

## December 2020

*Dear friends,*

This afternoon I was walking across the grounds, looking for my dog. She sometimes sneaks out to play with her little brother, who is in tia Marta's house. While calling her, I came across someone who was filming and interviewing Jose Miguel, the director. Unfortunately they had already noticed me and I could not escape..... and then, of course, I had to submit to an interview too. But in the end it was a lot of fun. These young people want to make a Misión Timoteo promotional video to get donations at their church and maybe at their college. Of course, it would be great if that would succeed. We desperately need it, because in December, the 14th month salary has to be paid again and we have only received half of what we need in a normal month.



So I was very pleased with this Bolivian initiative. We can also use that video for the anniversary campaign, which we will start this month. We have now put the anniversary celebration onto the 10th of April 2021. This seems a better date for people who might want to come from the Netherlands or the USA. We hope that the situation in the world will be a bit more back to normal by then, and travelling will be easier. Fortunately, the international airport here has been open for a few months. However covid is returning here. We're so grateful that

none of the kids got sick. The children themselves are also well aware of this. The children and their companions also pray and give thanks for you very regularly. It is sometimes very moving to hear their simple prayers.

In the past months we have experienced some extraordinary things. There was a national drawing competition organized by the 'Club de Leones' and 240 children's homes participated. And do you know who got the first prize? Camila, the daughter of tia Claudia from our first unit! And the third prize was for Orlando, also living in the first unit. What a party we had! No one had expected this, because of the huge number of participants. But God gives special talents to his children. Misión Timoteo really came into the spotlight, and of course we are quite happy with that.



We bake it, You taste it and Mission Timothy will make it!



Between now and the New Year you call/email/txt or message us to place your favorite bake for the Holidays. 785-342-9507 /missiontimothy@hotmail.com. If you live in or close to Salina, USA, give your name and tel.# and we will call you immediately. If you don't live there: maybe you can copy the idea and start a fundraising campaign like this yourself 😊

More information and a short video on Facebook, click [here](#).

In October we were able to take the kids for a trip to Buena Vista, about 120 km. towards Cochabamba. They were guests on the property of tia Yaneth's family. Good food, carefree playing, and swimming in the river, which flows along the village.



And a new boy arrived. He is five years old and his name is Josue. He came from another home that was closed because of some scandals. It was very sad, because it was a big home that had been running for years and housed quite a few children. This kid was quite traumatized. He cried all the time and thought that the other children would beat him and fight with him, even though he hadn't seen any of Redil's children at that time. The first day he stayed inside

the house with Jose Miguel and Yaneth. After that the children got him involved in their games and when he noticed that there was no fighting and he was really welcome, he quickly joined in. Now he already feels at home with tia Silvia, the leader of his new home. He had lived in an orphanage home from about when he was born. No wonder the change was a shock to him. Recently, more children's homes have closed in Santa Cruz. They were run by a Catholic organization, who could not, or would no longer bear the high costs. That is a great pity because the closure of those homes has forced one of the main advocates for the street children to retire. This is quite a blow to the children's work in Santa Cruz. Personally, I always had a good relationship with this man and his close associate (who has stayed fortunately, and is still very committed to the street kids).





We regularly receive donations such as fruit, vegetables, footwear or bricks for the wall. And then the children carry the stones and move them, and sometimes we work together late at night in the large kitchen to clean tomatoes, peppers and strawberries.



Due to the Covid pandemic, the nursery has been closed since the beginning of March. Since then, the employees have not received any salary from the departmental government, which supported them. The headmistress still does, because her salary is paid for by Misión Timoteo. During that period she did care for some of Redil's children every day and gave them some education. Yes, our Carmen is a truly brave woman.



## Padrinos plan: Sponsor a unit



In the children's home, we have children who all go to school, need daily food, clothing and medical care. These are very vulnerable children and we want to offer them a home.

We are looking for people who sponsor a unit.

In each unit up to 10 children live with parents (or two "aunts") that take care of them. In this way, we simulate as best as possible a family situation and we can give these children new opportunities to develop themselves. The sponsorship amount is USD 28,- per month.

Will you join us? Thank you in advance. Are you considering becoming a sponsor?

Please, contact Miranda (see colophon)

Well, and now we have a new government. The Communist Party is back, and it does not look too good for Bolivia. Will that matter to the children's homes? I don't think so for the time being, because whatever government we have, children are the last people they think about. However, children's homes are considered a business and must therefore also keep in line with all salary increases and other rules that apply to companies. And that's bad, because there are no children's homes that really earn an income. Before, the departmental government paid half of the social worker's and the psychologist's salaries, but that's no longer the case, and of course we are obliged to employ these people. But we know this is God's work, and He has never abandoned us. On the 2nd of January we will have functioned as a children's home for 25 years and in all those years we never had to get into debt. I am very grateful for all those people who have been supporting us for so long in the most diverse ways. In the end everything will be all right, and for this month that is also our hope and expectation. For the anniversary celebration we hope to be able to do a little more maintenance of the buildings, which should have been done a long time ago, but unfortunately this was not always possible. But we're going to work together and ring all the bells we can think of. We are really counting on your support. If you want to experience this personally, you are welcome to come and celebrate with us: the more people, the more happiness!



As far as I'm concerned: I am healthy and grateful for that every day. Besides giving advice to the people here, I also get to preach occasionally in the church to which we have been affiliated for a number of years. Dick is asked about on a regular basis, as they really miss him. But they are very happy that I have stayed. These brothers and sisters are very loving people, and the pastor and his wife especially have become real friends. The photo shows a church service in the open air, as it was unendurable inside without air conditioning. A bit different from your December month!



Dear friends, I wish you all very happy, blessed holidays and we will continue to keep you informed of everything that's going on at Misión Timoteo in the New Year.

Also on behalf of the children and the staff very warm greetings,

your co-worker Therèse.

## Colophon

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If you want to financially support Therese for her personal livelihood, you can transfer a donation to her private account number:  
 NL 96 RABO 0351185178.  
 Thank you in advance

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