



Frosty & Cathy HANSEN

Bolivia

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Equipping God's People to Serve

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"...so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts" – Isaiah 55:9

When the coronavirus lockdown began in March, we thought it might last about 4-6 weeks. With tighter restrictions for those of us over age 65, we sat back, anticipating life would soon return to normal. Not until September, after 162 days of confinement, did things gradually begin to loosen up.

God stretched us during those long months with reminders that our vision, our plans, and even our relationships must be grasped loosely.

Though our ministries still do not look the same, we are seeing God work in new and unexpected ways. Christians more than ever have been asked the reason for the hope which lies within us.

Above all, through the changes, the discomfort, the mourning, and the social turmoil, we have found God to be our sufficiency and strength. And we have been reminded with Isaiah that His purposes and plans are higher and better than our own.

Centro Bíblico de la Gracia

When the government ruled out in-person classes at any level for at least the rest of the year, the CBG leadership began investigating online education and began the training to resume classes in September.

The process has been challenging for both teachers and students, but we successfully completed our first trimester in November. Plans are to continue with the virtual format until we receive the green light to return to the classroom.

But we are now committed to continue with online classes. God has opened up doors through this platform to reach students from other regions of Bolivia and even other Latin American countries. We envision a hybrid program in the future, including both online and in-person instruction.



Talo Vergara, Daniel Ajalla, Miguel Méndez, and Frosty plan for the future direction of CBG



Cathy is thankful to study in person with Rosio

Personal ministry

God created us as social beings. Video Bible studies and discipleship meetings during the lockdown kept us active in ministry, but it's not the same as face-to-face contact.

Though certain health protocols remain in place, we are once again able to resume personal meetings. Cathy has particularly been blessed through her weekly Bible study in Philippians. With the help of our GMI coworker Patty Vergara, she is translating this Prison Mission Association study into Spanish for future use in our churches.

At the same time, some of our Bible studies, prayer groups and discipleship sessions still use the online format because of health restrictions which limit the size of groups and make travel difficult for some.



Marcelino Quispe was one of two MEB pastors who did not survive Covid-19

Comfort in times of sorrow

We have been reminded these past months to cherish life. Bolivia has been hit hard, ranking fifth globally in Covid-19 mortality rate.

Misión Evangélica Bethesda (MEB), our Bolivian partners, lost two pastors, school teachers, and valuable church workers. We lost dear friends.

Making things more painful, families had to choose cremation to avoid burial in a common grave.

Christians in Bolivia hung tightly to two precious truths: the believer who leaves this earthly body is in the presence of the Lord, and very soon there will be a resurrection reunion with these dear friends.

The reality of the shortness of life also produced a renewed boldness in sharing the good news of God's grace in Christ with friends and family.

Your gifts touching lives in Bolivia

The Covid lockdown was devastating for families in a country with already low wages. Even with things opening up, many remain without work.

Over the past six months, we have partnered with the MEB to provide food staples for our 19 churches to distribute to the needs in their congregations. We were also able to help 29 families with Covid testing, medication, hospitalizations, and cremation.

We thank the Lord for your special gifts, enabling us to donate over \$10,600 to these needs. When the recipients humbly thanked us for the funds, it was a joy to tell them the funds came from their brothers and sisters in the States who love Christ and Bolivia.

Thank you for being Christ-followers with a genuine faith and love for His people!



Your donations provided food for the needy in each of the 19 MEB churches



Frosty resuming his Dispensations class after a 28-week Covid break

Pray with us for...

- ✦ The Centro Bíblico de la Gracia students and teachers as we continue to learn and adjust to the virtual format.
- ✦ Health and safety of our congregations as our churches reopen.
- ✦ Wisdom in discipling sessions and open doors to lead more in personal study of God's Word.
- ✦ January's biannual meeting of MEB churches to elect new leadership.
- ✦ Bolivia's new President Luis Arce, that he may govern justly, unify the country, and come to know Christ as Savior.
- ✦ Good health and strength for both of us so we may continue to serve Christ faithfully in Bolivia.

**Thank you for your prayers for us and Bolivia,
Frosty and Cathy Hansen**