

Greetings to you all,

Things are going very well here in Bolivia. On two separate occasions these last few months we have had the blessing of spending time with friends from our home church. Mike Bosley and his daughter Lauren had been to Bolivia before so we wanted to show them other areas. Bob wanted to go to Beni which is where the crocodiles, giant snakes and malaria ridden mosquitos are. You can imagine my relief when we were told by people who lived there that it was not wise to go there during those months due to the rain. We decided to drive to Vallegrande (which is reported to be around the area where Butch Cassidy died) to visit with the president of Baptist Pioneer Missions and then on to Sucre one of the two capitals here. We did some sight seeing and visited with missionary friends of ours who have a starting deaf ministry there. The trip was not without its challenges but God protected us through it all. We plan to return to Sucre sometime in the future but not wanting to tempt God we will fly.



When Jerry and Sharon Goniea came we stayed pretty much close to home. We did some local sight seeing at the Inca ruins, one of the waterfalls and the zoo/animal refuge. They were able to see what makes up our “regular routine.” They brought gifts for all three churches. Curtains for the church in Valley Abajo and butchering knives for all three. Jerry was a butcher for 40 years, and the people in the valley do all of there own butchering, so when the knives were presented to them their eyes lit right up.

The people in the churches were blessed by the visits with special music, the preaching of both men and their participation in the various ministries.

Bob has been working hard to get the churches organized. He has been teaching on basic Bible doctrines. We had a baptism service at the river where 9 people publicly showed their profession of salvation. The days were getting colder but the Lord opened up the heavens and allowed the sun to shine through for this event. It never did get warm enough to actually go swimming but it was perfect for the cook-out, games and services we had later. There were many from the pueblo that came to the river also to see what was going on. The following week we were able to have the first Communion held at the churches in years. It was a combined service and the church building was packed.



Now Bob is working on the registration of the churches with the mission and the government. The way the current government is going there is too much danger of properties being taken away. It is a lot of work but worth it as the property will be in the hands of the members of the churches.



We had our first ladies reunion with 15 in attendance. It was a huge success. We had a session one day on cake making and the following day decorated them. Due to the gift of cake pans and decorating tools from the States each lady was able to create her masterpiece. The ladies are all looking forward to the next reunion. Please pray for this important ministry.

After much prayer we have decided to sell our house in Samaipata and move to the valley. We feel we would be able to effectively devote more time to the ministry needs if we were living there. Bob has listed it with many different agents in Santa Cruz. Please pray for God's will in this matter.

You all are always in our thoughts and prayers.

With love,  
Bob and Terri Sturgeon  
Serving in Bolivia