

SHALOM NEWSLETTER

THE MELGAR'S

Issued: May 2024



Reaching Children

Thank you so much for your prayers during our time here in Canada. The biggest change in our family is that Timothy is back in Bolivia. He was not adjusting well here and wanted to be in Bolivia where he could train for soccer every day to reach his dream of becoming a professional soccer player. He was immediately accepted on a competitive team in Cobija, and is also playing his guitar in church and for the orphanage boys to prepare special music. Pray that the Lord will protect him from the many temptations a teenage boy away from home faces. Pray also for Janessa. After graduation she will take a year off before attending Prairie Bible College so that she can work on improving her health, during which time she will study part time. Grace is taking ballet classes and missing her brother, so she is looking forward to returning to Bolivia.

At Hogar Shalom we have also seen some changes. Pastor Ruperto and his wife Adela decided to leave us suddenly in January. Unfortunately he did arrange for the new children to enter the orphanage and lost contact with them. Praise the Lord that two days after he announced he was leaving, Lorgio and Yovana approached Jose saying they felt God had put it on their hearts to be parents for the boys' home. They came to know the Lord as their Saviour several years ago through Good News Church in our community, and we have seen God working in their lives. We are thankful for their service in the boys' home and in helping care for and counsel Timothy during this time. They have three boys of their own: Marcos, Deiber and Lucas. So we now have four girls and three (plus four) boys living in Hogar Shalom.

Praise the Lord the boys have been doing well at school. Despite never having attended school before, Donovan learned to read quickly and was the best reader in his class. In fact, his teacher told me that she would put him to supervise other children to make sure they were reading correctly. In December (end of the school year in Bolivia) he won a prize for the best student in his grade! His older brother Kenai also one best student for his grade! Way to go, Kenai and Donovan!

Please continue to pray for Nahomi. She was beginning to make progress with her reading, but recently has been refusing to read both at home and at school. Due to her past abuse, she often soils her underwear (it is a psychological, not a physical problem). She does not like to wash her clothes so she will fold her soiled undergarments over and shove them in with her clean clothes. Now her whole room smells. Please pray for patience for Lola, the house mother. Pray for Nahomi, that she will begin taking responsibility in this area. Pray that she will feel loved and safe and that she will have a better attitude towards authority. We are thankful that she has come to know Jesus as her Saviour, as His love never fails.



Lorgio and Yovana, with their three boys

Continued...

Please pray for continued funding for our missionary support and for Hogar Shalom. We hope to receive more children in the home soon, and trust that our gracious Lord will continue to meet those needs as He always has. We praise Him for providing all of our needs for the last twenty years and thank Him for His continued provision in the future. Please pray that we will have more speaking engagements so that more people will hear about the orphanage and pray for us. Since we are sent out by our home church instead of a missions agency, not as many people hear about the work that the Lord is doing in Cobija, Bolivia.

If you would like us to visit you or your church, call us at (705)279-5927 or email us at josapmel@yahoo.ca. We look forward to seeing you!

Finally, please keep June 22 free on your calendars as Ennerdale will be hosting a farewell for us. An invitation is enclosed with this letter. We hope to see you there. Please also invite friends who might be interested in hearing about the work we are doing.

Thank you so much for your prayers and support. May God bless you richly.

In His service,

Jose, April, Janessa, Timothy, and Grace Melgar



Interested in Donating?

Donations can be given on a one-time, quarterly, or monthly basis. We have multiple options available and are happy to work with donors however is most convenient for you. We are able to receive donations through the following methods:

- Cheque
 - Made out to Ennerdale Road Baptist Church Inc., with 'Shalom' written in the subject line. Cheques can be mailed to:

Ennerdale Road Baptist Church
228 Ennerdale Road
Toronto ON M6E 4E2
- EFT Transfer
 - EFT transfers are processed once a month, once completed forms and documentation are finished. We can work with you to set this up via email or phone.
- E-Transfer
 - As required, we can work with you to set this up. Please reach out via email or phone.

Timothy and the boys singing together



Pictured Here: Donovan



Pictured Here: Kenai