

**From:** Paraguay Mission Team [mailto:troy@pblcoc.org]  
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# PARAGUAY PROFILE

The Paraguay Mission Newsletter

Dear Ray,

Welcome to our first electronic edition of the *Paraguay Profile*. We pray this format will be easier for everyone to read and enjoy. If you know of someone who would like to receive this newsletter, please forward it to them and encourage them to join our mailing list.

Thank you so much for your support! God bless!

## EVANGELISTIC RESPONSES

The Gospel message is still having a great impact in Asuncion, Paraguay. There have been many studies held and several have obeyed the Gospel call.

## In This Issue

EVANGELISM

TEAM WORKSHOP

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[Spradlin Summary Blog](#)

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[Palm Beach Lakes COC](#)

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

- SPIRITUAL GROWTH of the members of the



Blanca Acosta (pictured above) was baptized on January 15, 2010. She is the daughter of Margarita Acosta, a member of the church. Through the example of her mother she became interested in the church and later studied with Enoch Rinks and Chris Fry. Blanca is the mother of 6 children.

Raul Riveros (pictured below) was baptized on February 3, 2010. He began attending church services and studying the Bible with Gina Vera in 2009 and later studied with Enoch Rinks and Perry Hardin. Raul is finishing his last year at the National University in Asunción.



**FUND RAISING - PARAGUAYAN STYLE**

- congregation in Asuncion
- **CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP**  
Men's meetings and the beginning of elder training
- **NEW CONTACTS**  
Myriam, Elisabet, Gustavo, Ruben, Esteban, Lourdes
- **TRANSITIONS**  
of new team mates
- **CHURCH BUILDING**  
Fundraising and Construction Project
- **LANGUAGE STUDIES** of the Blackmers and Spradlins

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

- **CHURCH RETREAT** April 17-18
- **TEACHER APPRECIATION** April 25
- **MEN'S RETREAT** May 1
- **PRAYER VIGIL** May 14
- **CHURCH LUNCH** May 16
- **SUMMER CAMPAIGNS**

**OUR SPONSORS**

**CHRIS, VICKIE, EMMA, WALKER AND OLIVIA FRY**  
Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ - West Palm Beach, FL  
pblcoc.org

**PERRY AND ALBA HARDIN**  
Savannah church of Christ



Savannah, TN  
[savannahchurchofchrist.com](http://savannahchurchofchrist.com)

**JOSH, CARA, JOSIAH, AND  
VIVIAN BLACKMER**

Palm Beach Lakes church of  
Christ - West Palm Beach, FL  
[pblcoc.org](http://pblcoc.org)

**TROY AND ANDREA SPRADLIN**

Maragaret Street church of Christ  
Milton, FL  
[margaretstreetchurchofchrist.org](http://margaretstreetchurchofchrist.org)

The church in Asuncion is thrilled to be in their new meeting facility at 650 Sacramento Avenue. But many more improvements are needed to make the facility more usable. Therefore, the congregation is working to come up with ways to raise funds on their own. One idea was to have a "Valentine's Day Lunch" at the building. Several of the members volunteered to cook and everyone was invited to stay and eat for a small donation. The dinner was a success and the church raised enough funds to get closer to their goal.

## TEAM BUILDING WORKSHOP



From March 6-10 the Paraguay mission team participated in a special team building/strategy workshop led by Jerry and Gail Heiderich. The Heiderichs are missionaries from Brazil who help teams all over South America. The purpose of the workshop with Jerry and Gail was to help integrate new team members with those who have been serving in Paraguay by teaching how to improve team dynamics and communication. In addition, the workshop assisted

in focusing the team's strategies and efforts. Not only were these goals

accomplished, but the team also discovered more about themselves, their marriages, and each other. It was evident that God brought Jerry and Gail at the perfect time for work in Asunción.

Chris Fry had this to say about the workshop, "I have been involved with four or five similar workshops over the years. This, in my opinion, was the most encouraging, constructive, and relevant workshop I have been a part of as a missionary." The workshop covered about four days and was a wonderful help for the team. It is such a blessing to know that God has provided such talented workers as the Heiderichs to help missionaries in the field. The team now feels much stronger and closer thanks to their help.

### THE SPRADLIN FAMILY ARRIVES IN PARAGUAY

New teammates, Troy and Andrea Spradlin, arrived in Paraguay on February 1 to begin working with the church in Asuncion. They have committed to working in Paraguay for five years and are sponsored by the Maragaret Street church of Christ in Milton, FL.



Troy is originally from Ft. Worth, Texas and Andrea is from West Palm Beach, FL. Troy recently completed two years of training at Southwest School of Bible Studies (SWSBS) in Austin, TX. One of Troy's instructors at SWSBS, Kevin Cauley, had this to say, "Having known Troy as a student, I can say that he is a conscientious and hard-working Christian. He knows how to be the kind of leader the church needs today. He and his wife Andrea always displayed a can-do attitude. The Lord's church in Paraguay will benefit from Troy and Andrea's efforts there." \*

Since their arrival, they have already begun their language studies and have secured a place to live, along with many other things necessary to make the transition. Troy also writes for a few publications and blogs. He posts regular updates on their personal blog site: [The Spradlin Summary](#). He has also begun chronicling their move and his reactions in an article called "Culture Shock Chronicles," on the [FellowshipRoom](#) website, edited by J. Randal Matheny.

In one of his articles, Troy attributed to the providence of God their readiness to begin the work by saying "... we have hit every one of our targets and met all the goals we set out to achieve. We are fully funded and have completed all the preparation that we possibly could." \* God has indeed blessed the Spradlin family. Their first priority in the work is to learn the language. This can take as much as one year to accomplish. Please keep their transition to Asuncion in your prayers. (\*A special thanks is extended to Randal Matheny for posting much of this information on the [Brotherhood News](#) website).

## THE RINKS FAMILY RETURN TO USA



On March 2, 2010 Enoch and Laura Rinks left Asuncion, Paraguay in order to relocate back to the USA. Enoch has been working as a missionary with the Sacramento Iglesia de Cristo in Paraguay for more than 6 years. He is one of the original team members who helped plant the church in the Recoleta area of Asuncion. He met Laura while working in Paraguay. They were married in 2008. Upon their return to the US, Enoch will begin working with Continent of Great Cities. Thank you, Enoch and Laura for your service in Asuncion! We will

miss you both very much. We wish you God speed, safe travels, and much success in your transition.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Carolina Achucarro and Gina Vera, two ladies from the Sacramento iglesia de Cristo, along with other ladies from the church, planned and carried out a VBS for members' children and area kids on January 11-15. The five day event featured a daily Bible story, arts and crafts, puppets, and snacks and had an average attendance of 20 kids each day. Some of the kids were children who work in the street each day begging money. It was a great opportunity to teach them Bible stories that they may have never heard otherwise. The ladies' were encouraged that their hard work resulted in the Gospel being taught and want to make the all-Paraguayan led VBS a yearly event.



We pray this has been edifying news. God is being glorified in Asunción, Paraguay thanks to your support. We are extremely thankful to have such wonderful individuals and congregations supporting the efforts here. May we all continue daily to strive in bringing more souls to the foot of the cross!

Please keep us in your prayers!

Sincerely,  
*The Paraguay Mission Team*

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