

## August Prayer Update 2025



### **Pedro and Joy Oliveira Woolmer**

*with Mark, Zoe and Emilia*

*Serving the Lord in Uruguay*



Dear Friends,

This month we would like to share with you how valuable (and crucial!) your gospel partnership is to us. Lately we've been thinking about why full-time supported gospel ministry is so important, particularly in a place like Uruguay where the idea of financially supporting gospel workers is not common at all. We'd like to tell you about three Uruguayans we know, whose stories we hope will motivate you to pray!

### **Michel**

Michel is a dad, about the same age as us, who goes to our church with his wife and teenage daughter. In a past life, he used to be a boxer, representing Uruguay at an elite level. Now he owns a removalist/delivery business, which has grown considerably over the last few years. We had Michel and his family over for lunch one Sunday, and he shared that his dream is to buy a motorhome and travel all over the Americas preaching the gospel. What a dream! He feels restricted by his work,

and although the business is going well, it doesn't leave him with much time to do evangelism. He shared that he feels like he's wasting time and longs for the freedom to spend more time talking to people about Jesus.

## **Andreas**

Andreas is the pastor of a Mennonite church where a few CBU students congregate. He's a bit younger than us, and recently Pedro got to know him a bit better through the course on Hebrews. Andreas was one of Pedro's students. Andreas has shared that he got thrust into the position when the previous pastor left the country, with no one to whom he could hand over his ministry. Andreas has a deep desire to learn and grow in the role, but is also working full-time. It's a constant juggle between work, study, and pastoring the church alone, and he's finding it hard to dedicate the time he wants to serve his congregation.

## **Ximena**

Ximena is a young woman from our church who Joy has been getting to know over the last year. She's from the interior of Uruguay and moved to Montevideo two years ago to marry her husband Joel. Although she completed her university degree before coming to Montevideo, she's struggled to find a job since moving to the country's capital city. And so she's used the last two years to grow in her faith, deepen her knowledge of the Bible, and serve actively in church. Last month, she and her husband went on a weekend evangelism trip to the interior of Uruguay with the Young Adults group at church. The experience really opened her eyes to the gospel needs out there. So much so, that they've committed to stepping outside of their comfort zone for the sake of the gospel. They're now saving up to join our church's short term mission trip to the Amazon in Bolivia at the end of the year! They're not sure if they'll be able to go, since only Joel has an income, but we're praying that God will provide the means if it's his will for them to go!

These examples remind us of the goodness of setting apart people for full-time gospel ministry, and supporting them financially so that they can invest their waking hours in this ministry. It's a partnership model that is almost unknown amongst local Christians in Uruguay. We'd love for you to pray that God would grow gospel generosity and partnership in the Uruguayan church.

## **Thank you**

We know how good generous gospel partnership is, because it is a tangible blessing in our lives every single day. Because of your support, we are freed up to support the CBU ministry, and meet up regularly with Christian university students to read the Bible and pray together. Because of your support, we are freed up to read the Bible with non-Christians, to prepare and lead Bible studies, to teach MOCLAM, to prepare sermons, to train people in Christian leadership, teaching and evangelism, to take engaged couples through pre-marriage courses, to do marriage enrichment with married couples in our church... All of this would be impossible without your generous and continued support. So thank you! We give thanks to God for you!

## **...and sorry.**

This prayer letter also comes with an apology. We know we haven't been responding to your messages of encouragement as we would normally. Please forgive us! We do read them and we are encouraged by them. Please keep them coming!

## **Thank God**

- for Michel, Andreas, and Ximena and their desire to know God and live for him.
- that the course on Hebrews at the Biblical seminary finished well! Marking essays is not always fun, but Pedro was encouraged to see what the students had learned through the course.
- for the opportunity Joy had to preach on Ephesians 4 to the young women at church. It was well received and generated good conversations afterwards.
- for the start of another semester of MOCLAM. Pedro has three groups this semester, two doing Old Testament and one doing Ephesians.



*Group photo from the last class on Hebrews at the Seminario Bíblico del Uruguay.  
Please pray that God would bring lasting fruit!*

## **Please pray**

- that generous gospel partnership would become a priority in Uruguay.
- for students in the Medicine/Chemistry and Psychology Bible study groups to be committed and consistent in meeting together weekly.
- for Abi and Pipo's wedding (September 6) to be a joyful (and incident-free!) celebration! Joy has been quite busy organising the wedding with Abi, and will be quite relieved when it's done! Pray also for a good start to their marriage.
- for Chris as he travels around Latin America to visit us and other CMS missionaries in September/October. Please pray for a time of mutual encouragement with him.



*The Medicine/Chemistry Bible study group meets on campus on Mondays. These are our faithful core: Pedro, Vero, Daniela, and Facundo.*

Thank you for upholding us in prayer! We **really do** thank God for you!

*From Pedro and Joy, with Mark, Zoe and Emilia*

Write back to us!

A banner for CMS Summer School 2026. The background features a silhouette of a city skyline against a sunset sky with birds flying. On the left, the CMS logo is followed by the text 'SUMMER SCHOOL 2026'. In the center, the text 'Wisdom's Call' is displayed in a large, white, serif font. On the right, there is a white button with the text 'Register now' in a dark font.

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

Philippians 4:17

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