



*A Ministry of the
Church of God of
Prophecy*

***“He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear the Lord
and put their trust in Him.”***

-Psalm 40:3



MISSION 403 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2017

Young Adult Youth Camp 2017



Hello once again from Paraguay!! April has been a busy month for the Mission 403 ministry, so let's get started with the news!! One of the biggest events this month was the first ever Young Adult Youth Camp (ages 21-35) held at the Campamento Tierra Prometida (Promiseland Camp) in Carapegua, Paraguay. Once again, Stephen and I were proud to team up with the Church of God of Prophecy National Music Team, directed by Carlos Duarte, to provide music during the entire camp. This year was the first time ever young people were divided into separate camps based on age groups. I believe this speaks to the testament of just how much the youth ministry in Paraguay has grown over the years. I've worked in several youth camps in the United States, and sometimes it's hard

to talk about certain topics when you have youth spread out over a variety of ages. Personally, I think splitting the camps to provide more accurate ministry for young adults is a good move on the part of the church here, and based upon my experience this year, I think this camp is going to increase in popularity in the future.

The theme for this year's Young Adult Youth Camp was Metanoia which means "a profound transformation." Ministry was focused on attitude and how we approach the world, turning back from unhealthy old habits. Classes and messages talked about how we need to change our way of thinking to reflect more of a Christ-centered nature and character. Several songs were specifically chosen to represent this theme during the worship services each night, with the track Dias Mejores (Better Days) by Benjamin Rivera as the main song. Usually, I'm one of the main vocalists when it comes to playing different camps, but this time I was recruited to play the bass as the regular bassist was unable to attend. While some musicians are blessed with the talent to sing and play their instrument at the same time- I am not one of those people. I like to focus on one thing at a time, so this youth camp was a different experience for me switching to the role of a musician instead of focusing on vocals. The camp was a great success, and produced what looked like some of the best food ever! It's funny, but the one time a camp served lomitos arabe (kind of like a steak burrito) is when Stephen and I are both on diets! It was hard but we didn't give into temptation, although I wanted to!





Sampson's Space

Missionary work from the
viewpoint of a pup.



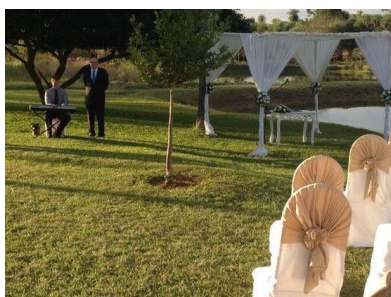
Hi everyone! To answer your questions, yes, I'm still on a diet and no, I don't like it!!! To protest, I've been doing everything I can think of to show my disgust! I counter surf constantly, even though I know there's nothing up there for me to get. When dad tries to do push-ups, I attack his head and try to lay on him, but he just keeps on going like I'm not even there. I'm not allowed on the couch, but a few times I've tried to sneak up there just so mom freaks out and chases me around. I've run around with shoes in my mouth but still no one is listening to me. A couple of weeks ago, mom and dad had the air conditioning repair man over to work on one of our units that was broken. I stole a foam sponge out of his bag and tore it to shreds, but still they're not getting the message!!! For revenge, I wait until all the lights go out and everyone's asleep to start eating my food, and I chomp and smack just as loud as I can!!! Hahaha!!! But what's a dog got to do around here to get a cookie?? To make matters worse, mom's now giving all the leftover goodies she's not going to use to some neighborhood dog she calls "sweet puppy." Grrrrr!!! I'm the only sweet puppy in this house, and I if I could get out of my fence I'd give that dude a piece of my mind. He comes over with his tail wagging, making happy whimpers whenever he sees my mom like she's his! Soon, we're going to have a little chat, dog to dog, because this nonsense must stop! It's like I'm living in an alternate universe where I'm not the center of attention! #topsy-turvy #notreatsnowaggles #i'mnotananimal

attack his head and try to lay on him, but he just keeps on going like I'm not even there. I'm not allowed on the couch, but a few times I've tried to sneak up there just so mom freaks out and chases me around. I've run around with shoes in my mouth but still no one is listening to me. A couple of weeks ago, mom and dad had the air conditioning repair man over to work on one of our units that was broken. I stole a foam sponge out of his bag and tore it to shreds, but still they're not getting the message!!! For revenge, I wait until

Support the Mission 403 Ministry in Paraguay



Mission 403 is a ministry of the Church of God of Prophecy that seeks to further the message of Christ using the power of music. We teach music to empower and enrich other's lives, and we play music to reach the hurting and lost. We believe that music is a powerful force that can reach people on a soul-level and speak to hearts and minds where mere words have no impact. To the left are photos of Stephen and I playing at a COGOP youth camp, and at a recent wedding of one of the former girls of the Hogar Puerto Seguro Children's Home.



We are continually expanding the ministry but we cannot do it without your help. We have a goal for support set at \$1300 a month. This money goes towards things like putting gas in our car or paying the electric bill, things that allow us to keep ministering. Recently, Mission 403 has been falling short of this goal. Can you help us reach our monthly support level of \$1300? We are looking for people who can commit to giving a small amount to the Mission 403 ministry, anywhere between \$10 and \$50 a month. It's this consistent support that helps us to continue to minister. If you'd like to become a monthly supporter, please go to www.mission403.org/donate to learn more. All donations to Mission 403 are completely tax deductible and every dime you give goes towards spreading the

love of Christ in Paraguay.

A Paraguayan Wedding: Cesar and Rocio



A couple of months ago, Stephen and I shared how we helped a young man name Cesar prepare a musical proposal for his long-time girlfriend, Rocio, one of the former girls from the Hogar Puerto Seguro's children's home. Of course, when Cesar proposed, Rocio said yes, and the two quickly planned a big wedding for April 29, 2017. Stephen played piano during the entire sunset ceremony, and I have to say it really was a beautiful event. I first met Rocio in 2008, not long after she came to the home with her brother. I remember her 15th birthday party (quinceanera) and how she was a lost little girl struggling to adapt to a new life in a strange place. Over the years, however, Rocio has blossomed into a beautiful young woman! She graduated high school and went on to attend college, majoring in accounting. It was there she met, Cesar, who was also an accounting student. Cesar graduated from the program a few years ago, while Rocio finished in December of 2015. I cannot tell you how precious this newlywed couple is to me and Stephen. Cesar is a very sweet, loving and intelligent young man, and the first time he approached us for help with his proposal I thought he was going to faint he was so nervous. Rocio is a very kind and lovely young woman, and I believe these two have a great future as they build their lives together. Congratualtions Rocio and Cesar!! We wish you many happy years together filled with lots of adventure and love!!!

Paraguay Fun Fact



What revolutionary form of transportation did Paraguay pioneer first in the history of the South American continent?

Opening in 1861, Paraguay boasts to it was the first country on the South American continent to have a functioning railway system. However, glorious as this seems, in recent decades Paraguay has abandoned trains as a reliable form of transportation, and now old tracks can be seen partially covered by pavement to make way for more streets.

Next month's question: Besides soccer, can you name two other popular sports widely enjoyed by the Paraguayn people?

Prayer Requests

Stephen and I always covet your prayers for us and our ministry, but here are a few specifics to throw in too!

1. In recent months, Mission 403 has fallen short of its \$1300 per month fundraising goal. Please pray for our donors and that God would continue to provide for us and our ministry.
2. Pray for the upcoming mission teams to Paraguay this year.
3. Pray for the ongoing saga over our Paraguayan immigration documents.

Mission 403 Ministry Statement

Mission 403, as an affiliate ministry of the Church of God of Prophecy, will seek to save the lost by drawing people to Christ through the power of music. We will instruct students how to play musical instruments for praise and worship using Christian songs as teaching tools. Mission 403 will bring a dynamic music program to the Church of God of Prophecy in Paraguay to spark a revival in our churches and communities.

How Can You Help?

Doors have been opened, but the ministry of Mission 403 cannot continue without your help. Stephen and I are currently looking for dedicated people who can partner alongside of our ministry by supporting us with small monthly donations (\$10- \$50 per month) or with a one-time gift. We need approximately \$1300 per month to fully cover daily living and operating expenses in Paraguay.

There are two ways you can give to help support Mission 403. You can give online via our church, [The Church of God of Prophecy](#). Once on the webpage click on online giving. From here you can set up an account to automatically draft monthly donations from your debit/credit card or you can select quick give for a one-time donation. Be sure to designate your online gift towards Mission 403 Paraguay via the drop down menu. You can also support Mission 403 via the offerings at your local Church of God of Prophecy. If you do not attend a Church of God of Prophecy and you would like to support Mission 403 with financial donations, please set up an account online as described above or you can send your donation to the following address:

**Church of God of Prophecy
Global Missions
P.O. Box 2910
Cleveland, TN 37320-2910**

If you ever write a check to support Mission 403, please make it payable to Church of Prophecy and write Mission 403 in the memo line. All donations to Mission 403 are fully tax deductible. We thank each and every one of you for all your support and prayers! God bless!



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