

# Bill and Janice

## Celebration of Firsts!



Firsts are just the beginning but can signify an important start...the first brush stroke of an artist, the first cut by a carpenter or surgeon, the first sentence of your newsletter. So, in this update we'd like to highlight some firsts from the beginning of this year.

### First visit to Bolivia

by our children, Jonathan and Marigan. We had a great time but missed Craig (our son-in-law); but there's always the next time. We were happy to be together for a time and to have them see where we are.



### First time for Janice's piano students to



see a real piano. They were enthralled. We took them to a classical guitar and piano concert. The intent was to inspire them

in their lessons. I think it worked. Janice has also started playing regularly with the worship team at our local church. Of course, that leads to being invited to play for other events as well.



### Firsts in the Pastoring of Pastors (PoP)

ministry. In the past year we have set up support groups in four major Bolivian cities. On February 22nd we had our first national meeting of leaders and co-leaders. We organized the first follow-up meetings for each city. They also chose the first administrator for the program. In Cochabamba we held our first follow-up training event on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Other cities are following suit. On April 12<sup>th</sup> we introduced PoP to 15 church leaders from North Potosi. We are looking forward to another national retreat on July 26-27<sup>th</sup>. My intent is for PoP to be a sustainable national movement, so I've been working with national leadership in every event—putting others first, while remaining a catalyst.

### First home assignment

after getting to Bolivia. It's already been almost two years since we came to Bolivia, and time for our first home assignment. We will be available to churches and supporters between late September and early December. So far we are booked to visit:

Yorkminster Park Baptist, TO: Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>

Elliot Lake, ON: Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>

Willowlake Baptist Church, Winnipeg, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>

Swift Current Community Baptist, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>.

Banff Pastor's Conference: Nov. 4-7.

First Baptist Calgary, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>.



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We're not the only ones working with CBM in Bolivia. Ours are not the only worthwhile projects. Every year CBM sends about a dozen teams from Canada through the SENT program. They work on Chagas projects, visit Integral Mission Initiatives (IMI projects), help out at the Casa de la Amistad, teach at the seminary. The visits of those SENT would not be possible without the coordinating efforts of Patricia Nacho (CBM National Field staff), and fellow Global Field Staff, Tim and Kallie Hutton. So, we'd like you to check out the CBM website and some of the following links to learn more about what else is going on in Bolivia and how you could support these people and projects, or volunteer yourself.

- <https://www.cbmin.org/patty-nacho/>
- <https://www.cbmin.org/the-chagas-prevention-project/>
- <https://www.cbmin.org/bolivia-sent-trip-june-2019/>
- [https://hopefulgifts.ca/educate a child in Bolivia.](https://hopefulgifts.ca/educate-a-child-in-bolivia)

### First things last?

We'll start with some praise items. This year has been off to a good start. Janice's Mom's health has been pretty good. We had an excellent visit with Jonathan and Marigan, and they're doing well. The ministries we're involved in are progressing. Our language skills are improving as we're more involved in Bolivian lives. All in all, God is good.

**Prayer Items:** We have a lot of travel coming up, so please pray for safety, but also that the ministries we are involved in here in Bolivia thrive, that our colleagues manage well without us, that we will be a blessing where we go. Please pray for:

- A team retreat from June 1-8 in Guatemala.
- The Global Baptist Peace Conference from July 15-20 in Cali, Colombia, where Bill is to do a workshop.
- Pray for home assignment plans from September through December.
- Please continue to pray for complete healing for Janice's Mom's health.
- Keep praying for Goretty. She is fighting cancer. Janice works closely with her in her ministry to vulnerable children.
- Pray that our upcoming visa renewal process goes well and that we can get the necessary permission to be out of the country for an extended time this year.

**Financial Support:** Our level of support is typically low for the start of year. It has been finishing well, but we don't want to take it for granted.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Bill & Janice

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**Note:** Please send support to the CBM address below or visit the website to support us online.

<https://www.cbmin.org/bill-janice-dyck/>