



### Merry Christmas!

These past months have been very tumultuous and uncertain for us here in Bolivia. Below we've provided a brief update on the political situation of the country.

As we enter this season of advent, the need for hope, faith, joy, and peace are keenly felt.



We are reminded that God's plan is far more beautiful than we might anticipate, and that his reconciliation often comes in surprising and unexpected ways.

### Walking the Stage

Even though students lost a month of classes due to the conflicts throughout the country, after putting in extra time on weekends, the seminary was able to hold a graduation ceremony.

Every so often, we get asked to participate on a thesis review committee. Students often analyse topics that relate to the local Bolivian context. This year Kallie served on the defense panel for Silvia Mercado whose thesis looked at women's ministries in Cochabamba.

This year, in addition to continued support in the seminary library, Tim decided to partake of the education being offered. CETI (Community for Interdisciplinary Theological Studies) is a

leadership formation program that CBM supports in Latin America. Tim completed one of the trainings focusing on the purpose of the church in the Kingdom of God and walked the stage with his classmates.



Tim with some CETI peers



Silvia after passing her thesis defense

### Double Impact

For the past three years, we have taught a class on missions at the seminary. One of the class requirements is volunteer hours at a local project in order to gain experience serving firsthand. This year many students chose to do their hours at Casa de la Amistad. The Casa was blessed by volunteers and the students were impacted greatly by the experience. Here are a few quotes from their final reflections:



*“At first, I’m ashamed to say, I only went out of obligation. However, by the end, God touched my heart and showed me the great need we have to love our neighbours.”*

*“My experience at the Casa strengthened my understanding of missions. I learned that doing something for others and sharing the gospel, can transform lives. It is very beautiful realizing that you are part of God’s plan for others’ lives.”*

*“Sharing the gospel is not simply providing spiritual help, it is also necessary to provide for other needs: showing love. I feel compelled to keep supporting the Casa in its mission.”*

### Political Update

In our last newsletter we asked for prayer for presidential elections on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Voter fraud was suspected and recently proven, causing significant civil unrest throughout Bolivia.



Blockades and protests paralyzed the country leading to the president’s resignation and exit from the country. A large portion of the population, feeling disenfranchised, started counter protests, rejecting the provisional government.

While things have calmed down leading up to the holidays and there are hopes of a new election being called by January, the country is divided and there have been significant episodes of violence and loss of life.

The local church has the potential to be such a needed blessing if they can work in unity to promote civil respect and peacemaking.

### Prayer Requests

- Pray that the new leaders coming out of the seminary would be faithful disciples as they serve the Kingdom.
- Pray for wisdom as local churches discern how they can best engage socially and politically during this period of seeking peace, healing, and reconciliation.
- Pray that Bolivia would experience justice which brings shalom and facilitates deep healing long after these events.

## Merry Christmas,

*Tim & Kallie*

### Connect with Us

You can learn more about us and our ministry by visiting our website at [timandkallie.com](http://timandkallie.com)

Reach us by email at:

[thutton@cbmin.org](mailto:thutton@cbmin.org) / [khutton@cbmin.org](mailto:khutton@cbmin.org)

### Become a Partner in Mission with us:

If you are not currently partnering with us, we would love to see you participate financially in this work. You can donate online at [cbmin.org](http://cbmin.org) or via [timandkallie.com](http://timandkallie.com). You can also donate by contacting Barb Keys by phone at 905-821-3533 or by email at [bkeys@cbmin.org](mailto:bkeys@cbmin.org)

[cbmin.org](http://cbmin.org)

#### Canadian Baptist Ministries

7185 Millcreek Drive  
Mississauga - Ontario  
L5N 5R4 - Canada

TEL: +1.905.821.3533

FAX: +1.905.826.3441

 [cbmin.org](http://cbmin.org)

 [canadianbaptist](http://canadianbaptist)



**CBM**

*embracing a broken world  
through word & deed*