

# KROEKERS IN BOLIVIA

Missionaries to the Mennonites of Bolivia



September-October

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you for your continual prayer and financial support during these trying times. Thank you for your faithfulness to the cause. Thank you for the encouragement through out this past year through e-mails, calls, cards, and notes. We appreciate your sacrificial giving, prayers, and keeping in touch. May God richly bless you!

## Outreach

I was able to get in touch with my brother recently concerning his salvation. I have been praying for many years for his salvation. When we were in Ontario he gave testimony of how they left the Old Colony Mennonite Church; seeing the falsehood in a works based salvation. Although he spoke of their leaving and the truth about salvation being by grace through faith, he left me on the edge of my seat never testifying that he had personally done that which he was speaking about. After this I tried to get together with him to ask him where he stood, but it never worked out. I was so burdened that I finally text him to see where he stood. You have to understand that it takes years for an open door with Mennonites, and especially family. It took 5 years for an open door to share the Gospel with him (with many attempts prior to that), and 11 years to get to this point. There were walls that had to come down, a trust to build, and a patient and tender approach to be made. In the text I asked him if there was a point in his life that he had been saved, trusting in Jesus Christ as his Saviour? I told him "I was thinking back to when I got saved and wondered where I would be if I never had the chance to express it [salvation]. I did not say anything until a week later when my co-worker asked me if I was saved and I said yes. I needed that because who knows how long until I would have expressed it. I pray for the entire family every day to be saved but sometimes wonder if some are and have not expressed it or have expressed it as best as they know how, when from my perspective I want to hear a clear "I got saved" or a testimony". To this he replied "Hey John. I don't express it like some people, but yes, I have accepted Jesus to be my Saviour". This was exciting news and I want to hear his testimony. I am looking at going through a discipleship course with him. Please pray for wisdom in working with him.

Recently we have had to find "different" ways to share the Gospel with people. One good way I have found is to order pizza for delivery. This reminded me of the days I lived in Yellowknife, NT. I would use the taxi for transit and would work with one company until I met all the drivers and shared the Gospel with them and then move on to the next company. Right now for the pizza delivery its Dominos. The spirit has been good. It is unique to see people calm down and open up in the midst of all the hustle and bustle of life, especially pizza delivery folk who seem to be more like street racers at times. One of the delivery ladies I was able to give a tract to, said that her children attended the Master Club program on Wednesday nights at Pembina Valley Baptist Church. Pray that she too would start to come out for the Wednesday night services.

## Virtual

This is a term used a lot in recent months. Our family was moving forward and able to reach 30% of our needed support in 11 months of deputation when everything came to a sudden stop in mid March. Since then, every meeting has been cancelled, with meetings into November 2020.

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Please pray that we would be able to have meetings through virtual means. We have two meetings planned for November via virtual means. This is a last resort, but we have to be innovative and wise as to pursuing the will of God for our life. I have pre recorded an entire virtual presentation meeting in hopes of continuing deputation even though we can not travel because of border closures and do not have meetings as rebooking is not taking place. Many are hesitant to set a date because the times are ever changing and very unpredictable. The original plan was to hold off until things got back to normal, but with that not taking place in the last 8 months, we are pushing for virtual meetings. Once again, please pray that we would be able to get meetings in this manner.

## Blessing from the north

It was a pleasure to spend time with our Pastor and his wife from Yellowknife, NT in Winkler, MB. Though we are based in Winkler, MB for deputation travelling convenience, our sending church is Central Arctic Baptist Church, pastored by Pastor Siemens of Yellowknife, NT. This was a special time as we were not able to attend the annual missions conference in August. We praise the Lord for their faithfulness to the call in reaching the people of the north. They are a great example of faithfulness and it was so great to get together again. I grew up in Ontario, moved to Yellowknife and was saved the day I moved there and God put Pastor Siemens in my life to help me on the right path. It has always amazed me that, there I was in Yellowknife, NT (for me, in the middle of nowhere at that time) as a devoted Mennonite, and God put someone in my life that could understand and relate with me and help me! God is good! Praise the Lord! He orchestrates all things well! Read my testimony at <https://www.kroekersinbolivia.com/testimonies>

## Birthday, birthday, birthday...

For us, October bites the wallet the most! We had a great time celebrating 5 birthdays in October. Our two oldest, Renee and Leanne both have a birthday in October. This was a very special year for Renee as she was able to share a birthday party with her Grandpa and Mrs.Siemens as they all share the same birthday! We also had a special party for Brenda's youngest sister who turned 18.

## Looking ahead

We are patiently waiting for the day we can resume our deputation ministry and raise our needed support. For now we are waiting on the U.S/Canada border to open so we may go to the U.S., as we have finished in Canada, save the meetings cancelled this year. We praise the Lord that I was able to find a job in a nearby business. This is great for now, but our hearts desire is to be in Bolivia. Please pray earnestly that churches we have presented with would consider supporting us and join in reaching the Mennonite people of Bolivia, that the border would open up, and that for now we would be able to get virtual meetings. Thank you for your faithfulness!

Love, labourers together,

The Kroeker Family

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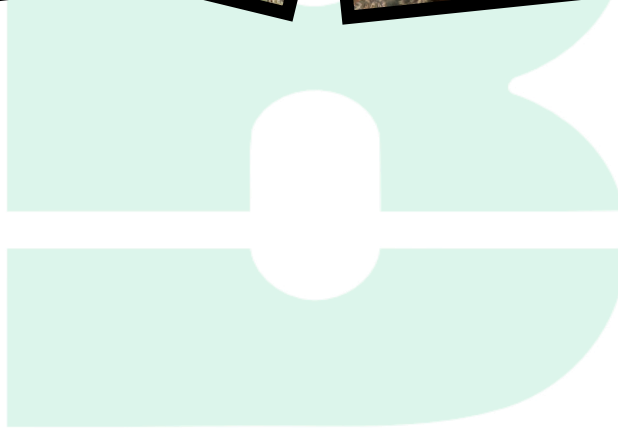
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