

“ He takes no pleasure in the power of a horse, no delight in human strength;
But the Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their trust in his steadfast
love.” Psalm 147:11-12



**Sunrise service - Easter Sunday, First Baptist Church of Desamparados, San Jose, Costa Rica,
Sofia, Andrés and Anna Laura’s prayer and collection of the offering**

On Easter morning while the sun rose and the birds were singing in the mango tree by our church we celebrated the God of resurrection who invites us into an abundant life in which there is nothing we can make or do that would provide that for us

apart from him. What peace it is to know we strive for his kingdom not driven by personal aspiration or fear, but from a place of provision, invited to participate in God’s action in the world.

In March David taught a course on Narrative Theology in Mexico City. The students were multigenerational and from all over the continent reflecting one of CETI's core values to listen and learn from people with different perspectives and life experience. The students appreciated the acquired ability to understand the art of the biblical narrative and its importance for faithful interpretation. Besides interacting with the professors, students were invited to share how their growing theological understanding has direct impacts in their life. One student, Julio from Puerto Rico showed how he reflects his theology through his painting. Melissa, a student from Tijuana, was able to share the way her theology has shaped her song writing in a local concert held in the city.



In April, David traveled to Bolivia to meet up with First Baptist Edmonton to continue to support the work of theological education for lay leaders in the country. David collaborated with the Baptist Seminary to train more facilitators in Cochabamba, encouraged existing CETI groups and met with pastors using CETI in El Alto. It was a very special experience to do this work along side the team from Canada and we are grateful for their support.



In Costa Rica the church using the CETI material is loving it and they are going to open a new group. We are hoping that CETI is something our church in San Jose will incorporate into their Christian education program as well.



CETI students in Mexico City



CETI Facilitators in Cochabamba



CETI Facilitators meeting with First Baptist

We are grateful for our growing connection to our church here in Costa Rica. The kids are making friends and had a good time participating in the Easter service.

We are also getting to know more about the church's outreach programs, one of which is a women's jail ministry they have had for 30 years. Last week Suzannah was invited to accompany a couple women to visit a cell block that houses 50 women, half of whom came to share with us. The majority of the women were in their 20s and 30s and one of the inmates was 6 months pregnant. Here in the jail a child can live with their mother until they are 3 years old. Although we only shared an hour together it was a wonderful to see how some of the women that came to meet us with weary and stern faces were smiling and thanking us at the end.

Prayer requests

Country

Costa Rica: There is a water shortage and water has been rationed for the past month in our neighbourhood and many other areas in the city. This will continue until the rainy season begins.

Ministry

For CETI as they continue in a process of restructuring. David will officially step down from his role as Dean of the Masters program to the Director of the Certificate program in July. We are excited for this change, and for the way God is using the Basic program to nourish the local church.

Local

That we continue to grow in our participation in the local churches here in CR.

Please pray that the women in the jail continue to experience the transforming power of Christ.

Personal

That the kids can make some deep trustworthy friendships at school.

That David can advance on his PHD studies. We are grateful for the blessing this opportunity is for all of us, and how it connects us with other ministries in Latin America.



Please, prayerfully, consider supporting us for the first time or increasing your regular support.

In Canada: Barbara Keys, Partners in Mission Coordinator: bkeys@cbmin.org (7185 Millcreek Drive, Mississauga, ON L5N 5R4. Tel: 905 821 3533 x122).

For US donations, checks made out to Water Stone Foundation (86767 85086 NACDS in the memo line) "WaterStone Support Foundation"

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We would like to hear from you, please contact us at: suzannah@gmail.com



CBM

*embracing a broken world
through word & deed*