

June 2017

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.....whatever you did for one of the least... you did it for me. Matt 25:35-36, 40

Healing Wounds of the Heart

In April, I (Kathleen) was blessed with to participate in a Trauma Healing course in La Paz, a course put on by *The Trauma Healing Institute of The American Bible Society*. This organization is equipping people, churches, and NGOs around the world to care for the more than one in seven people worldwide who suffer severe wounds of the heart and spirit in the aftermath of conflict, disaster or abuse.



Along with my friend, Kathy Maenner, we have begun a Trauma healing group with 9 people from 4 countries.



The Trauma Healing material is being contextualized for use in Bolivia so that families and their caregivers can benefit.

Cuba

We spent February and March in Cuba with CBM's partner *Fraternidad de Iglesias Bautista de Cuba* (FIBAC). FIBAC President Maykel Baez connected us to

key church leaders and Christians (both from Cuba and other countries) working through Cuba's unique culture and politics to bring hope to those who sometimes have little hope. We are troubled that many Cubans, both inside and outside of the church can only envision a hopeful future for their children by living outside of Cuba. The challenges and opportunities are great, for the church to be a witness of God's love, having impact in individual lives as well as in communities.

Pray for Christian leaders in FIBAC to be encouraged by CBM's partnership, to have wisdom as they work with pastors and churches in Cuba and to continue to provide valuable insights to their Canadian partners as we collaborate. For a glimpse of our time in Cuba go to: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/1bzjzvfry455697/Greeting%20to%20Churches.mpg?dl=0>

Bolivia

We are pleased to be welcoming new colleagues, **Bill and Janice Dyck** on June 1. They join us to learn, share their gifts, and to accompany our church partners with a focus on supporting theological education. A delegation of ministry partners met them at the airport and planned a welcoming event in their honour – a great beginning to their future ministry in Bolivia.



Learning and equipping teams (STM) season is upon us ;-). We have already had or will welcome teams from NB, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta. These cross cultural learning experiences provide churches with a unique

opportunity to experience life and faith outside of their own context. It is very satisfying to be a part of what God is doing in the lives of individuals and churches as they reflect on the impact of their time in Bolivia. Many of our visitors get exposed to the work involved in eradicating Chagas disease. This short video gives a glimpse of the significance of this work in the lives of those living in areas affected.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/mciema04ohnvlzd/Bolivia%20Update%20May%202017.mp4?dl=0>

In addition we have recently experienced a rich time with **PRAXIS** students from Canada. The Praxis scholarship is offered each year for Baptist seminary students to engage in missiological reflection on a significant issue related to Gospel and Culture in a global context. For us in Bolivia it was an opportunity to engage Bolivian leaders and students as well as CBM staff with the themes of creation care, poverty, and how the church can offer vision and engagement.

Canadian Baptist seminary students can talk to Adrian Gardner agardner@cbmin.org about how you can take advantage of this exciting opportunity to grow in your vision of ministry (Praxis 2018).



Team Leader Meeting

We are planning to be in Canada before Thanksgiving for meetings in our Mississauga office. This will give us the opportunity to speak in two Ontario churches as well as to see our children (Laura & Jon - Petawawa, Ben & Elissa - Ottawa). We also plan a short visit with

our eastern family (Caroline & Jonathan - Saint John, Kathleen's Mother - Halifax) as well as our home church, *The Journey Church*, Moncton, NB during this time.

Prayer Requests, Thankfulness and Gratitude

Thank you for your prayers for Bruno and the family as his Dad continues to live with cancer. His life motto is still "La Vie est Belle".

Pray for our new colleagues, Bill & Janice Dyck, as they settle into life and ministry in Bolivia. We believe strongly in team and collaboration. Please pray that we can learn to leverage each member's talents and heart for ministry, for maximum effectiveness.

*Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.
The Lord will indeed give what is good,
and our land will yield its harvest.*

Psalms 85:10-12

Bendiciones

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