

A New Chapter: Transitioning from “A” to “B”



As you are probably aware, one of the ongoing challenges since we first arrived in Angola about 4 ½ years ago, has been the difficulty of obtaining long term work visas. It seems to be very difficult right now for missionaries and NGO workers to stay in the country for any sustained length of time. This spring, CBM encountered yet another major roadblock in their persistent attempts to secure work visas for us.

And so after a great deal of prayer and deliberation, and in consultation with Diane & myself, CBM has decided that maintaining us as field staff in Angola is no longer viable at this point in time. Instead they are re-assigning us to work in Bolivia, South America. CBM will continue its partnership

with the Angola Evangelical Church (IEA), the national church in Angola, and Diane and I hope to be able to return for short-term mission opportunities there from time to time. While there is a real sense of sadness and disappointment that we will no longer be living alongside of our brothers and sisters in Angola, we are also excited about what we believe is the Lord’s leading in this next chapter of our lives.

Why Bolivia?

CBM has had a long history in Bolivia. In 1898, a Canadian Baptist named Archibald Reekie became the first Protestant missionary to arrive in this small land-locked country in the Andes highlands, which is still one of the poorest countries in South America. Today, CBM partners with the Bolivian church in the areas of leadership training and community development, especially in many of the poorer rural communities.

In Bolivia, Diane will be working for The Sharing Way with OBADES, the Bolivian Baptist Union’s development department, in areas of program design,



monitoring and evaluation. She will also be working to ensure that the development programs are a part of the integral mission of the Bolivian Baptist Union and its churches. Jim will begin a new role as Latin America Team Leader, working with CBM Field Staff and our national church partners in Bolivia, Brazil, Argentina and El Salvador.



Cochabamba, Bolivia

Our plan at this point is to move to the city of Cochabamba at the beginning of September to begin language study. Because we already speak Portuguese, we are optimistic that the transition to Spanish will not take too long!

We also pleased that there is a good English-speaking school for Pedro in Cochabamba. That is a real answer to prayer for our family!

Here in Canada

Meanwhile we have been very busy this past year visiting our partner churches here in Ontario. Since we returned to Canada last fall we have driven about 24,000 kilometers, spoken or made missions presentations 35 times at 28 different churches. We have also been serving as Missionary-in-Residence with Forest Baptist Church. In addition, Jim travelled to Kenya in December for meetings with the Angolan church leaders, we attended the CBM Global conference in India in March, and Diane will be taking a team from Guelph to Angola at the end of June.

Prayer focus:

- Pray for Diane as she travels with the Guelph team to Angola at the end of June
- Pray for the Angolan churches, that they will continue to remain encouraged in the midst of difficult circumstances
- Pray for us as we make preparations to move to Bolivia in September
- Pray for our daughter Amy as she finishes high school in July at RVA, Kenya, and begins in August at Colgate university in New York state
- Pray for our son Pedro, as he adjusts to yet another new country, and a new school

Upcoming Speaking Dates in Ontario

May 31	Immanuel, Toronto
June 6	Collingwood
June 7	Stayner
June 12	CBOQ Assembly, Toronto
June 13	MacNeill Baptist Women, Hamilton (Diane)
June 14	Forest
June 16	Port Hope Women (Diane)
June 18	FBC, London (Diane)
June 21	Breadalbane (Jim)
June 28	Forest
July 26	Harmony, Hamilton
Angola STM June 27-July 19 (Diane)	

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this transition time!

Jim and Diane McBeth



Email: jdmcbeth@gmail.com
 Canadian Address: 201-9 Grosvenor Street, London ON N6A 1Y3
 Phone: 226-663-9260

To become one of the McBeth's **Partners in Mission** or to receive more information contact:

Eileen Moore-Crispin, Canadian Baptist Ministries. 7185 Millcreek Drive. Mississauga, ON L5N 5R4
 Email: eileenm@cbmin.org Phone: (905) 821-3533 Website: www.cbmin.org