

Bentleys' Update – Nov '21

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us.
Ephesians 5:1

Dear Friends,

At Radio Mosoj Chaski there was good news from our US based radio engineer who was able to stop in Cochabamba on travels to do an on-site assessment of the radio antenna system and other technical equipment. A local radio engineer had indicated that the present SW antenna wire was overheating, causing damage to insulators and deterioration of the antenna. A thorough cleaning and a post broadcast examination of the copper antenna wire by the US engineer indicated there was no excess heating of the wire and that the observed damage to the antenna and insulators was only superficial – cosmetic. There will be no need to replace the antenna at this point, nor insulators. The radio station's STL (Studio Transmitter Link) transmitter was causing interference on a local cell phone frequency. Fortunately, there was a repaired spare STL transmitter on site, which was switched out while the newer STL transmitter that was failing is repaired. All good news. Repairs of the STL tower at the transmitter site are under way, and will not interrupt broadcasts.

Alongside serving in the role of Regional Leader of North, Central and South America, we continue to provisionally fill the role of Area Leader of the teams in outreach in the Canada Area of Pioneers. Due to continuing pandemic complexities of travel across borders, and with 80 percent of the required travels of the two roles being in the northern hemisphere for these coming months, we will base in the northern side of the Americas for a year. This will enable Lucinda and me to better attend to the Regional Leadership and also to the teams in Canada as their provisional Area Leader. We are in dialogue with a potential candidate to fill the role of Area Leader of Canada. Please pray for this. The process of that person potentially assuming the role is going to take some months still.

Also, we will engage some "home assignment" (furlough) activity part-time while in the US. It's been 4 and ½ to 5 years since we've been to see most of you in churches, and as the schedule permits we would enjoy visiting and updating those who support us in prayer and with your giving. We will work that around the activities, travels and work we have as Regional Leader of the Americas and provisional AL of Canada.

Lucinda's coworker, Goretty Jora, the director of Fundacion Emanuel (children at risk outreach in Cochabamba) is traveling to the US. With her recovery from cancer over the past few years and her recovery from Covid a few months past, she will benefit from a break. She'll be staying with us in a winter rental we have in NH the first weeks of November, and we'll try to help her meet with some interested in the outreach to the children in Cochabamba.

There are a couple hundred adults in outreach on teams in Pioneers in our Americas Region. One example is of a team that works with refugees in a metropolitan area of North America. One aspect of that work is partnership with a local Afghan church pastor, who along with others recently helped enable the evacuation of 571 Afghans from Afghanistan. Over 350 of them are Christians and the rest are from a vulnerable tribe of Afghanistan targeted by the Taliban.

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Along with the church, our team leader submitted an application to sponsor a widow and her six children. After submission of the application the mother died. They are now hard at work to find the children an apartment, and work out the myriad needs involved. An older sibling already living in the metro area will be their “mother”. Needs among refugees and immigrants are huge and opportunities for outreach to them abound. God is using that to build his church among the “ethne” – the nations.

In His harvest fields with you,

Paul & Lucinda

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Prayer Requests:

- For Lucinda and me in our work with the Area Leaders of the Region, and that we also be an encouragement to Goretty in her upcoming time with us this month.
- Wisdom for many teams in the Americas Region that they seamlessly transition to new rhythms of outreach in contexts where the pandemic continues.
- For personnel en route to help PIMEX (Pioneers Mexico Mobilization Office) in the initial stages of development of the Mobilization Office – for the present leaders, Pako and Deb, as they guide forward in the development and mentor new personnel.
- Discernment for Area Leaders of the Americas Region in planning travel, and their encouragement and guidance of teams in outreach in challenging contexts.
- For the new Area Leaders of the US Diaspora East Area, John and Hannah Malone. I appointed them to the role a couple of months ago, and they will assume the responsibilities of the role in January.
- For additional team members for many teams in the Region.
- For additional teams to engage refugee outreach to Afghans and other priority unreached people groups in the Americas context.
- For the couple under consideration for the Area Leader role of the Canada Area, as the dialogue between them and me continues – that God prepare the path forward.
- For the Covid context in Latin America to improve, and for the South America Area Conference to be able to be held as now planned in August 2022 - after a couple of years of delay (it's normally only held once every three years, and the delay has stretched that out much).