

Paraguay Prayer Calendar July August 2013



Discipleship training group
with Mark & Paulette Swiger



50 years of God's faithfulness to St Andrews College
planting trees for the future

Week Mon 1 – Sun 7 July – Thank our God partners in the Gospel

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.

Phil 1:3-5

Answered prayers for health needs in the Chaco:

- Angela M's amazing response to basic medicines after months of suffering, her heart is improving and she can now breathe and walk normally (please pray that her kidney infection would also improve)
- Noemi, Antolin, Justino and Porfino are all improving enormously with their tuberculosis medicines and praise the Lord that Hugo and Manuel have completed their course of treatment and are now completely well again!

Pastor Agustín Maidana asks us to give thanks for his health and the continued improvement in the condition of his heart. His doctors are very pleased with his progress and Agustín is now visiting the Chaco communities regularly, where his ministry is much appreciated.

Bishop Peter and Sally Bartlett give thanks for the recent visit of Mark and Paulette Swiger thanking the Lord for:

- discipleship training for the pastors and leaders in Asuncion
- 111 people who filled out cards expressing a desire to grow and mature as disciples (please pray for the pastors as they follow this up)
- preparation of a discipleship programme for the congregations

Mission Paraguay, David Orritt asks us to give thanks for:

- the generosity of God's people in providing the funding to enable the projects planned for this year to go ahead
- the commitment and enthusiasm of the volunteers from churches in the UK, Ireland and the USA who will be working in different communities in Asunción, Concepción and the Chaco during July and August
- the hospitality of the different churches who will be hosting our visit and the members of the Anglican Church who will be working alongside us

Gwen Carlisle and Mags Southern give thanks for St Andrew's School 50th anniversary celebrations:

- that God might be glorified through all celebrations which have taken place last week
- for all the ex-pupils, pupils and parents who attended our 50th anniversary celebrations that they might reflect on the messages they heard

With FEISA we give thanks for the:

- first semester which has just been completed
- leadership of Ana Demestri
- Lord has been faithful and will always be faithful
- 2nd year students successful completing of their preschool teaching practices
- God's wisdom and strength for the staff and students
- Pastor Donald's teaching course - A Biblical Worldview

Week Mon 8 – Sun14 July – Overflowing love

I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. Phil 1:9,10

Please pray for the Chaco pastors' and leaders' Bible Encounter taking place this week in Rio Verde, remembering in prayer the team from Asuncion: Peter, Agustin, Luis, Teo, Chris and Victor who are leading this event. Please pray for spiritual and physical protection for each participant. There is much excitement on the part of the Chaco leaders, may the Lord's special touch of love and power be at work in many lives during this week!

Important prayer topic:

Esteban Romero is leading a youth camp this weekend at Surubí, please pray for overflowing Christian love amongst the young people and their leaders, for the young people to really grasp what is important in following Jesus and living the Christian life they have been called to. Pray for spiritual protection and good weather and for all the necessary practical arrangements.

Please pray for Mission Paraguay:

- this year volunteers will be arriving on a number of dates between 10th July and 1st August, we pray that there will be safety in travel, no flight disruptions and that all luggage will arrive
- the Lord will bless all the volunteers during their time in Paraguay and that they may each experience a closer walk with Him and grow in His love
- the Lord will guide all decisions being made concerning the practical projects being undertaken this year
- the visits we make to different church communities should times of mutual blessing and encouragement

Mission Esperanza:

- praise the Lord for movement forward in the agreement between the home and the government ministry
- pray for baby V whose young parents are working to form a stable relationship under the covering of the father's extended family
- giving thanks for house aunty Inocencia
- for the Lord's provision of a suitable helper for Inocencia
- for the placement in the coming weeks of children needing a stable home environment whilst the legal process regarding their long term futures is worked through

Please pray for the Asuncion pastors as they meet this Friday morning to continue working on the discipleship programme document, and as they follow up the people requesting help with discipleship.

If you have not chosen the Kingdom of God first, it will in the end make no difference what you have chosen instead.
William Law

Week Mon 15 – Sun 21 July – Spreading the Good News

And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News. For everyone here, including the whole palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ. And because of my imprisonment, most of the believers here have gained confidence and boldly speak God's message without fear. Col 1:12-14

St Andrews School ask us to pray for:

- the staff of the school that they might be able to rest in the holidays after such a busy term
- the pupils, that they will rest and return to school ready to settle down to work
- the inter school sports competition taking place on July 28th after being cancelled due to bad weather
- good health for all after such a long period of cold and damp and much illness, remembering also the pupils in the annexe school too
- seeds sown in many families to germinate and produce fruit for the Kingdom

The church in Concepcion, Claire Holmes as us to pray:

- the times the Mission Paraguay team will be with us - 23 to the 28th July
- that God will protect the leaders and continue to raise up new leaders for all the different areas
- for God's healing for families that are suffering.

St Andrews Cathedral, we pray for:

- the newly started youth group & its leaders Clari, David, Guille y Rodrigo
- those who are sick, whether in spirit, mind or body – for healing
- the children who attend the Sat Kids Club, for their protection and for more seeds to be planted in good soil in the children's hearts, that in God's time there would be a great harvest
- the ladies craft group, for direction and creativity and the Lord's direction
- wisdom for the new church council
- families of the church that they would be agents of growth in the Kingdom of God

Chaco churches, please pray for:

- Chaco pastors Lucio, Juan, Mario and Robert and deacons Romualdo, Mario, Niño Pepe and Agripino, may they boldly implement growth in their communities as a result of input received in the Bible Week
- Pastor Lucio's little granddaughter who mother died shortly after she was born
- a strengthening of family ties in the Chaco families during times of separation as the men migrate to find work.
- protection for the young people who remain in the communities without work that they would draw near to the Lord and receive spiritual protection from the powers of darkness
- families coping with the after effects of suicide, may the Lord bring comfort and give wisdom to community leaders as they struggle to come to terms these tragedies
- the Christians at Salazar and their witness to many unbelievers

Pray for the director and staff of the Annexe School as they deal with complex pastoral situations.

Week Mon 22 – Sun 28 July – Boldness for Christ

For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past. And I trust that my life will bring honour to Christ, whether I live or die. Col 1:20

This week please take some time to pray for believers in Paraguay and the believers where you live that the Lord might enable each one of us to honour him and be bold as we live the Christian life we have been given, through Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Please pray for the Asuncion pastors and leaders as they prepare to start pastoral interviews with church members:

- wisdom
- professionalism
- good organisation
- the guidance of the Holy Spirit

Praying for Christ the Redeemer Church, Zeballos Cue, let us thank God for this church and its members and leaders and ask that the Lord will do a deep work in the lives of many, enabling them to live lives that bring honour to Christ.

St Andrews Chapel, we pray for:

- a revelation of the Father's plans for and love towards each attender
- those who have moved to new places to quickly find churches
- new members
- boldness, fresh life, love and wisdom in the leading of services and preaching of the Word

Please pray for the Diocesan Executive Committee, for Bishops Peter & Andres, Agripino, Donald, Luis, Mags, Romualdo and Sara. The Diocese is facing many economic challenges and we pray for wisdom and a moving from dependency to responsible stewardship, and from maintenance to mission. We pray for unity of purpose and good relationships and for a good response in the congregations to their proposals. We pray for Bishop Peter as he is visiting the congregations and teaching on discipleship, finances, generosity and tithing.

Week Mon 29 July – Sun 4 August Following Christ together

For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him. We are in this struggle together. You have seen my struggle in the past, and you know that I am still in the midst of it.

Col 1:29,30

Please pray for health and well being needs in the Chaco, remembering nurse Beryl and her clinic, the health promoters who are still waiting for the provision of government salaries, especially, Lidia, Norma, Cirilo, Daniel, Crisotbal and Lalo. Give thanks for Liberato, who although blind continues to give advice and counselling. Also for Narcisa, as she struggles with family problems and the bringing up of her young daughter with Down Syndrome. Please pray for FEISA that the Lord will continue to provide the funding. Please pray for Director Ana Maria for strength, creativity and the Lord's guiding in her leadership. Please pray for the approval of new course and for each and every one of the students that they would be challenged to see the Christian faith as central to their calling as teachers of Paraguay's young children.

Rev Ronald Irene asks us to pray for Christ the Saviour Church in Villa Guarani and we pray that for:

- those who are attending will grow as disciples and formalise their membership of the church
- Ronnie and Nicky to be empowered in their leadership of this young congregation
- Rachel, Natasha and Marcelo as they start to lead worship
- 2 weekly Bible studies
- the church's links with EMA Marriage Encounter

Please pray for Paraguay as Horacio Cartes takes up the presidency and forms a new government. Pray that:

- President Cartes will be guided by God and govern justly and for the good of all Paraguayans
- all politicians will work together for the good of the whole nation
- God fearing men and women to be moved into places of influence
- reduction in organised crime and terrorist activities
- corruption to be bought out into the open

Chaco believers, please pray for:

- all who struggle with depression, oppression or suicidal thoughts
- wise use of the communities resources
- new sources of employment
- wisdom in dealing with visits from sects
- unity amongst the church members
- Chris Hawksbee and his important work visiting to churches and groups and training disciples
- Wisdom for the leaders in the Rio Verde area

*Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.
Be Thou My Vision*

Week Mon 5 – Sun 11 Aug

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness. Col 2:6,7

Let us pray for Tim and the translation team in Rio Verde, for good health and as they start back at work after a short break. Praying for Tim, Asuncion and Juan for stamina as they check Job and for spiritual protection.

Lord Jesus, our Great Teacher we pray for all Christian teachers in their responsibility to teach, guide and be examples for their students. We pray especially for: Alison H, Hannah, Sam, Jaqui & Deborah and the Anglican members of St Andrews staff: Gwen Carlisle, Mags Southern, Caroline B, Esteban R, Hannah T, Nicky I, Raquel G, Neill B, Noemi R, Sarah M, Rita C, Miriam G, Regina E, Donald B, and chaplain Ronald I. We also pray for Julio and Nancy in their new responsibilities in the maintenance and cleaning teams, that the Lord would direct them in their leadership and that they will be prospered in their service for the Lord. Amen.

Gwen Carlisle asks us to pray for St Andrews School pupils (1st to 9th grades) taking second term exams next week and for certificate evening at the end of August when students receive their IGCSE certificates.

Please pray for Ronny & Nicky, Juanca & Marlene, Carlos & Stella, Kevin & Laura, and all the other couples busy preparing for the next Anglican Marriage Encounter, for unity, wisdom and creativity in all their planning and preparations, and that the Lord will be preparing the hearts of those couples who will be participants on the weekend. Please pray for the Lord to raise up couples willing to share their testimonies.

Pastor Lucho asks us to pray for the Saturday feeding programmes for children in Remansito and Mirador, that there would be an increase in evangelism to the families of the children and for the testimony of the church with these families. Please also pray that the young people of St Johns, Miradaor and King of kings would be active in their communities. Sonia asks us to pray for the young people in Remansito to be united and to grow in maturity. May these children and young people have deep roots in Jesus and build their lives on him, growing strong in truth and overflowing with thankfulness to the Lord.

It is impossible to live the life of a disciple without definite times of secret prayer. You will find that the place to enter in is in your business, as you walk along the streets, in the ordinary ways of life, when no one dreams you are praying, and the reward comes openly, a revival here, a blessing there. Oswald Chambers

Week Mon 12 – Sun 18 Aug - Living this week in the reality of heaven

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honour at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. Col 3:1-3

Bishop Andres asks us to pray for:

- more male pastoral workers to be raised up
- the spiritual stability for the believers in Ypabobo as they are often perturbed by the visit of sects
- the mission team with them in Concepcion this week
- for all the children's day activities which are taking place in the church's missions this week

Sharon McCririe is thanking God for a new download of His love, this time for a group of addicts in the park. Praise Him for opening their hearts to unburden their souls and listen to His message of salvation and liberation. Pray for wholehearted conversions and the resurrection from the dead of an army of disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Donald Brook asks us to please pray for Luque for:

- the development of the vision for discipleship
- the Lord's healing touch for Francisca, Mari and D.
- Doña Roberta
- the Esteban Romero and the young people

Ronny and Nicky Irene ask us to pray for parents and children of St Andrews School. Let us pray for Ronny & Nicky that their testimony and words would have a greater impact on the students and their families and that their ministry would enable others to set their sights on the realities of heaven

San Lorenzo, we pray for Teo Rivas that much would be accomplished for the Kingdom of Heaven by the leading and empowering of the Holy Spirit.

Week Mon19 – Sun 25 Aug -

Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. Col 4:2-4

Please pray for the leaders of the Anglican Church in Paraguay, that each one would be devoted to prayer, alert and thankful. We remember: Peter & Sally; Andrés & Estela; Agustín & Teresa; Juan & Alicia; Lucio & Priscilla; Luis & Regina; Mario & Rosa; Robert & Cristina; Cefe & Ana; Agripino & Nilda; Lucho & Estela; Ronald & Nicky; Mario & Agustina; Niño Pepe & Feliciano; Romualdo & Yrna; Donald & Caroline; and Claire, the pastoral workers and all church council members.

Lord Jesus, thank you for increasing opportunities to speak in Paraguay about God's plan of salvation. Lead you people in bold and clear witness to and proclamation of your message across the churches of Paraguay. Holy Spirit we pray that you will be working in many hearts, bringing men, women and children to repentance and new birth in the Kingdom. We ask this in your name, and by your shed blood. Amen.

Luis C from Remansito is involved in preaching and encouraging at the Tacumbú prison. Please pray for the men who are responding to the Gospel as the Lord ministers to them and their broken lives are rebuilt. Please also pray for the men as they are released back into the community that they would be able to reintegrate back into society, leaving their past ways behind and will find nurturing and supporting communities and churches to join.

Pastor Lucho asks us to pray and give thanks for the San Juan group of churches for:

- believers persevering in prayer
- the spiritual life of the men, women, young people and children of Mirador
- improvements in the buildings of San Juan
- more pastoral workers to be raised up
- the young people to be active in evangelising their friends and neighbourhoods
- commitment and seeds to be sown in the children's clubs
- good relationships with the families of the children who attend the clubs

We remember in prayer this week those who work tirelessly in the Chaco, preaching your message of salvation, bringing words of hope and new life, especially praying for Agustin, Beryl, Chris, Tim and Victor. May they grow in the fruit of the Spirit and be granted spiritual gifts equipping them for the tasks they have been given.

Week Mon 26 – Sat 31 Aug – Wise living

Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone. Colossians 4:5,6

‘Language is God’s idea. Words are his creation. They belong at the heart of who he is. They have huge potential for good—and catastrophic potential for evil. Every issue today—political, religious, educational, theological—relates to the way we use words—thinking them in our heads and speaking them with our mouths. What would the world be like—the home, the church, the school, the public square—if words were used the way Jesus used them? That is not an easy question. We might be surprised.’ John Piper

When we read about attitudes to Jesus in Luke 4 after he has read from the prophet and explained his ministry we note the response of the crowd: *At first everyone was deeply impressed with the gracious words that poured from Jesus’ lips. Everyone spoke well of Him and was amazed that He could say these things.* However very shortly after this his listeners become deeply perturbed as he suggested that they have little faith or expectation that God will act, and ... *became furious when He said these things. They seized Jesus, took Him to the edge of town, and pushed Him right to the edge of the cliff on which the city was built. They would have pushed Him off and killed Him, but He passed through the crowd and went on His way.*

Can you list 10 non believers with whom you have contact, and ask God to help you to use the opportunities he gives you with this people wisely?

Please pray for all Christians who face opposition as they proclaim the Truth, that they may know how and when to speak and be enabled to pass through the crowd unharmed. Please pray for those who suffer for the sake of the Gospel.

Please pray for this weekend’s Marriage Encounter that the words of the testimony couples would powerfully touch many lives and be used by the Holy Spirit to bring hope, opportunities for salvation and healing.

This week take some time to pray for yourself and your speech, asking the Lord to change your heart so that gracious words pour out of your mouth. Ask him to give you the right responses in difficult relationships where finding the gracious words seems very difficult.

Thank you for praying for the Anglican Church in Paraguay
+Peter & Sally Bartlett,
on behalf of the Anglican Church of Paraguay

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