

*From our family to yours*

# MERRY CHRISTMAS



## Dear Prayer Partners and Supporters,

Like so many of you, our November/ December calendar has been full with special outreaches and activities. This year, we have had a special visitor with us which has opened up even more opportunities. Melissa, a friend from Santa Cruz, has come to intern with us for 6 weeks and has been a big help during our special events this past month. She is currently studying in a Bible institute and feels God has called her to serve as a missionary in the Amazon region of Bolivia.

The first week of December, Jacob was invited to preach a missions conference in a small town in the jungle about 3 hours from our home. While there, we were also able to do a children's program twice each day and travel to some small neighboring villages to hold services.

During the months of December and January the schools here are on summer break (our seasons are opposite from the US). This made for a great opportunity to hold our first Vacation Bible School! Our theme was "The Best News", and we were to share a clear gospel message with all the children who attended. Our church family worked together to decorate, make snacks and host over 120 children! It was a wonderful few days, and we have already seen several of those who attended return for regular services.



Around Christmas is a great time of year to show the love of Christ to the community by helping to meet some of the many physical needs. Shera has had the opportunity to visit the lady's prison in our town with another missionary friend, and she was invited to do a special Christmas lunch and devotional with them this past week. Melissa gave a short devotion and God seemed to worked in several hearts. On December 17th, Shera hosted our church's first lady's meeting. The ladies worked to put together bags full of necessities and small gifts for the patients at the local women's and children's hospital. On Christmas Eve, we also have plans to pass out 50 Christmas cakes in the neighborhood surrounding our church including with it a note and tract. We pray that God uses these outreaches to open doors to share the gospel with those in our community.

As we have mentioned in previous letters, our son Hudson has been dealing with some eye issues over the past few months. After much prayer and counsel from several doctors, we have decided that Shera and Hudson will travel to the US for a few weeks to get him examined and treated. We ask that you pray for safe travel and clear answers on how to best help him. They will be leaving on December 27th and returning to Bolivia on January 15th.

We want to thank each one of you for your faithful love and support for our family. Without your prayers, encouragement, and financial support, this ministry would not be possible. May God reward you for your faithfulness! Merry Christmas!



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*Your missionaries in Bolivia ,*

**THE MCKINNEY FAMILY**

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