

Moorhouse Moments June 2010

More Children

She is forty five, mother of eight, (the youngest seven months old) and sick. Could we take the four living with her? I agree and within twelve hours hear she is dead and within the 24 hours she is buried. Say hello to Elana (11) Gabriel (7), Graciella (4) and Annabelle (2). The baby for now stays with an older sister who is also pregnant. The house is full to the rafters. We now have five beds where children sleep doubled up and our own children now sleep with children from the home. They always have, by choice, had one with them but this time it's no choice and more than one. Pray for an answer to overcrowding.



On Arrival. Wish you could see the grime, lice and resigned hopelessness. Elana has not attended school for four years and Gabriel not so much as a day. Neighbours supplied the food to keep them alive.

Here we come

Speaking of our children our papers for them are with the Australian Embassy in Santiago. They say it takes six months for a visa to be issued but we are pushing for a



result before the end of August. Why August? For a break. Peter has not set foot on Australian soil since 1999 and its time for some R&R. Two months, September October . Delia will stay longer and establish the children in Australia. Pray for their papers.

Nicole and Laura

Handing over

To do this we need to be able to hand over to Edgar and Olga. Bolivians through and through. Just that fact alone makes it difficult. Time and a sense of obligation are two areas that need work. My volunteer from Australia made the observation just this morning. You have your work cut out just getting them and things into shape and to feel confident to leave them in charge. One of the issues lies with other staff who have been with us for years and their recent arrival so some tensions exist. Pray with us on this one.

Bike fun

Talking of volunteers. The aforementioned Aussie leaves us shortly and takes a motor bike trip through South America. He bought two (Chinese new here cost only \$1500), one for a friend who joins him soon, and has let us run it in and use it for errands. What a boon. Economical, agile, and just great for running errands. Today was another day of blockades but I could pass through on the bike and get some things done. Oh and fun. Kids all love a turn on the bike. Thanks Andrew. We currently have a French girl, Andrew and a daily visit from German girl who lives off the grounds. All help to make things a little easier with our 15 little ones. (9 are pre-schoolers)

Legal woes

Bear with us one moment as again we raise the same issue. In 2007 we applied for a renewal of our license. Here in the second half of 2010 it's still not finalized. The word here is tramites and we always call it traumites for the pain and expense. We redid all the documents earlier this year and now we wait again. The government agency have less than 10% of all homes legally documented and are finally trying to address this situation. Meanwhile, and as is common, all of their staff are to be turned over again in about two weeks time. (near end of already gone and a new one is to be Because of elections all mayors and replaced throughout Bolivia and papers of the old mayor have already been So pray with us on the issue of



June.) The director has announced soon (we hope) governors are also to be we did in May at the request rejected by the new mayor. paperwork.

Church changes

On another note. Bolivian Children's Mission undertook to be more involved at community level with the local churches. Till now we have stayed with the same church even though we moved many times. We now attend two local churches. Both are smaller by far so it means our children have assumed a much more active role. Our older ones now take Sunday School classes at one and are also very actively involved in the choir, youth groups, sports activities, services and such of the other.



Birthdays

The community ,church, schoolmates and others we know all gathered for Pamela's 15th birthday. Over 100 people. It's a big event here and we have one more to do this year. Congratulations Pammie. You look great.

Bits and Bobs. The president , despite his hatred for them, has visited the USA Now is accusing USAID of undermining his authority and basically accusing them of espionage. The Mormons are back.

Sulma was locked out the other night because she was out with a boy. Hasn't come back. Might mean a space

Andrew likes it so much he has convinced his mother to come on her way to a wedding in the states. Vegemite Yeh!

Visa for ten years Laura and Nicole to the states. \$131each. Visas to Australia \$1705 Where does that figure come from?

Despite anticipating a break I still love this country.

12 Canadian volunteers. Five days. We moved out about 15 logs. Radiator woes continue. Repaired starter this week after a bout of pushing. Thanks kids.

Love and prayers. Moorhouses.

