



Name: Peter and Sally Bartlett

Location: Paraguay

Our call: To serve the Anglican Church throughout Paraguay, developing local leaders and bringing kingdom life to new situations

Our role: Peter is diocesan bishop, pastor of the pastors, ordaining ministers and opening new paths for the kingdom to advance. Sally serves the church through teaching and discipling, encouraging others to enter God's kingdom and develop their leadership skills

Dear friends,

The Apostle Peter calls those who belong to God “living stones” (1 Peter 2: 4-9), each one of us a stone with its own story that God is writing. As stones grouped together, we become part of the story of a special people, chosen to show the goodness of God to others. We are a people who are given the ability to show this kindness because God has called each one out of darkness into God’s wonderful light. We thank God for your life and your part in our lives here in Paraguay.

Over the last six months we have had many opportunities to keep on building God’s kingdom. These opportunities have involved us in working together with other “kingdom stones”!

“I like the way my son is motivated and I like that he is hearing about God” (shares Brian’s mother). Brian is a pupil of the Redeemer Anglican Primary School in Zeballos Cues. The new building is now finished (formerly known as the Pepe Preschool) and it has been registered at the education ministry and consists of three classes – nursery, reception and a first grade. The teaching team is made

up of Gloria, Gladys and Patricia who are members of Anglican churches. They are teachers with years of experience and are dedicated to offering quality Christian education to the children who attend. The school is on the site of the Redeemer Anglican Church and good links are building up between the school and the church.

Fifty four pupils are enrolled and in each class there are children with additional needs; inclusion is now legal provision here in Paraguay (although in practice many schools are reluctant to accept children with additional needs). The parents are pleased with the building and the high quality of the teaching with some parents saying that they hope the school can expand right up through secondary education! That would be wonderful! We thank the Lord for making possible this educational provision in a neighbourhood where there is little



Top: Redeemer Anglican Primary School’s teachers Gloria and Patricia with Peter

Above: The office site inspection with architect Dario, administrator Miriam and Peter





Above left: The St Andrew's Chapel cornerstone, 22 September 1912: over a century of faith and transformation stories

Top right: "The true meaning of success": pupils, parents and staff fill the Cathedral to listen to Dr Porras

provision for early years education.

Architect Dario, a member of a local Baptist church, drew up the plans and supervised the building of the Redeemer School in Zeballos Cue and is now supervising the renovation of our diocesan offices using a building on the Cathedral site. The history of this building dates back to the beginning of the Anglican work here in Asuncion and includes when it was used as offices; it then became a pastoral house and it is now being changed back into offices. Working on this project also are Peter, Sally, Miriam our administrator and Stella, who is a member of Christ the Saviour Church and an interior design specialist. By the time we next write to you, the new offices will be in use! We are aiming to provide a suite of offices and meeting rooms which will be fit for purpose for the ministry and work of the Anglican Church in Paraguay moving into the next decade.

If these stones could talk... they would speak of stories of faith and transformed lives. The St Andrew's Chapel community of faith continues to disciple English speakers living in Asuncion. Holy Week was a special time for us

when we shared an interactive Maundy Thursday prayer service and fellowship meal. Easter Sunday worship was led by Sally and Timo, a former member who was visiting from Germany. The discipleship group (Sally is a member of this group) at Geoff and Betty's is studying Saddleback Church's S.H.A.P.E. course – Finding and Fulfilling Your Unique Purpose for Life. Bev Richardson, a CMS short term, is leading the course. Bev first visited Paraguay and came along to St Andrew's Chapel several years ago with Mission Paraguay. She is currently teaching English at St Andrew's School and has become a part of the Chapel community and now is a regular Sunday preacher.

Watching how the Lord leads people to St Andrew's and how their lives are transformed by the gospel, and the things that they do here in Paraguay and then go on to do when they move on from Asuncion, is awesome!

"Every child you encounter is a divine appointment" – this is what Wes Stafford of Compassion International said and sums up how we view each child who is cared for at Mission Esperanza. Sally missed A's and M's birthday celebrations and so decided to take them out for an afternoon treat. Along with Aunty Olga, we went out for afternoon tea with cakes and to the hairdresser's for their

first ever haircut by a professional! They were rather nervous but M soon overcame her reticence to have ends of her long hair trimmed and astounded Lucy the hairdresser with her multiple questions about everything. Lucy thanked Sally for bringing the girls and for the blessing their visit had been to her.

Raising funds to finance the home is challenging. About a month ago we heard that a donor was reducing the amount of their monthly donation due to a change in financial circumstances. Ana Maria, Mary, Sally and the staff of the foster home prayed to the Lord for his help, believing the children who are cared for are very special to God's heart, and that he will provide for their needs. How excited we are that past pupils of St Andrew's School have just set up an association and their first fundraising event is an all-you-can-eat lunch in aid of Esperanza!

"The true meaning of success" was Dr Sixto Porras' talk to the secondary school pupils, parents and staff of St Andrew's College and the Annexe school. We were thrilled to be offered this opportunity to have Sixto from Costa Rica, an internationally respected speaker in Latin America, come and share with us! The pupils, parents and staff appreciated Sixto's wise words. Sally's "Praying Moms" Group met with some of the school staff to pray together, for the children and

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Give thanks for good health and safety.
- Give thanks for God's provision in different situations.
- Give thanks for the lives and ministries of our co-workers.
- Please pray for good health, safety and wisdom, especially as members of the board of FEISA teacher training college.
- Please pray for Peter visiting Lima, Peru, for bishop meetings and an ecology conference and then Jerusalem for GAFCOM 2018.
- Pray for completion of the refurbishments of St Andrew's School and for the school staff and pupils in this time of transition.
- Pray for progress in the legal cases of the children looked after by Mission Esperanza leading to good solutions for their futures.

With love in the Lord,

Peter and Sally

You can give online to Peter and Sally at:

churchmissionsociety.org/bartlett

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who is an architect, are in charge of this ambitious project. Alongside this development, over the last six months Peter has been working with school head Gwen Carlisle and consultant David Wells on two tasks – searching for a new school principle to replace Gwen on her retirement and on the setting up of a school board. Seven people

have been selected as possible members of the board and are currently taking part in training for this. Peter is accompanying the training sessions, which David Wells is leading.

We are very pleased to announce that Carlos De La Sobera will be the next head teacher, starting in January 2019. Carlos has dual nationality (USA and Paraguayan), is completely bilingual in English and Spanish and has worked as an educator in the United States, Nigeria and more recently here in Asuncion as director of Faith Christian Schools. Please pray for both Gwen and Carlos as preparations are made for the change in leadership and all that it will imply for the staff and pupils and their families.

“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others”
Pericles.

Thank you for your prayers and for all that God weaves into our lives and the lives of his church in Paraguay through your prayers!

Left: Head teacher Gwen Carlisle inspecting progress on the refurbishment of the school pool



Above: CMS enhanced volunteer Bev Richardson in the new school entrance

parents who would be listening and that the talk would impact lives for God's Kingdom. Many past pupils of St Andrew's occupy important positions and roles in Paraguayan society, so to be able to evaluate success from a biblical perspective is of great benefit to our current pupils and their parents. We pray that there will continue to be much fruit from the seeds sown that day.

Please can you pray especially for past pupil Marito Abdo Benitez who has just been elected as the next president of Paraguay and will come into office on 15 August.

The school is currently undergoing a massive refurbishment, which will be completed in July. Past pupils Fernando (a member of Christ the Saviour Church) and Rafael,

