

MASSEY WIRE

FROM SOUTH AMERICA AND SOUTH CAROLINA—JUNE 2011

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WITH SOUTH AMERICA MISSION, OUR VISION
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DEAR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

It has been about a year since we returned to the States after almost three years of working abroad in Latin America as missionaries. As most of you remember, for ten years we lived and worked and had great community in Charlottesville, Virginia. Leaving and becoming missionaries was never on our radar—until Angela and I took an eight-day trip to Santa Cruz, Bolivia, with our home church (Trinity Presbyterian) in 2006. Even in taking this trip, we were not going anticipating that God would move us to do something radical. Frankly, we went to Bolivia that summer in part because we felt obligated as I (Bubba) had directed a missions conference at Trinity and planning summer short-term trips for our church was a responsibility I took on with the directorship.

Initially, the desire that began to develop in us on that first trip to Bolivia was to simply “go”. Going in this regard felt radical. We were not sure just what we would do, how we would contribute once fully there. But simply going was the first step. We believed God would meet us, introduce us to a new world and show us how we would fit in and make a difference. Our good friends were a little uncomfortable with the approach—going but not really knowing what life would look like once on the ground. We appreciated and valued our friends’ input. But when Peter and Andrew put down their nets at the Sea of Galilee to follow Jesus, I suspect they did not know much of what lay on the other side of “Follow me”. We felt a bit like Peter and Andrew as we made plans to go to Bolivia.

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1). Like Peter and Andrew, our faith made us hopeful and convicted. We even named our blog as we embarked, “Hoping for South America”. We were not sure what we would do, but we had hope in God’s Kingdom coming. We had hope in God redeeming all of creation unto Himself. We were convicted that a redeemed world will be beautiful and we wanted to build for that world. And we learned an important theological lesson early on—God builds His Kingdom through the church, the people of God, sons and daughters, image-bearers of God from every tribe and

tongue. Our vision for our work in Bolivia became a world full of redeemed lives, beautiful churches and transformed communities. With this vision, we could get to work, hopeful and convicted.

Now in the States but still on this journey with South America Mission, our vision remains the same and guides us forward. Now, though, we are able to serve all 100 SAM missionaries by working to raise resources so that we can continue together finding out what is on “the other side” of following God to South America.

We want to highlight a few recent developments and share glimpses of God’s great work through SAM in South America. It’s a profound privilege to work towards making this happen. As you support us by praying, giving to us and these initiatives financially, you, too, join us in this work:

- 📍 The Ammi Training Center (founded by SAM and staffed in part by SAM missionaries) in Brazil currently has 53 students representing 20 tribes. **This is the most students during a single quarter in Ammi’s 15-year history.**
- 📍 Ammi’s Director, Henrique Diaz of the Terena people of Brazil, is also the President of CONPLEI, the National Counsel of Indigenous Evangelical Pastors of Brazil. **CONPLEI has asked Ammi to host the 2012 CONPLEI conference, which will be the largest gathering of evangelical tribal people ever.** >>>>>

I’d like to give in support of the Massey’s work with South America Mission.

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- 📍 **Mil Palmeras, a SAM church plant in Pucallpa, Peru,** has grown in its five-year history from eight founding members to over 400 who meet regularly now. Mil Palmeras is exploring planting a daughter church and recently had 31 people begin a church-based theological education program called ETBIL.
- 📍 Our three-year renewal process, called SAM2020, launched in the first quarter of 2011 with three conferences in three countries in South America. Our missionaries, ministry partners from South America, and mission leadership came together with one, primary objective before us: **to renew our spiritual vitality and hear from God as we begin to directly address mission in a context of deep change.** Our aim through this process: to be obedient and faithful as we aim to honor God in the way we “do mission” in the 21st Century.
- 📍 **Our fund-raising effort in Feb-Mar 2011 for the SAM2020 process generated over \$63,000!**
- 📍 In Bolivia, our friends and ministry partners Cesar and Mirtha Surubi have recently formed the **Ayoré Church Association.** Cesar and Mirtha are Bolivian missionaries to the Ayoré people. This association of Ayoré churches will stimulate church growth among the Ayoré through accountability, fellowship and legal protection from the government.
- 📍 **We (all of us Maseys) will travel to Bolivia in July to work and reconnect with missionary colleagues and Bolivian friends.** We

For overall effectiveness in South America as we work alongside our Latin partners to transform lives and communities by the power of the Risen Christ in our lives.

Prosperity Theology dominates much of the evangelical church in Latin America, and its influence is destructive. Pray for a holy dissatisfaction with material wealth to transform the church to be able to proclaim, “Though we have lost much and we suffer, we are satisfied because God is good and his glory is made known in our brokenness.”

For more laborers, more lovers of Christ to make sacrifices to go out from all the world to build for God’s coming Kingdom.

will also focus during this trip on laying the groundwork for forming a Bolivian non-profit organization that will serve as an important facilitator for mobilizing missionary movements from Bolivia to the rest of the world.

IN CLOSING, A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MASSEYS INTEGRATING INTO LIFE IN SOUTH CAROLINA:

- > Angela has just completed a full year of homeschooling, graduating Sam, Georgia and Ty into the 6th, 5th and 2nd grades.
- > I (Bubba) have found a decent car to buy, so I will no longer roll around town in my borrowed 1992 Ford F-150 Flareside with pink and purple pinstripe.
- > We have found a great church, called Eternal (originally a PCA church plant now independent), that meets at a local YMCA.
- > Peru, Bolivia and Colombia should round out our 2011 southern tour.
- > Angela and I will celebrate 14 years of marriage on August 9, 2011. We can tell each other “I love you” in Spanish now, which, if any of you guys want to try it on your wives, in Spanish we say “Te quiero”, which literally translates, “I want you”.
- > We found a great, affordable house to buy last November, but the backyard was a mud pit. So we put down 10,000 pounds of sod this Spring, all by ourselves!
- > I’m sorry, but “Carolina” does NOT refer to the USC Gamecocks! And it’s not normal to be awakened in the middle of the night to the sound of little sacks of corn smacking a wooden platform. Yes, our neighbors were playing “corn hole” at midnight.

We would love to hear from each of you. Even better, to see you in our travels. Thank you for partnering with us in this work. “Going” changed our lives and we are very thankful...In Christ,

IF YOU DO NOT SEND IN THIS SLIP, PLEASE KEEP IT AND PIN IT ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR TO REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR US.



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Sam, Georgia and Ty partying with friends from the street, on the famous Flareside. Sam and Angela, after running a 5k together. Bubba’s 37th birthday, celebrated in the best way.