

June 10, 2004

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus our Lord. We praise and thank God for the day that He called us to serve Him. We thank you, dear pastor and church, for putting your trust in us and choosing us to represent you in the land of Uruguay.

THE NEW WORK

Since our last report, we have had the opportunity to start a new work. It is going to be a very challenging ministry. We need your fervent prayer. For about two years our workers have been bringing children to Sunday School from this neighborhood. It is about a one hour ride in a public bus. Little by little, the number of children and teenagers has grown to over 45. We started to pray for a place to meet right there, and the Lord provided a rental place. The neighborhood is the shrine to the most venerated virgin in Uruguay, the virgin Lourdes. In fact the name of this neighborhood is The Cave of Lourdes. The shrine, Catholic churches, and Catholic schools surround the facility we have rented. Many parents have promised to come to our services. We are encouraged and anxious to see what the Lord is going to do in this place, through three faithful workers who have committed their time and labor to serve Him there.

DEAF MINISTRY

Right after we sent our last report, we had the camp for the deaf. Sixty-seven were in attendance and 15 made profession of faith. Please pray for the deaf Christian high school students. They are so precious to the Lord! At school, they have sign language interpreters. During recess, these students get together and talk about church activities and some read their Bibles. These interpreters stand strongly against the church. They watch them from a distance and see what they are talking about. They have taken these teenagers before the principal to be reprimanded, and have been forbidden to talk about "religion" or take their Bibles to school. We are bringing a formal complaint before the school board, because this is clearly a violation of their rights. All eight of these students are straight A students.

BIBLE INSTITUTE

Bible school started the second week of March with 24 hearing students and 35 deaf students.

SOULS SAVED

In our last report, we did not have the number of professions of faith from all the works in time to send to you. Today, it is with great joy that we inform you that 265 souls have made profession of faith in Christ. This is the number of souls saved between November and May.

Fall has come and almost gone. A very cold winter is approaching, beginning on June 21st. It has already been very cold and rainy. Remember that here most of the work is carried out through walking and public transportation. Please pray for health and strength for those who are laboring for the Lord. One of our preachers, Alvaro, had been hospitalized for almost a month with pneumonia but is doing better now.

Walter & Peggy Silva