



## Samuel and Hilda Schutz

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

# Together Venezuela

APRIL/MAY 2011

CÚA, VENEZUELA

## Spring Brings Baptism Breakthrough

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We rejoice to report that Siempre Con Cristo baptized eight people in the month of May. It was a wonderful time of celebration and it was encouraging to see our ministry efforts bear fruit by the grace of God. As a leadership team, we were slightly discouraged because we had gone several months without any baptisms. We put our concern before the Lord in prayer and He responded. Seeds that we had been planting all year long blossomed into new life for Yelis, Jesús, Nedriana, Samuelito, Felipe, Yessica, and Roger.

Also encouraging of late has been our overall attendance. Over the last five weeks SCC has had an average Sunday attendance of 127 people which is one of the highest figures we have seen in the past two years. It is clear that SCC has found a rhythm in 2011 and the Father is

rewarding her years of diligent ministry by bringing people into the community of faith.

We continue to work to make disciples of all of those who God has entrusted to us. To that end, we recently formed a new leadership team to supplement the SCC Junta by helping out with the main pastoral responsibilities on a week-to-week basis. This group is very motivated to grow and serve the Lord. They have been a driving force in the recent growth we have seen.

With Joy in Christ,  
Samuel and Hilda

Clockwise from lower right: Jesús comes out of the baptism waters; the leadership team shares coffee before a recent meeting; Samuelito waits to be baptized by Carlo; Roger confesses his faith in Christ; the baptism party closes with prayer.



## Sam And Hilda To Visit USA

From July 18th to August 8th, Hilda and I will be in Minnesota for Hilda's first visit to the USA. It will be an important time for Hilda to meet friends, family, our church congregation, and our mission supporters. Most importantly, she will learn more about my culture and my upbringing.

While in the US, Hilda and I will be holding a vow renewal ceremony which will give those who could not travel to Venezuela for our January wedding a chance to celebrate in our marriage. At that ceremony we will also give a report on the mission work in Venezuela.

## Miscellaneous

- We had a glorious Easter celebration on April 24.
- Siempre Con Cristo celebrated its 6th anniversary in April with a special service and an all-church picnic. We praise God for what He has done and what He continues to do in SCC.
- Wednesday night prayer and preaching continued. We have now progressed through the first 17 chapters of Genesis. Pray for growth in this ministry.
- In April we had an average Sunday attendance of 110 people; in May we averaged 127. Our goal for this year is to be averaging above 125. Our monthly offering totals are at an incredible 12,000 Bolivares, well over our goal of 6,000 per month.



## Pastors and Leaders Retreat

In April, our mission's churches held the first pastors retreat of 2012. For this retreat we extended the invitation to in-



clude anyone who felt called to collaborate with our vision to plant 120 churches before the year 2012. Over 60 people from 10 churches attended the evening/morning retreat at our mission's camp in Higuerote. Teaching from the book of Acts we learned lessons on how, where, why and with whom we should plant churches in the next nine years.

Above: Matt teaches a morning workshop at the leaders retreat in April. Below, right: Hands joined in prayer for God to move in Venezuela. Below, left: Yelis and Yessica before being baptized.



## Prayer/Praise Points

- ◆ **Praise** for 8 new believers who were baptized in May. **Pray** that they would stay true to their faith confessions.
- ◆ **Praise** for solid attendance and giving numbers in 2011. **Pray** that SCC would be good stewards of the resources and responsibilities that the Father has given us.
- ◆ **Pray** for safe travels for Hilda and I when we visit Minnesota in July/August.
- ◆ **Praise** for the many people who are committed to the Vision 120. **Pray** that God would lead them to white fields ready for a harvest and a new church plant.

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