

July Prayer Update 2024



Pedro and Joy Oliveira Woolmer
with Mark, Zoe and Emilia

Serving the Lord in Uruguay



Dear Friends,

For the month of July, we give you a snapshot of life and ministry here in Uruguay through six photos and the stories attached to them. You can watch it as a [video](#) or scroll down for the text version. Please do continue to remember us in your prayers: our thanks and prayer points are below as usual. Thank you team!



Watch our July update [here](#)



1. At the start of July, we drove 2.5 hours to visit a Russian family we had befriended over a Facebook marketplace sale a couple of years ago. When they first invited us to visit and stay the night, we were a bit nervous to accept. Was our relationship ready for this? Well, we're so glad we went - it was definitely cosy, but this kind of ushered our friendship into the next level! In the last hour of our visit, as I was showing Sasha how to make Aussie sausage rolls, I learned so much about her. She

shared about her late Christian grandmother who read the Bible to her as a child and was the nicest person she ever knew, about Easter traditions growing up in a small town in Russia, and about her curiosity and questions about the Bible. All in all, it was well worth the drive and taking the risk!

2. After church one Sunday we went to visit a family from school to have lunch together. Zoe entered their house with a big smile on her face because she was so proud of the craft she had made at church. She obviously wanted to show everyone. This was the catalyst for some exciting conversations! Joy and Salomé chatted in the kitchen about church and raising pre-teens, while her husband, Roberto asked me about the sermons at church over the barbecue. We could see from our individual conversations that they were both interested in coming to church with us with their kids. Roberto even asked to hear some of the sermons from our church on YouTube! There was so much excitement in the car as we drove home!





3. Rather unexpectedly, Eliana and her adult daughters have recently become the adoptive grandmother and aunts of our three kids! A few weeks ago, we dropped Mark, Zoe and Emilia off at their place, and went on a kid-free brunch date! It was freezing cold, but marvellous. The kids had a great time - they're already planning next time - which could be a sleepover! Over brunch, we also read Psalm 150, to finish our reading of the book of Psalms together - something we started when we first arrived in Uruguay, more than four years ago. "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord."



4. Every year the staff team of the CBU get together to plan the year and beyond. One thing that we struggle with as the CBU is evangelism, so it was wonderful that we finished the weekend with some concrete plans for this semester to engage with students on campus, and also a long-term focus on training up students to evangelise. The challenge is always to fulfil these exciting plans that we have! The reality is that our group is small, and relatively fragile, so we need all the help we can get to mobilise students for mission.



5. Sometimes things happen, and we're forced to ask whether we really believe the truths we know. Equip women's conference was one of these events. I had 24 interested women on my list, but on the day, only eight came. In my head, I knew that numbers are not the sign of fruitfulness, but in my heart, it felt like I had failed. Well, I'm really thankful that God reminded me that he was in control and would bring the women he wanted to attend. Every single one of those eight women really wanted to be there and clung to every word they heard. Imagine my joy and encouragement, when on the following day, I heard Cami tell Becca (who wasn't able to attend) all the things she had learned, been encouraged by, and even rebuked by at Equip. God is at work!



6. There are certain milestones that show us that we're becoming more and more a part of Uruguayan society. A recent milestone was that I got my Uruguayan driver's licence. The whole process was a mix of fear, frustration, bewilderment, hysterical laughter, and thankfulness. But it's lovely to have a point of contact with most Uruguayans, they could all sympathise with just about all those feelings! Even better is that I can drive again, which is a great help with ministry. Now it's Joy's turn!

Thank God

- for the Winter school break at the start of July and the chance to recharge and have fun as a family.
- for precious relationships with people we've met in Uruguay, the joy they bring us, and the hope in Christ we have to share with them.
- for the CBU staff planning retreat and the plans for evangelism in the coming year.
- for the women who came to Equip and the rich message of Revelation 1-5 we were able to hear.
- that Pedro passed his driving test and is now the happy owner of a Uruguayan licence! Also for the chance to share this common life experience with locals!

Please pray

- that the Holy Spirit would continue to draw our Russian friends (Daniil and Sasha) and school friends (Roberto and Salomé) to Jesus and his words of eternal life.
- for Joy to be quick to listen (to God and others!) and slow to speak as she continues meeting one to one with female students of the CBU to read the Bible.
- for a very busy month of preparing and preaching sermons for Pedro. Please pray for spiritual insight, humility, and personal growth as he prepares talks, and for God to speak clearly and powerfully through him.
- for our children to keep growing in knowledge, love, and joy in Jesus.

Thank you for upholding us in prayer!

From Pedro and Joy, with Mark, Zoe and Emilia

Write back to us!

*"Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit
that increases to your credit."*

Philippians 4:17

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