



*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




Forming the Band



Hello everyone! I hope you all are enjoying the beginning of Spring and the warmer weather. Here in Paraguay, things are mercifully starting to cool down, making outdoor activities pleasant and enjoyable again. I mean, it's nice to be able to wear my hair down every now and then and not have to worry about sweat running down my back. Gross! TMI.

Anyway, things are really progressing with our music students in Quyquyho, the tiny village where Stephen and I live. We have 3-4 students who are now regularly playing during the worship services every Saturday and Sunday. I must admit that we are an unusual sort of worship band. We have Stephen playing the guitar, along we Margaret on the piano, Eboni on the flute, and twins Vanessa and Pamela both playing the violin. Yours truly is the lead vocalist, and together the girls are learning what it's like to play with a group of people rather than just as individuals. Now, I know what the first question anyone reading this is going to ask- You and Stephen know how to play the flute and violin? And to be frank, here is the answer to that question. No. However, the girls in Quyquyho used to have another music teacher who specialized in classical instruments, so they already had a base in their chosen instrument. Eboni, the flutist, originally starting taking piano lessons with Stephen, but the instrument never really interested her. One day, she asked if she could bring her flute and if we could help learn more about that instrument. I remember Stephen and I just looked at each other, knowing neither one of us have ever played a flute in our lives. Shrugging at each other, we told Eboni to bring her flute to her next lesson and we'd do what we could to help her. You know, the internet is a wonderful thing filled with all sorts of information. We looked up fingering charts and info on how to help Eboni progress on her instrument, and things went surprisingly well. After that, the twins, Vanessa and Pamela, showed up with their violins, and since then we've been a hodge podge group of instruments forming a worship band. We're by no means spectacular yet, but the girls are progressing and you can hear a definite improvement in how they sound now compared to when they first started. That's what it's all about, encouraging young people to pursue their musical talents, no matter if you know what in the world you're doing or not. 😊





Sampson's Space

Missionary work from the viewpoint of a pup.



Hi guys! So, the worst thing in the world has happened. I mean, this is the stuff I only ever imagined in my nightmares. MOM PUT ME ON A DIET!!! I can't believe it! Supposedly, mom and dad weighed me, which was an ordeal in itself. I was lying on my bed, minding my own business, when all of a sudden, dad swooped in and picked me up like I was a little puppy. Dangling in his arms, he stepped onto some sort of square thing that's usually kept in the bathroom. Afterwards, mom told me that I've gained four pounds since I was last weighed at the vet and that I needed to go on a diet. At first, I didn't know what that meant, but after a few days I discovered that dieting is awful! There's no more treats! No more nibbles! No more fun! The only thing I get to eat now is plain dog food! And even that is measured out in "appropriate portions"! Every day is like torture! I've searched high and low, but there's not a cookie nor a crumb in sight. A few days ago, mom weighed me again and declared I've lost 0.6 lbs so far! She petted me and told me how much of a good boy I was, but still I didn't get a treat after all my sacrifice and hard work!!! What's a dog got to do get a biscuit these days??? If anyone reading this is coming to Paraguay anytime soon, could you maybe sneak a box of treats into your suitcase. We could arrange a meet up...mom and dad would never know!!! SOS!!! Dog is distress!!! #I'dkillforanoreo

Saturday Night Youth Services



Not long after Stephen and I moved to Quyuqyho, we started a new Saturday night youth service based out the Hogar El Puento (The Bridge Children's Home). This is an all-female orphanage with girls ranging from around seven years old all the way up to eighteen. Back in North Carolina, Stephen and I were the youth directors for our local church for two years, so we had experience working with youth to begin with. However, it's a little different trying to do a youth service in a foreign language. At first, our Spanish skills were a little tricky, but with time we've gotten better and we don't stumble over our words so much anymore. Two weeks ago, we started a series on the life of Christ that will continue all the way up to Easter. We are talking about his birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection, while at the same time discussing Old Testament prophecies that talk about the signs of the coming Messiah. Other than bible studies, we of course have a lot of fun at youth service. The above picture is a game where the girls split into teams and had to pry apart a frozen t-shirt. Every team member then had to put the t-shirt on, and the first group to have every member wear the frozen shirt won. Sometimes after service, the girls like to gather round Stephen's piano and have an impromptu sing-a-long while he plays. The girls seem to always enjoy youth service and we like hanging out with them just as much.

Upcoming Mission Trips to Paraguay



With Spring already sprung, many churches in the United States are gearing up to send mission teams to many different parts of the world. I have a special kind of love for the mission trip experience. It's how I was introduced to many different cultures and people. It's how I came to Paraguay for the first time and met my husband Stephen. It's because of mission trips that I'm here in Paraguay right now, typing this newsletter. For the past few weeks, Stephen and I have been meeting with Dan Miller every Monday night to discuss planning and details for several different teams that will be coming to Paraguay during the summer months. First, we have a group headed up by COGOP International Youth Ministries that will be bringing a group of approximately 30 people in June to build an amphitheatre on the church campground property. In July, a group of

17 people will come from North Carolina to do ministry outreach and to build a couple of houses for impoverished families in the area. Finally, from August to September there will be about fifty different people coming from Michigan and Canada to Paraguay. Their goal will be to build thirty houses over the course of this time period, along with building a dining hall and kitchen for a local school, as well as a trade school to be housed on the campground property. With all these different groups scheduled to come, Stephen and I are sure to have a busy couple of months, but we are excited to be a part of all the great things happening in Paraguay, and we are prepared to help facilitate these teams as much as we can.

Paraguay Fun Fact



What's so unique about the Paraguayan Flag?

Adopted in 1842, Paraguay's flag is one of the few in the world to have different emblems on its obverse (front) and reverse (back) sides. Inspired by the French flag as a sign of liberty and freedom, the obverse side of the Paraguayan flag displays the country's coat of arms, while the reverse boasts the seal of the national treasury.

Next Month's Paraguay Fun Fact Question- What revolutionary form of transportation did Paraguay pioneer first in the history of the South American continent?

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. Stephen and I will have a few students who are really starting to progress in their music. Pray for them that they will continue to succeed and be dedicated to continuing to learn.
2. Pray for the upcoming mission teams to Paraguay this year.

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 God 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!



helping hand



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