

## March Prayer Update 2025



### **Pedro and Joy Oliveira Woolmer** *with Mark, Zoe and Emilia*

*Serving the Lord in Uruguay*



Dear Friends,

The year in Uruguay doesn't properly begin until the first week of March, when schools and universities go back. From Christmas Day until the end of February, the capital city of Montevideo feels like a quiet rural town. But after a long Summer, it's been great to get back into a normal rhythm of life and ministry.

### **Church MOCLAM group**

Our usual participants in MOCLAM courses are uni students from the CBU, which of course is a great thing. But we've been thinking how good it would be to have a wider reach amongst the churches in Uruguay, particularly amongst those who have teaching ministries. In God's kindness, after talking with the pastors of our church, they've agreed that MOCLAM is a good next step for those who have already got a reasonably solid theological base. This year we have started our first MOCLAM group from our church! They are three young men, two of whom are lay preachers

and one who heads up the evangelism team. They are serious about God's word and want to grow in it which has been a joy to see. We're praying that they become advocates of MOCLAM to other people at church and to pastors of other churches as they experience the quality of the courses firsthand.

## ***Campamento* (Church camp)**



Last weekend, our church had its annual family camp. It's amazing what a difference just one year makes! I still remember last year's camp: we packed nappies and a port-a-cot, were very dependent on successful afternoon naps, and struggled to share a room with 14 other campers. This year, we travelled light - we were still packed into a full room with 18 bunk beds, but this time it was fun! With the kids all a little bit older, we found it much easier just to go with the flow. Interacting in Spanish also didn't feel as exhausting, and we had more energy and brain capacity for relationships. Time will tell what difference long term our time at camp will have, but it was really great to hear individual conversion stories, to get to know what hopes and fears people have as 2025 unfolds, and to see Mark, Zoe and Emi so well loved by our church family.





*Photographic proof that Emi and Joy were at camp too - they were taking a much-needed nap when the group photo was taken!*

## **Grupo Hogareño (Church home group)**



Last year our church home group met in our apartment and Pedro shared the teaching responsibility with two other older men, including one of the elders of the church. This year, with the continuing growth of the church, they've given us the responsibility of looking after the group that meets in our house while the elder helps the new group that has started in another part of Montevideo. Pedro is now teaching alongside two younger married men from the young people's group. It's the first time

we've been entrusted with a ministry responsibility like this at church, where we have concrete pastoral responsibilities not just towards the congregation members who come, but also towards these young married couples who are taking on teaching and leading roles.

## Thank God

- that Mark and Zoe are very happy to be at school/pre-school again, and that Emi is adjusting well! As of tonight, we've had a whole week of no tears at drop-off. A record!
- for the opportunity to spend the weekend together with our church family, and for the ways God has grown us as a family over the last year.
- for the opportunity to get to know the two young Bible study leaders and their wives, and have more involvement in their Christian lives and training.
- for the trust of our pastors in allowing Pedro to teach MOCLAM to members of our church, and for a good start to classes.
- for the safe arrival of two new nieces in February/March: Madeline Beatrice Ng and Lucia Oliveira-Fetterplace! We're absolutely smitten with these precious girls and are so thankful for God's protective hand over their births.
- for 10 years of Mark!



## Please pray

- for the CBU camp (April 11-14) to be a valuable time of learning, growth, and fellowship. It will be held in a different part of Uruguay (Paysandú), so please pray particularly for students to be motivated to make the trip to the western part of the country and for safety on the road.
- for Pedro as he prepares to preach on Easter Sunday and for Joy as she prepares to teach Sunday School (April 27).
- for Pedro and Roberto as they meet fortnightly to read the gospel of Mark together. We're encouraged by Roberto's willingness to read the Bible with Pedro and pray that God would open Roberto's eyes to its truth.
- for Joy as she continues adjusting to a new stage of life and ministry, particularly for perseverance in evangelism.

Thank you for upholding us in prayer! We thank God for you.

*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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