



July 2011 Praise Letter

Praises

Great start to Berea Baptist Church

A family recently started supporting us!

God has provided all our teachers at SCA for this semester.

Prayer Requests

Health for entire family during winter season

Needed support—currently at 81% (Short \$1,306 monthly)

Wisdom for new church plant decisions

Wisdom during this tough transition and moving between houses

Wisdom in preaching and outreach at church.

Mailing Address in Chile

Doug and Heather Amundson
Cruz Almeyda 1389
Peñalolén
Santiago, Chile
South America
dhamundson.blogspot.com

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Milo the non-praying mantis begins the story in his comfortable life as a snack shop owner. Then along comes a really big storm. This storm lifts away his old life, snack shop included and Milo doesn't know what to do. His friends seek to teach him simply to pray and seek God in the situation. However, Milo is determined that there must be something special about talking to God. He thinks he must sound eloquent or go to space to be closer to God in order to get God's attention or talk to everyone else about his problem, rather than quietly speak to God. It isn't until the end of the story that Milo learns to pray and to see the situation through God's eyes. Only then does he begin to see the pieces of his new snack shop as a blessing and a new start. Meanwhile there are others praying for shelter, and wouldn't you know it, God drops Milo's old snack shop building down in front of them. (Synopsis of Max Lucado's *Milo the Mantis Who Wouldn't Pray* video)

Milo's story echo's our life right now, although we have been praying all along. God has graciously allowed us to live here in Chile and to be involved in serving Him daily. However we have lacked financial support of up to 25% or \$1500 per month. We kept looking to God to provide through additional financial supporters, and although he has done that recently, He has also worked in other marvelous ways. On June 4th the decision was made for us to move into the home of fellow missionaries, Brian and Crystal Salsman, where we meet for the new church plant, Berea Baptist. The Salsmans have to be in the US for an 8 month furlough and since one of the leadership team needed to live here in their home/church, God decided He would meet our financial need in an unconventional way. Since the Salsmans have no mortgage, we have been allowed to stay here rent free.

This move has been difficult in some ways as we tried to pack up our home and personal items to store in a storage unit, while throwing some things out, and taking the items we use on an everyday basis to the Salsman's home. Our church and where we are now living is about 45 minutes by car to where we lived before, so we are going through some adjustments. We are also busy painting the old house and cleaning it in order to turn it over to the next set of renters.

On the other side of town at another of our ABWE church's, a national pastor and his family were told that they had to move by the 31st of July. They heard through another missionary about the house that we were vacating, and by God's grace, they will now rent the place that we called home for over 2 ½ years. This is another answer to prayer as we had been praying for another Christian family to continue God's witness there on Passage Way Carlos Pedraza. Please pray for Yentzen and Amalia as they move within the next week to the new house.

On the home front, we look forward to August 4th when the older kids start school again. They have been on winter break since the end of school on July 1st. Both Caleb and Hannah have been a HUGE help in the move, but we are ready to get into a more normal schedule here in our new home. We praise God that again He has provided teachers to teach at SCA and that Caleb and Hannah will have the same teachers as last year. Eliana and Esther are doing well adjusting and love living in

Uncle Brian's house that has 3 floors that they can explore. This makes for lots of work and running around for mommy, but we are holding up with various table time activities and imaginative play. We will also begin this weekend welcoming a student from ABWE's seminary into our home for the weekends. Nicholas is from Iquique in the Atacama Desert. He was saved just over a year or so ago and is growing by leaps and bounds! Nicholas was spending the weekends (Friday night through Monday AM) with the Salsmans so this house isn't new to him, just the family living in it. Please pray that we would meld as a family and that we can minister to him, showing him how a Christian family functions. Recently, while home on break, he was able to share Christ with his Aunt and Uncle who were attending a Jehovah's Witness church. They are now seeking God's will for their lives.

Berea Baptist church is doing well and we look forward to Nicholas' involvement again. Consistently we have had around 20 -25 on Sunday evenings. We have started with a more informal Sunday school format, with a small refreshment table after to encourage fellowship. Doug has been directing the song service or bringing the lesson. Right now he is opening God's word in regards to angels and their role, rather than being beings to worship. Doug was going help teach 7th & 8th grade bible at school due to a lack of teachers, but after reviewing all the family changes, new church plant, and existing ABWE responsibilities, he was more than happy when God provided another teacher to take over this class for the coming year.

Please pray specifically for a couple that is newly saved and has had bad experiences with other churches. Pray that God would direct them and that we as a leadership team would guide them in repentance, forgiveness, and fixing their situation.

Please also pray that we will get out and get to know our new area. Since the Salsman's children are all college age, they are empty nesters which makes meeting families with young kids hard. For us, with so many children it is easy. Please pray that we can meet and have many into our home for hospitality. As you may remember that throughout the 12 months that we were in Costa Rica, we were privileged to welcome over 175 people into our home. Please pray that in the next 7 months that we can have people in our home consistently to hear about God's free gift of salvation. God has asked us to be faithful, not successful, and all we can do is openly share God's free gift. Pray that we would be bold in doing so and that God would change hearts and lives.

Specific prayer requests for the coming couple of weeks.

1. Pray for all the misc projects Doug needs to complete or oversee completion before school starts. Doug also needs to complete painting the old house so that we can turn the keys back in to the owner.
2. Pray for Heather as she has been fighting a cold in the middle all of our family transitions and trying to re-establish our home.



Doug & Heather Amundson
937-732-5749
dhamundson@abwe.cc

U.S. Mailing Address:
c/o Tim & Connie Amundson
HC 62, Box 77
Burton, WV 26562

3. Pray for Doug as he "attempts" to lead the songs in Spanish on the weeks that he is not preaching—music is not necessarily his gift!! Also pray as he finishes his quick series on Angels in the next couple of weeks. We have people attending the church from various backgrounds so some of the questions need solid but careful explanations.

4. Pray for unity as a church planting team and that we can begin finding time to start going house to house in Ciudad Satelite again.

5. Pray for our family sanity as we have just moved to this house, but the current plan is to move to the ABWE apartments in Feb 2012 when the Salsmans return, and then into another house in July 2012 before we leave for furlough in Jan 2013—especially pray for our kids in all of this transition!!

Thanks so much for your prayers and support—we need them more than ever!!

DOUG & HEATHER & KIDS