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"I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."
Matthew 16:18

Together Venezuela

JUNE 2010

CÚA, VENEZUELA

Barry Family Visits Venezuelan Churches

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

June was a special month for Siempre Con Cristo as we welcomed Eric and Christina Barry for a visit. Eric and Christina founded Siempre Con Cristo in 2005 and served as its leaders until moving to Louisville a year ago to work with Team Expansion's senior leadership.

On Sunday June 13, the SCC Junta enjoyed a reunion breakfast with the Barrys, followed by a service in which Eric preached, highlighting the amazing things God is doing around the globe through Team Expansion, in particular, and evangelical Christian missions, in general. On Wednesday and Thursday of that week we had a two-night event with community prayer and lessons taught by Eric.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the Barrys' visit was the encouragement and advice they were able to give to SCC's young leaders. Since their departure, we have had both victories and struggles as we have worked to lead SCC forward. To receive a word of wisdom from them was a blessing.

Much of the Christian life is learned by observation and imitation. Leaders who serve as models are essential for a healthy, growing church. Pray for us, the young leaders of SCC, as we strive to live lives of exemplary service as we follow the example given by the Barrys.

With Joy in Christ,

Sam



The SCC Junta has breakfast with Eric Barry (in red shirt) and his family before the June 13 Sunday service.

SCC Choreography Team In Demand

The SCC Choreography team was invited to perform at two Christian youth festivals in June and they keep receiving more requests. The team is led by Hilda, a young adult who first met Jesus through a Christian dance ministry and was later baptized in SCC.

Right and banner-photo above: The SCC Choreography team performs its high-energy, Christian, pop dance routine in Guatire.



Elias and Wildalys Wedding

On June 18, two of SCC's young adults, Elias and Wildalys, were married in our facility. It was a joyous occasion. I was honored to get the bride to the church on time in my mission-owned Ford Explorer!

As with any young couple, but especially in Venezuela where marriage is so under attack, please pray for Elias and Wildalys. Both are 22 years of age and still in college with little financial stability. Elias, one of our most promising and charismatic young leaders, is depended upon in various ministries and now has the added responsibility of providing for a wife.

A healthy society needs healthy families and to that end we pray constantly that God would provide every single at SCC with a Christian mate. Likewise we pray that those who are living together outside of Christian marriage would consecrate their relationships to the Lord.



Elias and Wildalys are married by Matt. This marks the fourth wedding between SCC members in the church's history with many more to come as our first generation of young adults reach their mid-20's. This also marks Matt's first time officiating a wedding!

Prayer/Praise Points

- ◆ **Praise** for the marriage of Elias and Wildalys. **Pray** for them as they begin their new life together.
- ◆ **Praise** for the visit from the Barry Family.
- ◆ **Praise** for Carlo's first Sunday sermon. Continue to **pray** for SCC to have great preaching.
- ◆ **Praise** for the work and dedication of the SCC Choreography team.

Carlo Preaches 1st Sermon

You read in last month's newsletter that we are praying for God to raise up talented and consecrated Bible preachers from within SCC. We took a step toward that goal on June 27 when Carlo delivered his first Sunday sermon.

Carlo is preparing himself to be a church-planter through our Bible Seminary. He is one of our worship drummers and, in fact, he has served in just about every ministry we have at one time or another. But above all he has a thirst for the Word. He has preached during youth events and regularly presides over Sunday service Greetings and Communion Meditations.

Carlo, like the rest of us, needs more experience to grow in his understanding of the Bible and his ability to teach it clearly to this generation.



Carlo prays to conclude his June 27 sermon.

Miscellaneous

- I passed my third quarter at Bethel Seminary in June. The summer will be more relaxed as I am scheduled to take 4 credits instead of 9 or 10.
- Internet was down at SCC in June without a CANTV service rep in sight. With no internet at home or at the church office, and assignments and newsletters to finish, life gets adventurous.
- The 2010 Women's Softball World Championship was held in Caracas in June. Team USA made me proud by winning their 7th straight title!

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