

June Prayer Update 2025



Pedro and Joy Oliveira Woolmer
with Mark, Zoe and Emilia

Serving the Lord in Uruguay



Dear Friends,

"Jesus Christ is Lord"



In such a secularised culture like Uruguay's, it's striking to see these words in huge letters in front of a church building on the main street of Montevideo. How do you respond to this? For us, it makes us sick in the stomach every time we walk past - which is multiple times a day because it's on the way to school! We often see their people handing out flyers and inviting people to their services, and we pray that no one gets drawn in. This is because this 'church' does not preach the gospel. They offer 'spiritual cleansing' and special oils blessed from the 'holy land'. They offer prosperity, wealth, freedom from addiction but only as people give whatever money they may have to their organisation. Tragically, this is the public face of evangelical Christianity in Uruguay.

You'll be glad to know that not all churches in Uruguay are like this! The gospel is growing and bearing fruit here! But the fact is that the church in Uruguay is not particularly healthy. The church we are a part of is full of Christians who have come from other churches disillusioned, hurt, and weary. Some of these churches have drifted from the truth of the gospel. Others have pastors that rule their congregations like dictators, spiritually abusing those under their care. There are many church leaders who lack basic godliness and leave a trail of destruction wherever they go. This is a great sadness, even as more people join our local church, drawn by the biblical teaching and godly leadership, and see the difference for themselves.

How much better would it be to see repentance and maturity amongst more church leaders in Uruguay? How good would it be if more churches built themselves on the

gospel of Jesus, holding fast to this foundation?

This is why our ministry in CBU is so important. One of the wonderful things about CBU is that it is non-denominational. We have students who come from baptist churches, mennonite churches, lutheran churches, pentecostal churches, brethren churches and other smaller denominations. And we have the opportunity to bring sound doctrine to these students who perhaps are not receiving good teaching in their own churches. We also get to invite them to live gospel-shaped lives with us. We get to disciple students who are already serving in leadership positions in their own churches, and on their way to becoming future leaders of the Uruguayan church.

Our vision is to see the gospel grow unhindered here in Uruguay. And so this is our mission as we partner with CBU and MOCLAM: to equip the next generation of leaders to read and apply the Scriptures faithfully to their own lives and the lives of those they minister to.

Thank God

- for the opportunity we had to teach on the book of James at the Baptist Youth Convention in Canelones earlier in June. (Photos below!)
- that (today!) Pedro and Roberto have finished their 8-part study on the gospel of Mark together! Roberto asked to pray after the study - for the first time! - which was an encouragement.
- for upcoming school and family holidays! We'll be heading to a town called Portezuelo tomorrow for a few nights.





"A living faith": teaching on the book of James at the Baptist Youth Convention in the city of Canelones (June 21)

Please pray

- that God would convict Roberto of the gospel he has read with Pedro over the last few months. Please also pray for Roberto's ongoing openness to Jesus and wisdom for Pedro to know what next steps to take with him. They will be meeting in person in a couple of weeks to catch up.
- for the Christian witness here in Uruguay to point clearly and truthfully to the gospel of Jesus.
- that God would bless the ministry of CBU and MOCLAM as we disciple future Christian leaders.
- for the leadership team at our church as they manage the many pastoral difficulties of having an influx of people joining the church from different church and doctrinal backgrounds.
- for a fun and restful time as a family on our holiday. We'd love you to pray for lots of sunny weather!

Lasting Hope Appeal - only a few days left!

The CMS Lasting Hope Appeal is one of the ways people express their partnership in the gospel to keep missionaries like us serving on location, as well as raise up new workers for God's harvest. Will you prayerfully consider giving to support CMS missionaries as they share the gospel of lasting hope? If you would like to contribute please go to cms.org.au/nswact/lastinghope before June 30.



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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CMS is a fellowship of Christian people and churches committed to global mission. We work together to set apart long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our vision is for a world that knows Jesus. We aim to do this by: reaching gospel-poor peoples for Christ, equipping Christian leaders for church and society, and engaging churches in cross-cultural mission.

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