



# Smiths in Argentina

“For all things are for your sakes,  
that the abundant grace might  
through the thanksgiving of many  
redound to the glory of God.”  
2 Cor. 4:15.

Charlie & JoAnn Smith  
Sent by Liberty Baptist Church,  
1203 South Oak  
Casper WY 82601  
Voip # 920-569-6335  
charliejoann@yahoo.com

September 2016

Spring is here in Buenos Aires and with the trees putting on their leaves and the flowers starting to brighten up the days, more people are spending time outside. It is a blessing that we will be able to have more one-on-one contact with people as they relax in the parks and plazas. The plaza near us rents out booths for people to sell their wares, mainly to college students since there are three universities around the park. Our first prayer request is about the possibility to rent one of those booths. Does anyone have information or have you ever done witnessing in a booth, maybe at a fair or similar situation like a park? Would you please write me so we can get some pointers in this new avenue that I think could be quite profitable for God's glory? (Proverb 1:5)

Our second request is for the health of three pastors. Pastor David Hughes, an American raised in Argentina, has new tumors close to his jugular vein and needs wisdom in how to deal with them. He has to leave his starting work in San Martin de Los Andes to be treated in another city for possibly several months. Pastor Matias Gutiérrez, a young pastor from a suburb of Buenos Aires, needed to be taken to a private hospital for heart problems because the public hospital was on strike. Missionary Joe Merlo went to New Mexico to help his parents and found out he himself has some medical issues. Please pray that God would open the doors for Brother Merlo to return soon to Comodoro Rivadavia. Each of these three men serve the Lord faithfully.

JoAnn and I had the great blessing of going down to Comodoro Rivadavia for two Sundays. There are no other ministries close to fill the pulpit in Pastor Merlo's absence. While we were gone, Maximiliano and his wife Eugenia were a great blessing to the people here. It encouraged the members to have an Argentine pastor-in-training in the pulpit. Pastor Gutiérrez, who was mentioned above, wishes Maximiliano to have a more rounded view on how God uses different men to accomplish the same call and has asked us to have a part in his training. It is great to see the national pastors training others especially as we remember when we first came to Argentina that there were so few national pastors in the ministry.

There are two special meetings that we would ask you to pray over very fervently. The first is a 5-day music retreat where musicians from various churches around the country will learn how to glorify God through their talents and improve their skills. These musicians including various who play in symphonies and the Christian conductor from Brazil will present a concert on Saturday Sept 17. The concert will be open to the public so the lost will hear the Gospel and believers will be edified. It is expected to have over 300 in attendance.

The second meeting will be the annual meeting, called the Fundamentalismo, of fundamental pastors from the southern part of South America. This year it is being held in our city of Buenos Aires. The place rented will hold 500 and we pray that many will be able to come. We have been praying for many years to have co-laborers here in Buenos Aires and for four days there will be many attending who will be witnessing to others whom we would never have had the opportunity to explain the Gospel. We are not hosting the meeting, but we are the only church in the downtown autonomous city of Buenos Aires and only 12 blocks away from the meeting place. The meeting is the 11-14 of October.

We will be having a baptism soon. Leonardo a young man studying to be a lawyer is excited to be getting baptized as a witness to his very Roman Catholic mother. He is very faithful to the Sunday afternoon services and even as a young Christian asks profound questions.

We had a great illustration of what God has led me to preach these last few weeks on the definition of faith. Basically faith is just complete dependence upon God. I received a call Monday evening from a member who is finally getting his feet back under him asking for prayer. When he got off the bus on his way home from work he realized that he had left a large bag of clothes (worth more than 10,000 pesos) from his store on the bus. He was quite anxious, so we prayed. After two hours Eric, who was stopping all the busses from that particular line, witnessed God's mercy and grace finding the big bag of clothes untouched on the bus's return route.

Always an encouragement, there have been some visitors to our services. They have been Christians from other provinces that had need to be in the Capital for medical reasons or visiting relatives and were faithful to search out a fundamental church to congregate in while away from their own church.

Thank you so very much for your prayers. We need them.

Charlie and JoAnn Smith

*“In the heart of Buenos Aires with Buenos Aires in our hearts”*

*An item of trivia*, what does a country like Argentina do when the \$100 peso bill has the value of what the \$10 bill did a few years ago? Answer: Print a new bill, the \$500.

