



# The PAULICHEN MISSION



## April 2025 Update

**We're so grateful** for your faithful prayers, encouragement, and support. These past few months back on the field have been filled with **open doors**, **divine appointments**, and fresh reminders that the **gospel is still changing lives**, even in the hardest places. From jail cells to border cities, from quiet conversations to unexpected encounters, we've seen the Lord at work in ways that strengthen our hearts for the road ahead.

### Praise Report

- God's protection during possible accident
- Patricio & Candela's friend's salvation
- Weekly prison Bible studies underway
- Faithful young believers discipling others
- Market ministry and hundreds of John & Romans distributed weekly to homes

### Prayer Requests

- Wisdom and fruitfulness in Corrientes, AR
- Guidance for helping church plant - Rivera
- Salvation and growth among inmates
- Fruit from in-home Bible studies
- Openness to truth among those we're witnessing to: Nico, Maria, Luciano, Raul

#### **Sending Church & Mission Ministry**

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### EVANGELISM & OUTREACH

In early January, we made the six-hour trip up near the Paraguayan border to **Corrientes, Argentina**. While we were there, the region was in full celebration of the **Gauchito Gill festival**, an idol venerated by many, both in Argentina and here in Uruguay. The spiritual darkness was visible everywhere we went, a sobering reminder of how desperately this area needs the **light of the gospel**. I had the privilege of preaching in a local church, and we even crossed the river into the Argentine province where my mom grew up. Starting in May, we plan to begin helping more regularly in the ministry there, travelling up once or twice a month to encourage the believers.

At the end of March, I drove four hours to **Rivera**, a city on the Uruguayan-Brazilian border, with a national pastor. We met with a pastor who working on starting a Baptist church in the area delivered him seven boxes of **John & Romans** and a box of gospel tracts to help with the effort. It was a productive and encouraging visit, and we're asking the Lord how He would have us partner in this future work.

Here in our own city of **Salto**, we've continued distributing around **300 John & Romans each week**, going house to house through some of the more difficult areas. The **summer heat** makes it challenging, but we're grateful for strength and for every opportunity to **sow the Word**.

I also continue my **weekly market ministry**. Recently, a man stopped to chat and commented on the wear and tear of the gazebo I use. Just after he left, the middle tent peg ripped right through the top! With summer temperatures regularly exceeding **40°C**



Working together to spread the gospel

(104°F), it's impossible to do the ministry without shade, so we had to purchase a new one. We're trusting the Lord to continue using this ministry to create interest in the gospel.

In January, I began visiting the son of one of our church ladies in jail. Like many Uruguayans, he had never heard of **Adam and Eve** before our first conversation, but he's remained open to the gospel, and I've had the chance to visit him several times. Another man—who is in prison for serious crimes—reached out after his mother received a **John & Romans** at her house. He contacted me and asked if we could begin **Bible studies** when he's released in August. I **praise the Lord** for his interest and openness.

On **March 3rd**, I was finally able to begin **weekly Bible studies at the local prison**, something I've been praying about since returning from furlough. Daniel joined me for the first session as well as fifteen inmates. It was one of the **best meetings** I've had in a while. The format was Q&A, and even those who knew very little about the Bible weren't afraid to engage honestly. **Attendance has remained steady** since then, and I'm thankful for the hunger we're seeing week after week.

#### CHURCH LIFE & DISCIPLESHIP

We're currently doing **six different in-home Bible studies** both with people from church and others who don't attend yet. Several of their neighbours have begun joining the studies as well, which is a blessing. These gatherings have become spaces for **open dialogue and meaningful spiritual growth**.

We've also seen the Lord at work through Patricio and Candela. Recently, they led a friend to Christ, a young man who had been in a very dark place emotionally. They have shown **remarkable spiritual discernment** as they've come alongside him to disciple him and encouraged him in the Lord. They're also seeking **biblical counsel about marriage**, desiring to honour God in their next steps. Please continue to pray for all involved, that these young believers would be **rooted in truth** and continue to be **bold in their faith**.

#### EVERYDAY ENCOUNTERS

Every week brings new conversations and unexpected **gospel opportunities**. After returning from furlough, I found out that my barber was no longer working from his shop. I eventually tracked him down and visited him at his home. His heart was broken and tender as he opened up about losing everything including his business. Praise God, he was receptive to hearing the gospel again. **Please keep him in prayer**.

You may remember, Maria, the woman at the radio station who sells us airtime. Though she's a **Jehovah's Witness**, she's become increasingly open to listening to Scripture (and even agreeing with it!) when it differs from what she's been taught. **Please pray for her continued openness** and for courage as she wrestles with truth.

We also learned that our old neighbour, Nelson, the print shop owner we used to witness to frequently, passed away while we were on furlough. He had heard the **gospel clearly** but as far as we know he never made a profession of faith. His death was one of three among people we've shared the gospel with over the last few years. It's a **sobering reminder**: while we can faithfully present the truth, not everyone will accept it.

#### FAMILY & FORWARD STEPS

We have a deeply personal reason to **praise the Lord** this month. One snowy evening in the UK in January, our kids were on their way to a birthday party when their car hit **black ice** and spun 90 degrees into oncoming traffic. Josh, who was driving, would likely have been killed instantly had the car not suddenly gripped the road and swerved forward into the bushes. In a moment they can only describe as **divine intervention**, the car immediately corrected itself and ended up safely back in their lane. They were badly shaken and had to pull over to process, but they knew **God had protected them**. We regularly pray for their safety, and I thank the Lord for hearing those prayers, even from many miles away.

Looking ahead, I will be teaching another **Spanish Bible college course** online in May and would appreciate your prayers for **clarity and fruitfulness**. I am also exploring the possibility of beginning an **outreach at the local university** using apologetics. **Please pray for wisdom and open doors**.

In January, Tricia started **intensive Spanish study**—15 hours per week, including 7 hours of online lessons. During a recent session, one of her teachers shared that she is a believer, a Baptist who moved to Uruguay from Cuba and attends a small church in Montevideo that we had never heard of. With fewer than **two percent of Uruguayans born again**, discovering a Christian teacher was a **powerful encouragement** for my wife.

**Thank you** for standing with us through your prayers and support. Your faithfulness is part of every open door and gospel seed planted.

Yours for Uruguay,  
Marco & Tricia Paulichen

