



CHILDREN'S MISSION

2019 • QUARTER 2 • SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION



AdventistMission.org

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Your Offerings at Work



Three years ago, part of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering funded a floating church (pictured with volunteers wearing green shirts, left, and baptismal candidates in gray robes) on the Amazon River in Brazil. Read a mission story about the boat church on page 12.



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Dear Sabbath School Leader,

Andrew McChesney
Editor



This quarter we feature the South American Division, which oversees the Seventh-day Adventist Church's work in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Falkland Islands, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, with adjacent islands in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

The region is home to 340 million people, including 2.48 million Adventists. That's a ratio of one Adventist for 137 people.

This quarter's four Thirteenth Sabbath projects are "centers of influence," places used by Seventh-day Adventist church members to connect with the local community. Three of the centers of influence in Brazil and Peru are on the same site as new Adventist churches. The fourth center of influence is a community center offering English-language classes, music lessons, and other activities to children and youth in Cusco, Peru. The goal of this community center is to plant a new church in Cusco.

I have interviewed people who live in the four cities that will receive the Thirteenth Sabbath funds, as well as people blessed by the last Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago. You can find their stories on the pages of this publication and the youth and adult Mission magazine. After hearing their stories, I am convinced more than ever that Jesus is coming soon!

Special Features

If you want to make your Sabbath School class come alive in a new way this quarter, visit our Facebook page at the link: facebook.com/missionquarterlies. Every week, we post additional materials to go with each mission story.

This quarterly contains just a sample of the latest mission stories from the South American Division. For more great stories, visit bit.ly/sad-archive, which will take you to all the division stories. At this link, you can also search for stories by country and theme.

You also can download the PDF version of the youth and adult Mission magazine at bit.ly/adultmission, and Mission Spotlight videos at bit.ly/missionspotlight. A printable mission bank image, which the children can color, can be downloaded at bit.ly/bank-coloring-page.

If you have found especially effective ways to share mission stories, please let me know at mcchesney@gc.adventist.org.

Thank you for encouraging children to be mission-minded!

Opportunities

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter will help:

- Plant a church and health-focused community center in Aruana, Brazil
- Acquire property for a church and community center in Salvador, Brazil
- Open a youth-focused community center with English-language school in Cusco, Peru
- Establish a church and medical center in Pucallpa, Peru



ARGENTINA | April 6

Bible Baby

Abigail Darrichón Quinteros, 3

Little Abi started hearing Bible stories before she was born in Argentina.

Every morning, while still in bed, Mother opened a children's Bible and read a 10-minute story out loud to her unborn child. Every evening before falling asleep, Mother opened the Bible and read another 10-minute story.

Mother read about Noah, how the animals went into the ark, and the rain that fell to cause a flood. She read about how God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh day. She read about God calling little Samuel in the middle of the night to serve Him.

Mother hoped that her child would also serve God one day. She wondered whether the child could understand the daily Bible stories.

Finally, little Abi was born. Mother and Father were so happy to have a child!

Like before, Mother read the Bible

every morning and every evening for 10 minutes. She read to Abi about Noah's ark, Creation week, and little Samuel.

As the months passed, Abi grew bigger and bigger. She began to crawl and then walk. When she was 1 year and 10 months old, she began to talk.

By this time, Mother held Abi on her lap for worship, and she helped the little girl turn the pages of the Bible as they read. Mother wondered whether Abi understood the Bible stories. She hoped that Abi would serve God one day.

Then Abi did something unexpected.

One day as she sat on the floor, she raised a tiny fist and began to make up and down motions with her arm.

"Tok, tok, tok," she said every time her arm came down.

Then she raised both arms and, wiggling her fingers, brought them slowly down. She raised her arms again and, wiggling

her fingers, slowly brought them down.

After that, Abi said, “Grrr, grrr. Grrr, grrr.”

She paused.

“Oh, oh, oh, oh”

Pause.

“Roarrrr. Roarrrr.”

Pause.

“Bzzzzzz. Bzzzzzz.”

Mother watched without a word. She wasn’t sure what Abi was doing.

That night after Abi fell asleep Mother realized what had happened.

“Abi does understand the Bible stories!” Mother excitedly told Father. “Today she told her first Bible story all by herself. She told the story of Noah’s ark.”

Tears formed in Mother’s eyes. She was so happy that she had spent all those hours teaching Abi from the Bible.

Now, Abi is 3, and she has a little sister named Ali. She still loves the story about Noah’s ark. But her favorite story is about Baby Jesus. She takes a favorite stuffed animal, a teddy bear, and stuffs it under her shirt to pretend that she is Mary. She places other stuffed toys on her bedroom floor to represent the sheep in the Bethlehem stable where Jesus was born. She assigns the role of Joseph to her sister,

Story Tips

- Find the small town of Libertador San Martín, Argentina, on the map. This is where Abi lives and River Plate Adventist University, where her father works, is located
- Guess which animal sounds Abi was making in her Noah story. “Grrr” (tiger); “oh, oh, oh, oh” (monkey); “roarrrr” (lion); “bzzzzzz” (bees)
- Know that River Plate Adventist University has about 3,000 students and sends many student missionaries around the world every year. Many graduates also serve as missionaries
- Watch a video of Abi teaching Ali to pray at the link: bit.ly/Abigail-Quinteros
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

Ali, who is 1 ½ years old.

Abi tells Ali many stories from the Bible. She talks about Noah, the Creation, and Samuel.

She also is teaching Ali to pray.

Although Abi is only 3, she is already serving God as a missionary. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION RECORD

The first Adventists in Argentina were four families who came to Diamante, Entre Rios Province, from Tampa in the U.S. state of Kansas in early 1890. These were German farmers who had been colonists in Russia and had become Adventists while living in the United States.

The first official Adventist workers in Argentina were C.A. Nowlen, E.W. Snyder, and A.B. Stauffer who, when they came to canvas in Buenos Aires in February 1892, found that there were already two groups of Sabbath-keepers in Argentina: one at the colony of Esperanza, and the other at a colony near Reconquista, both in Santa Fe Province.



BRAZIL | April 20

Beatriz Silva Souza, 8

Girl Shocks Daddy

Eight-year-old Beatriz Silva Souza didn't pick up her toys or help her parents around the house in Aracaju, Brazil.

Then there was homework. Oh, how she didn't like to do her homework!

One morning, Mother announced, "Put on your nice dress, Beatriz. We're going to church!"

Mother had heard about the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the radio, and she wanted to learn more. Before leaving the house, she invited Father to come, too, but he shook his head.

Beatriz liked the church. The adults and children were friendly. They invited her to join the church's Adventurers club, and she eagerly agreed. She proudly wore her new uniform of a blue skirt, white blouse, and orange necktie. Soon Mother gave her heart to Jesus and was baptized.

After a while, Father noticed something different about Beatriz. When she woke up

in the morning, she immediately made her bed. Her toys were always in their place, and she cleaned and organized her closet and dresser drawers. After school, she did her homework without being told. Every day she swept all the floors. After supper, she carried the dishes to the kitchen, washed them, and put them away.

"Daughter, what has happened to you?" Father asked. "What has caused you to be so helpful and to act this way?"

"I learned at Adventurers that I need to help my parents," Beatriz replied.

"That's wonderful!" Father exclaimed.

To himself, he thought, "Wow, God really can change people's hearts! Beatriz used to be so angry and rebellious, but now she is kind and helpful."

Then Father thought about his own life. He wanted God to change him, too. He drank alcohol nearly every day, and he couldn't seem to stop.

Story Tips

- Find Aracaju, Brazil, on the map
- Ask children what they think of Beatriz's example of making her bed and cleaning the house
- Challenge the children to be like Beatriz and point out that their behavior can help God change their parents, just like Beatriz's helpfulness changed her father's life forever
- Read about Beatriz's Sabbath School teacher at the link: bit.ly/my-new-boss
- Watch a video of her father, Carlos Alberto de Souza, at the link: bit.ly/Carlos-Souza
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

Father prayed silently, "Dear God, if you can change my daughter's life, please change my life, too. I want to be changed like her. I want to stop drinking."

When Father saw that Beatriz was helpful for an entire month, he realized that he really had a new daughter. She was a new person. He asked for Bible studies at the church.

Even as he studied the Bible every week, he couldn't stop drinking. Then he read Jesus' words in John 8:36, "Therefore

if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" (NKJV).

He prayed, "Lord, it is written in Your Word that if You make me free, I will be free indeed. I want to be free from alcohol. I want to be baptized like my wife and to be free."

Father was baptized in September 2017, seven months after Mother. Beatriz wept with joy as she saw her father coming out of the water. Mother was happy, too.

"Now, me and my house will serve the Lord," she said.

From the moment Father was baptized, he never wanted to drink again.

"My home has changed for the better," said Father, whose full name is Carlos Alberto de Souza, 60. He smiled broadly. "I never thought that God could rescue me from my addiction to alcohol, but God has the power to change people. I am a new creation, and I am very happy."

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a new church building in Beatriz's hometown, Aracaju, Brazil. The church building where Beatriz and her family worship is too small, and the money will go toward a larger building. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Brazil has the greatest variety of animals of any country in the world. It is home to 600 mammal species, 1,500 fish species, 1,600 bird species, and 100,000 different types of insects.



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BRAZIL | April 20

Juliana Santos Ferreira, 12

No Birthday Cake

Mother didn't expect Juliana to refuse a cake for her 11th birthday.

"I want to bake you a chocolate cake," Mother said a few days before Juliana's birthday.

"No, thank you," Juliana said.

Mother looked surprised.

"Why not?" she said.

"I want to feed the homeless people rather than have a cake," Juliana said.

"Let's make soup for the homeless."

Juliana had seen a crowd of homeless people sleeping at the bus stop when she and Mother had gone out, and she could not stop thinking about them.

"It's too difficult and too much work," Mother said. "It would cost too much money for the ingredients. We also don't have a big pot to cook so much soup."

Juliana was not discouraged.

"I want to give soup to the homeless," she said. "This is the work of God."

Juliana had learned about God at a Seventh-day Adventist church in Salvador, Brazil. She first went to church because she wanted to join its Pathfinders club. She had seen a neighborhood friend wearing the Pathfinder uniform, and she wanted to be a Pathfinder, too. Then she gave her heart to Jesus and was baptized.

Mother was glad that Juliana loved God, but she wasn't interested in going to church.

After Mother said she couldn't cook soup without a big pot, Juliana visited the homes of several Adventist neighbors and asked if they had a big pot that she could borrow. Two neighbors gave her big pots, and she brought them home three days before her birthday.

But she still didn't have the ingredients for the soup. The matter seemed hopeless, so Juliana prayed, "God, please give me wisdom and touch Mother's heart to allow

Story Tips

- Find Salvador, Brazil, on the map
- Ask children what they think of Juliana's idea of feeding the homeless
- Ask the children who they can help this week
- Watch a video of Juliana at the link: bit.ly/Juliana-Ferreira
- Watch a video of Juliana's mother, Maria de Fatima Daumerie Santos, at the link: bit.ly/Maria-Santos
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

me to make soup for the homeless.”

The next day, Juliana gingerly asked Mother again whether she could make soup for the homeless.

Mother replied angrily, “Go to the grocery store and ask for them to donate the food for the soup!”

Mother secretly hoped that Juliana would be too shy to go to the store.

But Juliana merrily skipped to the neighborhood store, praying, “Thank you, God, for answering my prayer!”

At the store, she told the manager about her desire to make soup for the homeless. He told her to return the next day.

Juliana went to several other stores, and the managers also told her to return the next day. She also visited the Adventist neighbors again, and they promised to bring over some vegetables.

The day before Juliana's birthday, she stopped at the first grocery store after school and received a huge bag of vegetables. The other stores also gave her food, and then the Adventist neighbors

began knocking on her door with donations of food.

Mother was shocked as she saw the bags of onions, chili peppers, potatoes, carrots, pumpkins, corn, spices, and other ingredients for soup.

“What's happening here?” she asked.

“These are the ingredients for the soup that you are going to make!” Juliana declared happily, and she showed Mother the two big pots that she had borrowed.

Mother was amazed at Juliana's determination to help the homeless, and she had to admit that she didn't actually know how to make soup. When several Adventist women realized this, they came over to help make the soup.

On her birthday, Juliana put on her Pathfinder uniform, and she and her friends loaded the two big pots of soup into a car. Arriving at the bus stop, someone announced, “Today is Juliana's birthday, and she has made soup for you!”

The homeless people were delighted. They formed a circle around Juliana and, clapping, sang “Happy Birthday” to her.

Mother felt ashamed that she hadn't wanted to help the homeless. She realized that Juliana was filled with the love of God — and she wanted to be filled with God's love, too. Two months after Juliana's birthday, Mother was baptized.

Today, Juliana and Mother and several other church members go out twice a month to feed the homeless.

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a place in Salvador, Brazil, where people can take Bible studies and healthy cooking classes. Thank you for your mission offering. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



BRAZIL | April 27

Carine Cardoso de Oliveira, 7

Singing for Daddy

Little Carine thought Sunday was a wonderful day.

The 4-year-old girl went out with her parents to a shopping center in Salvador, Brazil. Father bought chocolate cake.

The next day, Father put on his police uniform — and didn't return home for a month.

That afternoon, Mother got a phone call. "Come on," she told Carine. "We're going to Grandma's house."

That night, Mother began to cry. Carine didn't know why Mother was crying, but she hugged her. "You taught me to trust God," she said. "So, trust Him. Everything will be all right."

Mother silently hugged her daughter.

In the morning, Mother left Carine with Grandmother and only came back in the evening. The same routine repeated itself the next day.

After a week, Carine began to wonder

about Father. "Where's Daddy?" she asked.

Mother paused. "Daddy had an accident," she said. "He's in the hospital."

Alarm filled Carine's little face.

Mother quickly added, "Don't worry. Jesus does miracles, and He will do a miracle for Daddy."

That night, Mother opened the Bible and read to Carine the story about Jesus giving sight to a blind man. She also read about other miracles: Jesus healing a bleeding woman, Jesus resurrecting Lazarus from the dead, Jesus protecting Daniel in the lions' den, and Jesus saving Daniel's three friends in the fiery furnace.

When Mother closed the Bible, she still looked sad. Carine offered to sing a song.

"Singing brings hope to my heart," she said. "You should have hope as well."

Mother liked to listen to Carine's clear, pure voice, and she welcomed the song.

Finally, after a month, Father came

Story Tips

- Find Salvador, Brazil, on the map
- Read a short interview with Carine's mother at the link: bit.ly/carine-mother
- Watch a video of Carine singing at the link: bit.ly/Carine-Oliveira
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

home. He looked tired, and he moved slowly, but Carine ran into his arms.

"I'm going to take care of you by singing to you," Carine announced.

She immediately sang a favorite song, "Hallelujah." She sang about her love of worshipping Jesus through song and how she would sing "hallelujah" at His feet in heaven one day.

Carine sang to her father every day until he returned to work.

Today, Carine is 7, and she accompanies her parents to various Seventh-day Adventist churches as they tell the miraculous story of Jesus' healing power.

Her father, Andre, tells how he and two other police officers came under a hail of gunfire when they drove into a crime-ridden neighborhood in Salvador on Sept. 8, 2014. He was shot in the head. Doctors were surprised that he walked out of the hospital a month after the shooting.

Carine's mother, Josenice, tells people about her daughter's faithfulness to God during that difficult month. "She was more faithful than me, even when she didn't even know what had happened to her father," she says. "She always believed that God would solve everything."

Then Carine sings "Hallelujah" — and puts her whole heart into the song.

"She worships God when she sings," her mother said. "People cry when they hear her."

Carine said she wants to worship God all the time.

"When I grow up, I want to preach and sing," she said. "Whether it is to a million people or to a small group, it doesn't matter. I just want to worship God." 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



Q&A WITH CORINE

Q: What is faith?

A: Faith for me is believing God and never doubting Him. Ever.

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse?

A: Matthew 6:33, which says, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." I like this verse because it says I must seek God, and He will help.

Q: How do you share Jesus at home?

A: I wash dishes and help Mommy around the house. When Daddy prepares to share his story in church, I tell him, "You need to speak from the bottom of your heart."



BRAZIL | May 4

Cibele Desidere Pontes, 18

Shy Amazon Girl

Other than going to school, Cibele stayed all the time at home in her remote village of Piraí along the Amazon River in Brazil.

Ever since she was a small girl, the other children teased her when she left the house.

“You’re weird,” a girl sneered.

The children also mocked Cibele because her father couldn’t work after his leg was paralyzed in a boating accident.

“Oh, there goes the daughter of that hopeless man who can’t work,” a boy said.

One day, when Cibele was 17, she heard a knock on the door of her home. She opened the door, and two young women greeted her with big hugs. Cibele had never seen the women before, and she was shocked. But she liked the hugs.

“Hi, we are missionaries from the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” one young woman said. “What’s your name?”

After talking for a short time, the two missionaries went to the next house.

The next day, the missionaries returned and chatted some more. On the third day, they told Cibele that a boat church called Amazonia de Esperanca (Amazon of Hope) had arrived and invited her to attend evangelistic meetings on the boat. Cibele, who liked to stay at home, felt a deep desire to go to the boat.

“I’ll go!” she said.

She convinced her parents to accompany her. She and Mother carried Father from the house to the boat. Pastor Reno, who lives on the boat, spoke about Jesus.

The next day, Cibele again felt a strong urge to go. As Cibele listened to the pastor speak, she realized that Jesus wanted to have a relationship with her. She thought about her father, unable to walk for 15 years, and believed that Jesus also cared for him. She began to pray

every day for God to heal him.

Two weeks later, Father caught Cibeles attention at a boat meeting and asked for help to walk to the restroom. Partway to the restroom, he said, "Let me try to go just a short distance on my own."

Cibele watched as he took a few steps.

Father went to the restroom, and he and Cibele walked back into the meeting hall. The pastor stopped preaching, and people stared in shock.

"It's a miracle!" said Cibele, tears flooding her eyes. "It is God's miracle!"

After that day, Cibele's classmates began to treat her with respect, and they started to attend the meetings. "We have never heard anything like this before!" they told her.

A month after the meetings began, Cibele was baptized with her father, mother, sister, and cousin.

Today, Cibele is 18 and preparing to become a missionary. She will be like those two young missionaries who first invited her to the meetings. "I learned to love God through the boat church, and I want to do the same for others," Cibele said. "I am very shy, but I lose all fear when I talk about Jesus."

Story Tips

- Find Manaus, Brazil, on the map. Then follow the Amazon River several hundred miles (kilometers) to the east to find the approximate location of Piraí. The village has 70 families of eight to 12 people each. Eight family members live in Cibele's home
- Pronounce Cibele as: see-BELL-ee
- Cibele's father lost the use of his left leg when he tried to save supplies on a canoe during a storm. He fell into the Amazon River, and a pink dolphin, also known as a boto, repeatedly rammed his leg, tearing the ligaments
- Watch a video of Cibele at the link: bit.ly/Cibele-Pontes
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

Thank you for your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering in fourth quarter 2016 that provided funds for the boat church where Cibele and her family learned about Jesus. Thank you for helping tell the world that Jesus is coming soon. 🌐

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION RECORD

Leo B. Halliwell was a pioneer in boat medical-missionary work, beginning his well-known welfare ministry in 1931 with a launch on the Amazon River, designed and built by himself — the first of a series of such craft named Luzeiro (Light Bearer). Other boats were subsequently built and used on branches of the Amazon. These launches still give assistance to thousands of people. Besides distributing clothing and food, medical help is given for many issues, the most common being malaria, intestinal parasites, malnutrition, skin diseases, general and tropical diseases, and tooth extraction.



PARAGUAY | May 11

Antonio Pedrozo, 21

No Shoes, No Parents

Antonio is 21 years old and very brave. He goes five days a week to the crowded Tacumbu prison in Paraguay's capital, Asunción, to give Bible studies to 11 inmates.

But Antonio wasn't always so brave. He grew up with a violent father and didn't own a pair of shoes until he was 13. He says it is a miracle that he only visits the prison and is not an inmate living there.

Some of Antonio's earliest memories are being beaten by his father. His parents cleaned houses for a wealthy man and cared for his cows, sheep, and chickens in the town of General Diaz.

Antonio and his older brother, Cristobal, often went hungry because their parents spent all their money on alcohol and cigarettes.

When Antonio was 7, his parents were fired and evicted from their home. They built a house of straw on a riverbank

outside town, and Antonio fished in the river to eat. Though still in school, Antonio started working at the age of 9. He and his brother made bricks in a small factory and cleaned the factory owner's house. The parents took the boys' salaries to buy alcohol and cigarettes.

"We didn't even have money for shoes, and I went barefoot to school for six years," Antonio said. "In the seventh grade, I managed to save up a little money from my job and bought a pair of cheap shoes."

By working overtime in the brick factory, Antonio and his brother received bricks as payment, and their parents built a brick house on the riverbank. They moved into the house when Antonio was 11.

One day, Antonio and Cristobal were playing ball when Father called them into the house. "We have something to tell you," said Father, standing with Mother. "You both are adopted."

Antonio learned that his birth parents were poor and had asked this couple to take him and his brother. Antonio was 8 months old when he was adopted.

Antonio was shocked, sad, and confused. Cristobal, who was 13, wept uncontrollably.

A short time later, a Seventh-day Adventist relative, Victoriano, visited the family and presented them with a Bible. Antonio's parents didn't know how to read, so he read to them. The first time he opened the Bible, he started reading about David and Goliath. He liked the story and, curious to learn more, read on his own. He found peace in the Bible. His favorite verse is Psalms 27:10, which says, "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take care of me" (NKJV).

The family started taking Bible studies and, a year later, when Antonio was 12, he was baptized together with his parents and brother. On the day of his baptism, Antonio forgave his birth parents for abandoning him.

His adopted father, once drunk and angry, became kinder. He asked Antonio and Cristobal for forgiveness.

Several years passed and, through Facebook, Antonio learned that he had four

Story Tips

- Find the cities of Asunción and General Diaz, Paraguay, on the map
- Pronounce Asunción as: ah-soon-SYAWN
- Watch a video of Antonio at the link: bit.ly/Antonio-Pedrozo
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

more brothers and sisters. He also learned that his birth mother lives in a remote village far away. He couldn't find his birth father, who had divorced his mother.

Antonio now works as a missionary with a church in Asunción that opened with money from the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering three years ago. As a missionary he gives Bible studies at Tacumbu prison, and seven inmates have been baptized. He hopes to become a pastor one day. He also hopes to meet his birth mother.

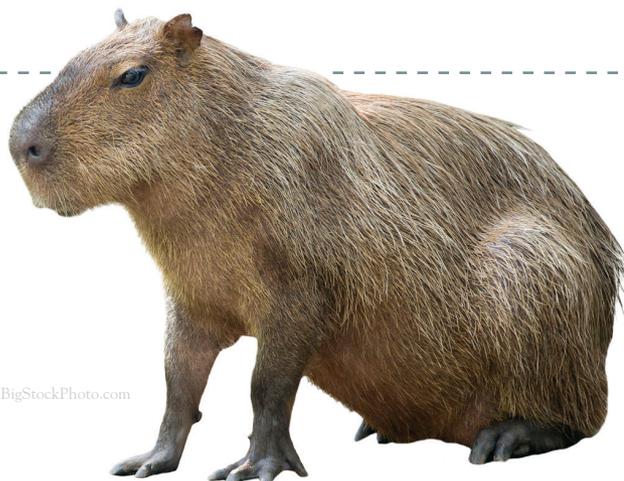
"My dream is to see my birth mother and to teach her the Bible and about Jesus," he said. "Jesus gave me life and a purpose in life and happiness." 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



AMAZING
NATURE

Paraguay is home to the world's largest rodent called the Capybara, which is something like a giant guinea pig.



BigStockPhoto.com



URUGUAY | May 18

Elli Scheper, 80

A Book for Grandma

Ten-year-old Danielle ran up to Grandmother with anger in her eyes in the supermarket in Uruguay's capital, Montevideo.

"Look, Oma," she said, holding up a small, paperback book. "People are taking these books and throwing them away in the trash. Why are they throwing away books? Books are meant to be read!"

Grandmother tried not to smile. Danielle, so small and upset, spoke with such earnestness.

"Where did you get the book, dear?" Grandmother asked.

The little girl explained that a man was handing out books to customers on the other side of the supermarket. He had given one of the books to her.

Danielle offered the book to Grandmother, who looked at it with interest. The book was called "The Great Hope" by Ellen White. It didn't look too

difficult to read, and Grandmother read it with interest at home.

That same week, a friend told Grandmother that she had started listening to a radio station that played wonderful music.

"Elli, I found a radio station with music that I know you are going to like," the friend said.

Grandmother liked the music, and she wanted to know more. She called the radio.

"Who are you?" she asked. "Why do you play this music?"

The person who answered the telephone replied that the radio station, Nuevo Tiempo, was owned by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. "What is Seventh-day Adventist?" Grandmother asked. "I want to know more."

The radio station sent a pastor to Grandmother's house to offer Bible studies.

Grandmother wanted to study the

Story Tips

- Find Montevideo, Uruguay, on the map
- Pronounce Montevideo as: Mon-teh-vi-DAY-oh
- Pronounce Goes, a two-syllable word, as: GO-es
- Watch a video of Grandmother Elli at the link: bit.ly/Elli-Scheper
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq
- Read more about Nestor Alvaro Rivero next week.

Bible, but she told the pastor that she couldn't walk easily after having operations on both of her knees.

"No problem," the pastor said. "We live near to your house, and we can come to you to give Bible studies."

The pastor sent a church member named Nestor Alvaro Rivero to teach the Bible to Grandmother.

Grandmother invited Danielle to join the Bible studies, but the girl refused. She wasn't interested in sitting and reading the Bible. But she saw that the Bible made Grandmother happy, and she came

up as Nestor was visiting one day.

"Can I sit here with you?" she asked.

After that, Danielle attended every Bible study with Grandmother.

Grandmother and Danielle were surprised to learn that Nestor was the man who had handed out the books in the supermarket.

After a while, Grandmother decided to give her heart to Jesus and be baptized. Danielle moved away to Spain to study.

Grandmother remembers that it was Danielle who first introduced her to the Adventist Church by giving her the Ellen White book. She is praying that Danielle will be baptized one day.

"I ask her to read the Bible and pray, and she does," said Grandmother, whose full name is Elli Scheper. "I'm trying to guide her toward Christ from far away."

Grandmother, who is 80, belongs to Goes Seventh-day Adventist Church, which received part of a 2016 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering to expand into its own church building and community center in Montevideo, Uruguay. Thank you for your faithfulness in helping prepare people for Christ's soon return. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



MISSION RECORD

The first Adventist in Uruguay was Mrs. Juan Rivoir, who came to Uruguay with her husband in 1890 and who, four years before her arrival, had listened to sermons by Ellen White in Piedmont, Italy.

The first Seventh-day Adventist school in Uruguay was organized in 1908, in Nueva Helvecia colony in the home of Julio Ernst, with Otto Heydeker as teacher. Uruguay Academy, now Uruguay Adventist Academy (Instituto Adventista del Uruguay) situated at Progreso, was founded in 1944.



URUGUAY | May 25

Nestor Alvaro Rivero, 60

Doing the Impossible

Nestor Alvaro Rivero, a retired driver in Uruguay, used to think that the only way that he could share Jesus was by preaching, singing, and playing the guitar.

But then Nestor did the impossible. He shared Jesus by opening a church.

It all started when Nestor's pastor in Uruguay's capital, Montevideo, asked him to work as a missionary in the Goes neighborhood, a central city location without a Seventh-day Adventist church building.

Nestor would work with nine other people, including four local residents who were baptized recently through the efforts of visiting student missionaries.

Nestor and his nine companions got busy.

They rented a former café, repainted the walls, and turned it into a church.

Then they went door to door in the neighborhood and met people.

They invited people to the small church for Bible lessons, vegetarian cooking

classes, stop-smoking classes, and guitar lessons taught by Nestor.

"We started work around the clock, and in a short time we reached many people," Nestor said.

In the first year, five people were baptized.

Then church membership swelled to 25 people, and the little church ran out of space.

Church members prayed and scouted the neighborhood for a larger building. Around the same time, the Adventist world church designated the church as a recipient of a 2016 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

When the money arrived in Uruguay, the church moved to a newly purchased two-story building.

The new church has a large hall with 48 chairs on the ground floor.

A video link is being set up so people can watch worship services from five rooms upstairs.

“We are grateful for the help that we have received from church members around the world,” Nestor said. “Our work and the help from the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering have resulted in a very strong church with good roots and members who are willing to serve.”

Then Nestor paused and corrected himself.

He said the church’s growth had little to do with the work of the church members.

“God prepared the people before we arrived,” Nestor said. “He brought us the people.”

When the new church building opened in December 2016, many people stopped to look at it.

“What is this?” said one.

“Are you connected to Nuevo Tiempo?” said another, pointing to the television and radio station’s logo in a church window. Nuevo Tiempo is the local affiliate of the Adventist Church’s Hope radio.

Nestor is thrilled that the church is growing. Three more people are preparing for baptism.

“I once thought that I could only serve

Story Tips

- Find Montevideo, Uruguay, on the map
- Pronounce Montevideo as: Mon-teh-vi-DAY-oh
- Watch a video of Nestor at the link: bit.ly/Nestor-Rivero
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

God by preaching, singing, and playing the guitar,” he said. “But now my goal is to keep planting churches. I understand that this is the mission that God has given to me, and I like it.”

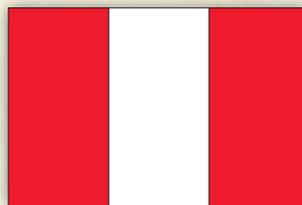
Thank you for your 2016 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering that helped Goes Seventh-day Adventist Church relocate into a its own church building and community center in Montevideo, Uruguay. Thank you for your faithfulness to the mission of preparing people for Christ’s soon return. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



In Uruguay, there are three cows for every one person.





PERU | June 1

Luis Condori, 11

No School on Sabbath

Luis got a surprise vacation when all public schools closed across Peru.

Teachers refused to work for two months because they wanted higher wages.

When Luis' school finally reopened, the teacher told the children that they had to work extra hard to make up for the two months of vacation. She added an extra day of classes every week on Saturday.

Luis didn't want to study on Saturday. He had given his heart to Jesus and been baptized earlier that year after attending a Vacation Bible School in his hometown, Cusco.

On Friday, Teacher reminded the children that they would meet again the next day, and she announced that there would be an important exam.

Luis nervously approached Teacher after the last class on Friday. "I am a Seventh-day Adventist," he said. "Please allow me to take the exam on another day because

I go to church on Saturdays."

Teacher thought for a moment.

"Let me review your grades," she said.

She hadn't given a "yes" or "no" answer.

But Luis always received good grades, so he hoped that Teacher would excuse him. He went home and told his parents, who didn't go to church, about the situation.

"It depends on the teacher," Mother said. "If Teacher gives permission, then you can skip school on Saturdays. But if she doesn't give permission, then you must go to school."

Before going to bed, Luis prayed.

"Help me and make Teacher give me permission," he prayed. "Sabbath is a holy day set aside by You, and I have to worship on this day."

Teacher hadn't given permission. Father and Mother hadn't given permission. But Luis decided to go to church on Sabbath.

At church, Luis didn't tell anyone about

Story Tips

- Find Cusco, Peru, on the map
- Watch a video of Luis at the link: bit.ly/Luis-Condori
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq
- Ask the children what they like about Vacation Bible School. Luis liked Vacation Bible School because of the songs praising God and the prayers that ended with the powerful words, “In Jesus’ name, Amen.” He said, “I like that we can speak directly to God.”

his problem. He felt embarrassed. But he kept praying for God to convince Teacher to allow him to skip Saturday classes.

Luis felt nervous when he arrived at school at 7 a.m. Monday. He didn’t want to speak with Teacher.

Teacher didn’t say anything to him all day. When the children were leaving at the end of the day, Teacher called him to the front of the classroom. He nervously came forward.

Teacher smiled.

“It’s OK,” she said. “Your grades are good. I’ll let you make up for Saturday

schoolwork on other days of the week.”

Luis was thrilled! God had answered his prayers. With a happy grin on his face, he ran home as fast as he could to tell his parents.

“OK, you can go to church then,” Mother said.

When Luis went to bed that night, he prayed, “Thank You for helping me get permission to go to church on Sabbaths.” When he opened his eyes in the morning, he thanked God again.

After such a wonderful answer to prayer, Luis is now praying for something else that seems impossible: for his parents to be baptized. “If God could answer my prayer about not going to school on Sabbath, then I am sure that he will answer my prayer,” he said.

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a special place in Luis’ hometown where children and teenagers can go to Vacation Bible School every day. The special community center will offer English lessons, music classes, and other activities that will teach the children about Jesus. Thank you for your mission offering. 🌍

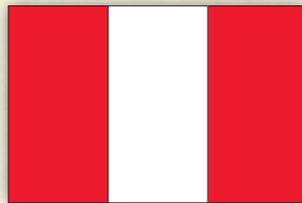
By Andrew McChesney



MISSION RECORD

Seventh-day Adventist work in Peru began in 1898 with a Chilean missionary named Escobar who, with six others, settled in the city of Lima and worked as self-supporting missionaries.

Early Adventist workers in Peru found a hostile reception. One group of Chilean Adventists that went to Mollendo arrived on a Friday and began missionary work the next day. They were immediately attacked by a mob, arrested by the police, and in a few days shipped back to Chile. The first baptisms had to be done in secret.



PERU | June 8

Cesar Ttito, 10

Cesar's New Family™

Little Cesar dreaded Father coming home from work in Peru.

Father, who drove a dump truck, stopped to buy beer. When he arrived home, he was drunk, and he wanted to argue with Mother.

Cesar didn't like to hear his parents arguing every night.

Then everything changed. One day, Father didn't come home drunk. Instead, he was carried into the house by some friends. His legs were paralyzed, and he couldn't walk. He couldn't move his arms and fingers either.

Cesar learned that Father had lost all feeling in his arms and legs while driving the dump truck. Fortunately, someone had called for help. At the hospital, the doctor said something was wrong with Father's nervous system but didn't know what to do.

The next day, Father went to another doctor, but he couldn't help either.

Father visited a third and a fourth doctor, and he still couldn't walk.

After all the doctors, Father used up all his savings and, since he wasn't working, didn't have much money left. He didn't know what to do. Cesar also didn't know what to do, and he was worried. He wanted Father to walk again.

Then Father asked Cesar to run out to the family car.

"You'll find a black book in the glove compartment," Father said. "Bring it to me."

Cesar took the book to Father. On the cover was written "Holy Bible." Cesar had never read the Bible. Father hadn't either.

Father told Mother that a Seventh-day Adventist co-worker had given him the Bible several years earlier, but he had left it in the car. Now he wanted to read it.

Father read the Bible every day, and he prayed to God. Cesar heard him praying, "Dear God, please give me a second

chance. I won't drink anymore, and I will be a good father."

As the days passed, Cesar saw that God had heard Father. Feeling slowly returned to Father's hands and legs, and he began to walk again. Cesar was so excited!

Soon Father returned to work as a driver. But he was different. He no longer came home drunk after work. He didn't argue with Mother.

One day, Father said to Cesar, "I heard that there will be evangelistic meetings this week at church. Would you like to go with me?"

Mother didn't want to go, so father and son went every night that week. They loved what they heard about Jesus and His soon coming. On the last night, the preacher asked who wanted to be baptized, and Father went to the front.

The preacher was pleased that Father wanted to give his heart to Jesus, but he said that he needed to take Bible studies first. He also said Father needed to marry Mother.

Cesar decided to pray. After all, God had heard Father's prayers to walk, so why wouldn't God hear his prayers for his parents to be married? Cesar prayed every day, "Loving Father, I ask You for my mother and my father to be married."

Father and Cesar also attended church every Sabbath, but Mother refused to go.

"Please, Mother, come with us," Cesar said. "Put God first."

"Not today," Mother said. "I have so much to do."

But as the weeks passed, Mother noticed big changes at home. Father always spoke kindly to her, and Cesar always obeyed her promptly. Cesar even came to her and asked how he could help.

Story Tips

- Find Cusco, Peru, on the map
- Know the names of Cesar's family members. His father is Dante Condori Ventura, 36; his mother is Raquel Ttito Guillen, 35; and his little sister is Danitza Ttito, 4
- Watch a video of Cesar at the link: bit.ly/Cesar-Ttito
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

After a few months, Mother said, "I want to go to church with you and Cesar. I want to see what is happening at church that has made the hearts of my men so kind."

Cesar was so happy! Just a few months later, he became even more happy. His parents were married and, after the wedding, baptized.

With no church in their town, Father and Mother opened a church in their home. Neighbors started coming, and soon 20 people were attending every Sabbath. Cesar started a youth program. Even though he is only 10, he leads a group of about eight young people aged 14 to 21 every Sabbath afternoon.

Cesar lives in Andahuallilas, a village located 45 minutes by car from Cusco. Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a Cusco community center where children, many who come from villages like Cesar's, can learn English and take part in activities that will introduce them to Jesus. Thank you for your mission offering. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



PERU | June 15

Alcides Valdez Chicata, 15

Tragedy Opens a Church

Thirteen-year-old Alcides hopped on the crowded bus for the two-hour drive to the city to celebrate Peru's national holiday in 2016.

His older brother, Wilbur, 45, was driving the bus. All the 21 seats were filled, and three children were standing in the aisle.

After about 30 minutes, Wilbur stopped the bus on the winding, mountainous road. He was feeling sleepy, so he splashed water on his face from a nearby stream.

As the bus continued its journey, Alcides also felt sleepy, and he leaned his head against the window and closed his eyes. He sensed that the bus was picking up speed as it rounded the curves. As the bus hurtled around a curve, it struck a tree and somersaulted down a steep slope.

Alcides can't remember hearing passengers screaming as the bus fell. He only remembers the bus rolling and his head being slammed against the window

and seats. He prayed, "Please, God, help me. Don't let me die here."

Suddenly the bus broke in two, and Alcides was flung out. Lying on his back, he saw suitcases, gas canisters, and beer boxes falling out of the sky at him. He rolled back and forth to avoid being hit.

Then he heard the screams of the other passengers. Fear swept over him, but then he realized that people needed help. He walked over to someone with a broken leg. "You'll be OK," he said.

Suddenly, he remembered that his brother had been driving the bus. He searched for Wilbur and finally found him.

"What happened?" Wilbur said weakly.

Alcides took off his shirt and wiped his brother's bleeding forehead. Then he realized that he was the only person who wasn't injured.

The bus crash occurred near a small village, and the villagers sent a car to

Story Tips

- Find Cusco, Peru, on the map
- Pronounce Alcides as: al-SEE-des
- Ask the children how they can share their love for Jesus every day, just as Alcides does
- Watch a video of Alcides at the link: bit.ly/Alcides-Chicata
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

help. Someone called Alcides and Wilbur's mother. She immediately jumped onto a horse and raced to the crash site, arriving in about 30 minutes. When she saw Alcides, she wept with relief.

"You are alive because of God!" she cried. "Thank You, God!"

By this time, the police had arrived, and an officer took Alcides to the hospital for a checkup. Someone else took Wilbur to the hospital.

After staying overnight, Alcides was sent home. The doctor said he was fine. His brother was transferred to a larger hospital in Cusco, and he underwent many operations.

When Alcides went to the house church in his village the next Sabbath,

many people who never worshipped on Sabbath came to hear his story. They also wanted to see if he really wasn't hurt. They were amazed.

"It's a miracle. You are the only one who is uninjured," said one.

"You are the son of God because you were spared from death," said another.

Six people were baptized after they heard Alcides' tell his miracle story. Another seven people are taking Bible studies in preparation for baptism because of Alcides.

One villager was so astounded that he donated land to build the first Adventist church in the village. He also was baptized.

Mother was so grateful to God for sparing her sons' lives that she raised the money to construct the church building. The church now has 25 baptized members.

Wilbur has fully recovered, and Alcides, now 15, is praying that he will accept Jesus.

Alcides hopes to work as a mining engineer one day. But he said he will always tell others about how God saved his life.

"I think God spared me to be a testimony to other people," he said. "I never will stop sharing my love for Jesus and inviting people to Him." 🌍

By Andrew McChesney

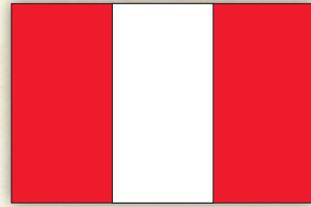


AMAZING
NATURE

One of the most important Peruvian cultures was the Inca, who lived in Peru about 600 years ago. Their capital, Cusco, is still a major city today. The Inca also built Machu Picchu, a mysterious ancient city in the Andes. They thrived for centuries before being conquered by the Spanish in 1532.

BigStockPhoto.com





PERU | June 22

Renzo Flores, 11

Renzo's Favorite Sabbath Activity

Eleven-year-old Renzo doesn't take a nap or play with friends after worship services on Sabbath. Immediately after lunch, he goes with Father to visit people who have stopped coming to church.

The pastor gives Father, who is a church elder, a list with names and addresses. Then Renzo and Father go to the first house in their Peruvian hometown, Pucallpa.

Renzo knocks on the door.

Often the door is opened by the person who has not come to church.

"Hello," Father says. "We are here to visit with you and to pray with you."

No one slams the door shut in their faces. Father and Renzo are always invited to come inside the house. Sometimes the man whom they came to visit is alone, but usually other family members are home with him.

Once inside, Father prays, "Dear God, we ask You to change the heart of this

man, and we pray for him to come back to church one day."

Then Father says, "Let me share some Bible verses with you."

He opens the Bible and reads verses about how God forgives people and invites them to return to the arms of Jesus. He especially likes to read Psalms 23, which begins with the words, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want." He also reads the story of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32.

After reading, Father and Renzo invite the man and his family to join them in singing two hymns. One of the hymns is always, "A Shelter in the Time of Storm."

When the songs are finished, Father asks the man who has missed church, "How is your spiritual life?"

Father also asks about the family's wellbeing and, at the end of the visit, invites the man to come to church the next Sabbath.

Sometimes Father has the closing

Story Tips

- Find Pucallpa, Peru, on the map
- Pronounce Renzo as: ren-SO
- Ask the children to recite Psalms 23. Ask why this psalm would encourage someone to go to church
- Ask the children to share their favorite Sabbath afternoon activities

prayer, and other times Renzo prays. When Renzo prays, he says, “Dear God, help this man understand Your love and that Jesus can forgive his sins. Amen.”

Each visit lasts about 30 minutes, and the father-and-son team stop by two homes every Sabbath before the Sabbath afternoon program starts at church. Renzo, who loves to read the Bible and books by Ellen White, once gave the Sabbath afternoon program about Jesus’ soon coming based on Ellen White’s book “Last Day Events.”

Father and Renzo visited 15 people in the past month, and five of them have returned to church.

Renzo especially remembers a visit to Immanuel’s home. Immanuel’s teenage

daughter opened the door and welcomed Renzo and his father inside.

Immanuel’s wife and two children went to church every Sabbath, but Immanuel had stopped attending two months earlier. He explained to the visitors that he had been sick and then started working on Sabbath. His elderly mother, who is also an Adventist, wept with joy as the visitors sang and prayed with her son. Immanuel returned to church the next Sabbath.

“I was very happy to see him in church on Sabbath,” Renzo said. “I like seeing people respond to our invitation to come to Jesus and return to church.”

Now Renzo wants his father to join him on a new project: visiting his classmates from public school.

“Jesus has changed my heart,” he said. “I’m thinking about giving Bible lessons to my friends with my father’s help and inviting them to church.”

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a new church and medical center in Renzo’s hometown, Pucallpa, so more people can learn about Jesus and have a place to worship on Sabbath. Thank you for your mission offering. 🌍

By Andrew McChesney



In 1911, F.A. Stahl and his wife, who had previously worked in Bolivia, were transferred to Plateria in Peru. The history of the pioneer experiences and missionary service that endeared them to the Aymara Indians is recounted in Stahl’s book “In the Land of the Incas.”

In 1921 the Stahls moved to the Chanchamayo district in central Peru to work among the Amazonian people. They established the Metraro mission station on the Perene River.



13th SABBATH | June 29

Alejandro Gonzales Qquerar,
52

Wind Blew but Fire Stood

Making lunch took some work for Alejandro, a farmer and father of four children in Peru.

First, he needed to dig a hole in the ground. Then he would place wood and stones into the hole and light a fire. When the flames caused the stones to turn red and then black, he would throw some potatoes on top of them. After that, he would cover the potatoes with dirt and cold rocks, which would put out the fire. The potatoes would bake in the hot earth and, after about 20 minutes, they would be ready to eat.

Alejandro got to work, digging the hole in a small clearing in his field of barley. The crop was dry and nearly ready to harvest. Alejandro placed the wood and stones into the hole and lit the fire.

A strong wind began to blow.

As the fire slowly grew in the hole, the

wind caught hold of a spark and blew it over to the barley field. The dry stalks quickly ignited and the flames, fueled by the wind, raced across the field and entered a neighbor's barley field. Several other neighbors also had fields nearby.

Alejandro helplessly watched in horror. His raw potatoes lay forgotten at his feet. The wind blew harder, and he had to put his hand to his head to keep his hat from flying off. The fire was out of control, and he couldn't stop it.

He fell onto his knees and took off his hat.

"God, what are you doing now?" he cried out. "If all the crops burn, I don't have the money to reimburse my neighbors. Please perform a miracle and put out the fire. Amen."

He stood up and looked at the fire. Then he looked again. It was still burning, but it

Thirteenth Sabbath Program

Before Thirteenth Sabbath:

- Send home a note to remind parents of the program and to encourage the children to bring their Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on June 29.
- Remind everyone that their mission offerings are gifts to spread God's Word around the world, and that one-fourth of our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to help four projects in the South American Division. The projects are listed on page 3 and on the back cover.

wasn't moving. The wind was still blowing hard, but the flames were standing still, as if stopped by an invisible wall.

Alejandro couldn't believe his eyes.

"It's a miracle!" he exclaimed. "Thank you, God!"

He raced to his neighbors' houses to alert them about the fire and to seek their help. He didn't want them to come out to the field and wonder what had happened.

The neighbors came running, and they converged on the field. By this time, the fire had nearly burned itself out. It hadn't spread any farther after Alejandro's prayer. Alejandro and the neighbors threw some dirt on the last flames to put them out.

One neighbor was furious and wanted to hit Alejandro. But the others said, "This is a miracle. The fire would have spread and destroyed all of our crops if it hadn't stopped here."

In the end, Alejandro saw that the fire had damaged his crop and the crops of three neighbors, destroying about 650 pounds (300 kilograms) of barley. After he harvested his barley, he reimbursed his neighbors for what they had lost. Everyone was happy.

Remember the potato lunch? Alejandro

Story Tips

- Find Cusco, Peru, on the map
- Pronounce Alejandro as: all-aye-HAN-dro
- Pronounce the name of Alejandro's village, Ccacacollo, as: kaka-KOLO
- Ask the children to share their favorite Sabbath afternoon activities
- Share that Alejandro, like many villagers in Peru, only speaks the Quechua language (pronounced: KETCH-wa). To interview him, Adventist Mission needed two interpreters: someone to interpret from Quechua to Spanish, and someone to interpret from Spanish to English
- Share that Alejandro's village has 500 residents today, and the village's church has 300 baptized members
- Read more about Alejandro at the link: bit.ly/Alejandro-Bibles
- Watch a video of Alejandro at the link: bit.ly/Alejandro-Fire
- Find photos for this story at the link: bit.ly/fb-mq

and his family never ate the potatoes because they were burned to ashes by the fire. But they didn't care. God miraculously stopped the flames and prevented a disaster.

"God stopped the fire because I believed in His power," Alejandro said. "I asked for a miracle in my prayer, and God gave me a miracle. God has done many miracles in my life."

One of the biggest miracles in Alejandro's life is that God has helped him lead 800 people to Christ and baptism. Even though he is a simple farmer who never studied beyond the first grade, he

gives Bible studies and has opened six Seventh-day Adventist churches in the region around his village, Ccacacollo.

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help open a community center for children and teenagers in Cusco, which is about an hour by bus from Alejandro's village. The community center will teach English and offer other activities to introduce people to Jesus. Thank you for your mission offering. 🌍

[Offering]

By Andrew McChesney



An outdoor oven similar to the one that Alejandro used.

Future Thirteenth Sabbath Projects

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering next quarter will help the South Pacific Division to:

- "Save 10,000 Toes," a campaign to prevent toe amputations through health services in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Kiribati, and Tonga.
- Construct Hope TV and radio studios in Tongatapu, Tonga.
- Produce "Daniel Children's Series," a 13-part animated series for children aged 8-12 following the adventures of Daniel and his three friends, in Australia.

Play Hit the Penny

“Hit the Penny” is a game from the country of Brazil.

Cut a stick (a broomstick or thick dowel) to a length of 12 to 16 inches (30 to 40 cm). Draw a circle on the ground about 2 feet (60 cm) across and hammer the stick into the middle of it. Place a coin on the top of the stick.

1. To play “Hit the Penny,” stand all the players in a line about 3 feet (1 meter) from the edge of the circle.
2. Players take turns throwing a coin at the coin on top of the stick. They must try and knock it off the stick and have it land outside the circle. If they are successful they can have another turn and continue until they miss. If not, the next player has his turn.
3. Players receive one point if they successfully knock the coin off the stick so that it lands outside the circle.
4. The winner is the player with the most points at the end of the game.

Sing a Song

YO TENGO GOZO

Sung to the tune of “I’ve Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Down in My Heart”

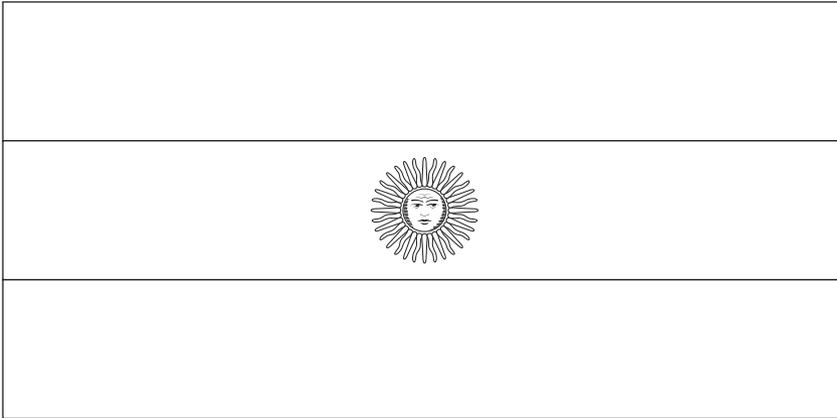
Yo tengo gozo, gozo, gozo, gozo
En mi corazón, En me corazón
En me corazón
Yo tengo gozo, gozo, gozo, gozo
En mi corazón
Porque Cristo me Salvó

Yo tengo paz, paz, paz, paz
En mi corazón, En me corazón
En me corazón
Yo tengo paz, paz, paz, paz
En mi corazón
Porque Cristo me Salvó

Yo tengo alegría, alegría
En mi corazón, En me corazón
En me corazón
Yo tengo alegría, alegría
En mi corazón
Porque Cristo me Salvó

Yo tengo gozo, paz, y alegría
En mi corazón, En me corazón
En me corazón
Yo tengo gozo, paz, y alegría
En mi corazón

Color The Flag

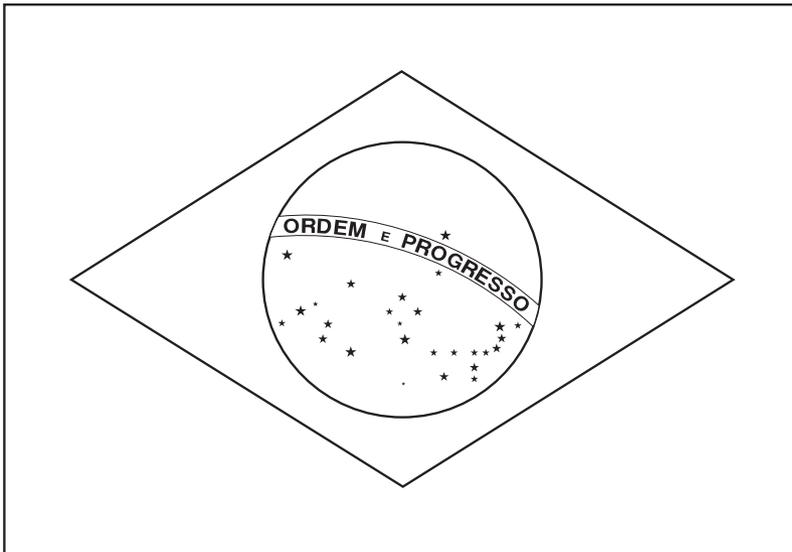


ARGENTINA

DIRECTIONS:

Color the top and bottom thirds light blue.

Leave the middle third white and color the sun yellow.



BRAZIL

DIRECTIONS:

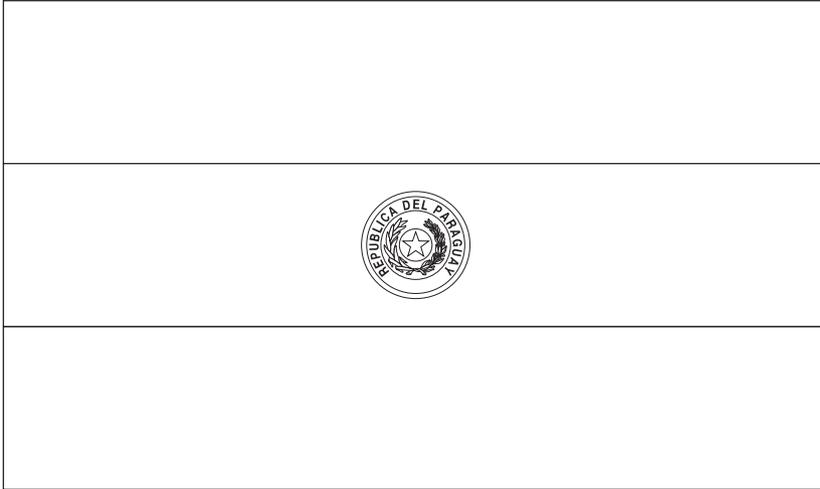
Color the main part of the flag medium green.

Color the diamond in the middle yellow.

Color the circle in the middle dark blue, leaving the stars white.

Leave the diagonal band white and color the words green.

Color The Flag

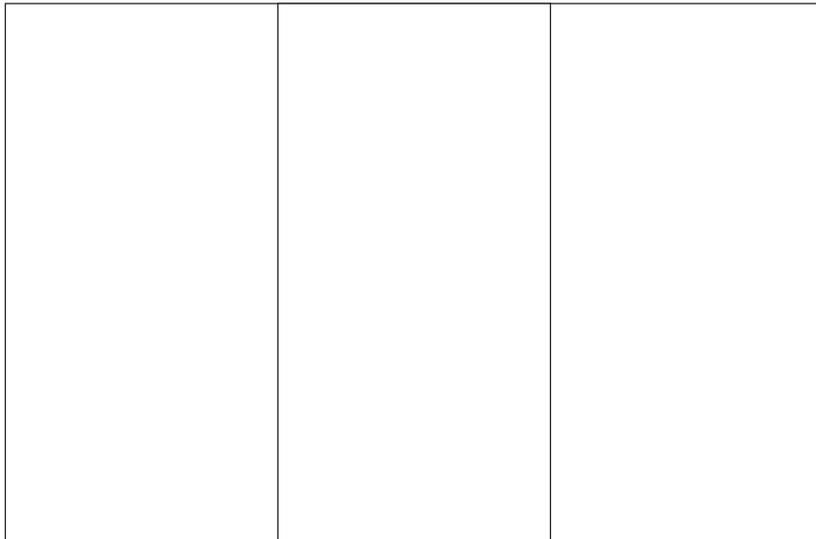


PARAGUAY

DIRECTIONS:

Color the top third red and the bottom third blue. Leave the middle white.

Color the star yellow and the wreath green.



PERU

DIRECTIONS:

Color the right and left thirds red.

Leave the middle white.

Let's Cook!

EASY VEGGIE EMPANADAS

INGREDIENTS

Dough

½ cup (64 g) all-purpose flour
½ tsp (2.5 g) salt
½ cup (113 g) butter, chilled and cut into small pieces

1 egg
¼ cup (62.5 ml) ice-cold water

Filling

½ butternut squash, seeded
Drizzle of olive oil
1 ear of corn
2 cups (312 g) cooked spinach
1 tsp (5 g) salt

¼ tsp (1.25 g) pepper
½ tsp (2.5 g) dried oregano
¼ tsp (1.25 g) red chili flakes, optional
1 cup cheese (125 g), optional
Chimichurri, optional for dipping

INSTRUCTIONS

Dough

1. Mix the flour and salt in the processor
2. Add butter, egg, and cold water to the flour mixture. Use fork to mix until flour resembles coarse crumbs.
3. Shape the dough into a ball and wrap dough with plastic. Place in the fridge for 30-60 minutes.
4. Roll the dough on a lightly floured work surface into a thin sheet and cut out discs using a large biscuit cutter or a drinking glass.
5. Brush the edges of the empanada discs with the beaten egg to help better seal them.
6. Fold the empanada discs and seal the edges with a fork or your fingers. Brush the top of the empanadas with the rest of the beaten egg. Chill the empanadas for about 20 minutes.
7. Pre-heat the oven to 400 F (205 C) and bake for 12-15 minutes or until golden.

Filling

1. Preheat oven to 375 F (190 C).
2. Place squash on a baking sheet face up. Drizzle with olive oil and bake for 40-45 minutes or until squash is tender.
3. Once squash is done, scoop from skin and add squash, thawed spinach, and corn to a bowl and combine well. Mix in salt, pepper, oregano, and chili flakes. Taste and add any additional spices as needed.
4. Prepare empanadas by scooping a bit of the squash mixture into the dough. Seal edges and place on baking sheet.

Dough recipe from My Colombian Recipes mycolombianrecipes.com/simple-empanada-dough-for-baking

Filling recipe from The Simple Kitchen thesimplekitchen.net/easy-veggie-empanadas

Leader's Resources

Be sure to download your free **Mission Spotlight** video, featuring video reports from around the South American Division and beyond. Download or stream from the Adventist Mission website at bit.ly/missionspotlight. A **printable mission bank image**, which the children can color, can be downloaded at bit.ly/bank-coloring-page.

Online Information

Following are sources of information that may be helpful in preparing for the mission segment of Sabbath School. For more information on the cultures and history of the countries featured in this quarterly, visit your local library or a travel agency, or visit the websites listed below.

Argentina: government website
[Lonely Planet](http://LonelyPlanet.com)

Brazil: government website
[Brazil Travel Information](http://BrazilTravelInformation.com)

Paraguay: government website
[World Travel Guide](http://WorldTravelGuide.com)

Peru: government website
[Visit Peru](http://VisitPeru.com)

Uruguay: government website
[BBC Country Profile](http://BBCCountryProfile.com)

argentina.gob.ar
bit.ly/LPUruguay
bit.ly/BrazilGov
bit.ly/BrazTrav
bit.ly/ParGov
bit.ly/WTGParaguay
peru.gob.pe
bit.ly/Visit-Peru
portal.gub.uy
bit.ly/UruguayBBC

Seventh-day Adventist
South American Division
Argentina Union Conference
East Brazil Union Mission
North Brazil Union Mission
Northeast Brazil Union Mission
South Brazil Union Conference
West Central Brazil Union Mission
Paraguay Union of Churches Mission
North Peru Union Mission
South Peru Union Mission
Uruguay Union of Churches Mission

bit.ly/SADiv
ua.adventistas.org
ulb.adventistas.org
unb.adventistas.org
uneb.adventistas.org
usb.adventistas.org
ucob.adventistas.org
up.adventistas.org
upn.adventistas.org
upsur.adventistas.org
uu.adventistas.org

An offering goal device will help focus attention on world missions and increase weekly mission giving. Determine a goal for your class's weekly mission offering. Multiply it by 14, allowing a double goal for the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

Remind your Sabbath School members that their regular weekly mission offerings will help the missionary work of the world church and that one quarter of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will go directly to the projects in the South American Division. On the twelfth Sabbath, report on mission giving during the quarter. Encourage members to double or triple their normal mission giving on Thirteenth Sabbath. Count the offering and record the amount given at the end of Sabbath School.

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Web site: AdventistMission.org

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SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION

CONFERENCE	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Argentina Union Conference	606	438	116,391	44,293,000
Bolivia Union Mission	424	702	116,480	11,146,000
Central Brazil Union Conference	1,181	845	264,059	45,042,612
Chile Union Mission	677	339	102,481	18,374,000
East Brazil Union Mission	1,061	1,534	206,881	16,586,989
Ecuador Union Mission	278	416	58,865	16,777,000
North Brazil Union Mission	1,657	1,393	291,905	16,295,989
North Peru Union Mission	1,340	1,749	209,891	15,925,368
Northeast Brazil Union Mission	989	1,464	213,683	33,361,049
Northwest Brazil Union Mission	952	776	170,188	7,233,424
Paraguay Union of Churches Mission	61	95	12,519	6,811,000
South Brazil Union Conference	1,153	968	185,557	30,305,551
South Peru Union Mission	1,155	1,478	191,293	15,912,632
Southeast Brazil Union Conference	1,306	1,097	207,719	41,820,828
Uruguay Union of Churches Mission	59	50	7,890	3,457,000
West Central Brazil Union Mission	707	736	126,133	17,210,560
Division Totals	13,606	14,080	2,481,935	340,553,000

PROJECTS

- 1 Establish a church and medical center in Pucallpa, Peru
- 2 Open a youth-focused community center with English-language school in Cusco, Peru
- 3 Plant a church and health-focused community center in Aruana, Brazil
- 4 Acquire property for a church and community center in Salvador, Brazil