I was reappointed as Assistant National Youth Director for the next 2 years. It seems that someone with that title should not be someone that also has the title of Grandma, but the Lord knows what He is doing. Since I have 10 youth from the Children's Home that call me "Aunt Miriam" (Miriam is my middle name and I use that here because it is easier in Spanish) some of the other youth from the other churches have starting calling me that, too. I love it! Dan and I have both noticed that many neighbors now call us Aunt and Uncle now as well. I have even had a neighbor lady who is much older than me call me Aunt Miriam.

Two different times this month we have not been able to travel to Quyuquyo for church because the heavy rains washed out the road. The first time, it completely washed a bridge away and left the communities isolated for 3 days. Lucky for those communities, it was the week before elections so the road crews were sent out immediately so people would be able to vote.

Dan was blessed to have a travelling companion to go with him to the Chaco this time. Samuel Lopez, is a Pastor's son and the youth leader of the church here at the camp. It was his first time to visit the Chaco and he really enjoyed his trip. Dan asked him to preach one of the services in La Rosa Cue. He didn't want to, but he did and he did great. Dan loaded up the truck with clothes and food to give away. They were also able to visit Saria. The chief and the Spiritual Leader of Saria were both present at the National Convention for the first time ever.

While in the Chaco, Dan and Samuel stopped at a restaurant for a meal. The owner asked Samuel if Dan were a Pastor because he said Dan looked like one. The owner later asked Dan to come and visit him next time he goes to the Chaco

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because he would like to sit and talk with him. He also offered to take Dan hunting on his property. Please help us pray for this opportunity.

I celebrated Mother's Day several different days this year. Mother's Day in North America was the final day of our National Convention. We were invited to go have lunch with the Overseer and his family, plus our General Presbyter. It just so happened that they picked my favorite restaurant—an all you can eat Chinese restaurant. May 15th is Mother's Day here. The teen boys called out happy Mother's Day from their bedroom window when I went outside in the morning. As soon as the girls got up, several rushed over to give me hugs. The best part of the day for me was that Dan did the cooking. Friday, May 17th was a Mother's Day program at the high school. Several of the teens invited me to attend but one in particular brought me an invitation, and I could tell from her way of asking that it was important for her that I go. As the program started with prayer (a Catholic prayer) and then one of the presentations was a student singing a Christian song about a mom praying for her child, I thought about how blessed I am to live in a country where God is still allowed in the schools.

Dan has been extra busy with camp work. His tractor is not working and the mechanic that promised to come out to look at it from the city has failed to come three times. This means Dan is cutting with the weed whipper. I have done some with the lawn mower, but the biggest help has been from Samuel Lopez. He has come out for several days to volunteer his time and brought his machine with him. It is so much slower to cut acres and acres like this, but they cut lower than the tractor so it is looking really good.

## **PRAISE**

Praise the Lord for the youth that gave their hearts to the Lord during our all night youth service. It was exciting for me to see one of these youth at the National Convention helping his Grandfather clean the church. To me this is what it is all about, youth plugged in to serve in all areas of ministry.

I mentioned in the last newsletter about Dan being one of the teachers preparing 4 Lay Ministers for ministry. Thankfully, they completed the courses and all passed the Foundations Course. The last picture on the following page is of these 4 receiving their Ministers License during the Convention.

Dan bought about 30 trees, plants and flowers for the camp. Praise the Lord we have had lots of rain days so these plants are flourishing and the camp looks even more beautiful.

## **PRAYER**

Please keep praying for our 3 mission teams that are preparing to come in July and August. They are coming to do different projects and the excitement is building. The High Point Team will be mostly working in Quyuquho, the Collingwood team here at the camp, and the Georgia team in Carapegua. Pray for their fundraising, visas, and passports to go through without a problem, and for the health of each team member.

Please continue to pray for both Dan and I as we fulfill our ministry commitments. On average, Dan puts about 600 km or 400 miles per week minimum on the vehicle teaching and preaching.

Pray for our son, Daniel and his wife, Natalie, as they are preparing for their first child.

Please continue to pray for all our kids here. Carolina and Samuel will be graduating high school this December and Zulma, Alejandra, and Elena are finishing grade nine, so they need to decide which direction to specialize in for the next three years of high school.



More exciting baby news!! On May 1st, which is Labor Day here in Paraguay, Jade Noemi weighing 7lbs. 3oz. was born. Jade in Spanish is pronounced "Ha-day". While Maria, Osvaldo and Jade were in the hospital Dan and I stayed in the Home. It was the first time they had ever left Kevin. He did great with us and the first time he got upset with his dad after they returned home, Kevin told Osvaldo that it was more fun with Uncle Dan!

It is always fun for us to spend more time with the kids. In our last newsletter, we told you about Pedro. We have discovered the reason he was not talking. It is that he does not speak Spanish or Guarani. He

Speaks an Indian dialect. Dan went to the National Indigenous office in the city and they told him that if the Judge that sent Pedro to us sends them written permission then they will send out a representative to find out what language he speaks to learn where he came from. In other words, we are keeping Pedro for a while. If it were up to us we would all love to keep him permanently. He is such a sweet boy, very affectionate and loves to help. During our time in the Home he started calling Dan "Dad" and would grab Dan's hand to walk with him.

Since the weather has turned colder I bought Pedro some warmer clothes today. He had his usual big grin and took the clothes to his room. Then he came back and gave me a big hug.

The Colgate van that I mentioned last month had to come back to do more dental work on Liz and

Marcos. Fortunately for us they also treated Pedro too.

Samuel Lopez really wanted to take the youth to the Convention on the Saturday since we had a special youth program that night. He organized the youth and they had hotdog sales. With the proceeds he rented a bus that came and got our youth at 6:00am and then delivered them again to the Home around 11:30 that night. All of the youth from our Area were to wear t-shirts from the Paraguay soccer team for the youth march. Thanks to an offering we received from the Collingwood church, I was able to purchase the t-shirts for all 16 kids in the Home. I took all the youth with me after school one day so they could get their sizes. We purchased just about every t-shirt in the market of Carapegua.



< Sofia's 13<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Angel, Samuel and Sofia wearing their new Paraguay soccer shirts in the Convention. >



< So grateful to Sis. Hilda that Rosa Catalina (a neighbor) has a warm coat in this cooler weather

4 New Licensed Ministers. >





← Daniel, Natalie, Dan, Gwen, and Kyle Miller. Also in this picture is Kyle's girlfriend, Dani.

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## Donation Information as follows:

Please continue sending the missions funds you are sending to support our ministry to our International Offices in Cleveland, TN.

All checks are made payable to the **Church of God of Prophecy** and mailed to the Church of God of Prophecy International Offices, 3720 Keith Street, P. O. Box 2910, Cleveland, TN 37320-2910.

Offerings and funds for the personal support of Dan and Gwen Miller should be marked on the memo line or with a separate note stating: HPL2—Daniel Miller—Personal support. (Note: HPL2 stands for Harvest Partners Level 2).

Offerings and funds for the Children's Home should be marked on the memo line or with a separate note stating: HPL2—Daniel Miller—Children's Home.

Any other donations should be marked clearly as to what they are for.

Offerings and funds for the Promise Land Camp should be marked on the memo line or with a separate note stating: HPL2—Daniel Miller—Camp.

## Final Thoughts from Dan:

As Gwen mentioned earlier in this newsletter, we have had an abundance of rain over the last several weeks—so much in fact, that during the past week it filled our three ponds to overflowing capacity. It is the first time in many years that we have seen this much rain and as I write this part of the newsletter, it continues to rain. While it has done some damage to the roads, it is most welcome as we had been going through a long season of no or little rain. Some would give a scientific explanation, however I believe there is a different reason. A couple of months ago, Gwen asked you to pray for rain. My explanation is...“God answered your prayers.” Thank you so much for praying. A simple prayer, a little faith, and God will always respond.

Blessings, Dan and Gwen