



The PAULICHEN MISSION



JUNE 2026 UPDATE

The past few months have flown by in a blur of activity. **We've packed up our apartment, moved our belongings into storage in Montevideo, and relocated to the capital to lead a newer church plant.** With only five days to pack and prepare, the movers made the transition remarkably smooth. We're currently in an Airbnb while **we work alongside the planting missionary for a smooth handover.** They leave for furlough in mid-July, after which **we'll move into their home and continue the work.** We're excited to see what the Lord will do in this new season and would greatly appreciate your prayers for wisdom and safety as we settle in.

Praise Report

- Smooth transition to Montevideo
- Excellent graduation & ordination
- Josephine & Kristiyan's marriage
- Tricia's continuing healing
- Meaningful gospel conversations continue at outdoor ministries

Prayer Requests

- Wisdom for Daniel & Iglesia Bautista Fundamental de Salto
- Wisdom for apologetics group in Salto
- Wisdom as we lead new church plant
- Wisdom & healing for Tricia's health issues
- Wisdom in preparing for 2027 furlough

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EQUIPPING THE NEXT GENERATION

The highlight of the past few months was undoubtedly **Daniel's graduation and ordination on April 24th.** After years of study and preparation, it was a joy to see him publicly commissioned for gospel ministry. **Around 55 people attended the special service as I officiated, two Uruguayan pastors** delivered charges to Daniel, and **our missions director—who, along with his wife, traveled from Canada for the occasion—also brought a challenge.** One of the most meaningful moments came at the close of the service when the national pastors and **our church family gathered around Daniel, his wife, and their son to lay hands on them, pray over them, and commission them** for the work the Lord has called them to here in Salto.



Congratulations, Pastor Daniel!

For many in attendance, **we heard that this was the first graduation or ordination they had ever witnessed.** According to national statistics, **approximately 75% of pastors in Uruguay have received little to no biblical training,** making occasions like this exceptionally rare. In this deeply secular country, raising up biblically trained national leaders has been one of the greatest challenges since **the first Baptist work began here in 1911 by Argentine missionaries.** Daniel's graduation and ordination were not simply milestones for one family, they were a testimony to what God is



A very happy Daniel and his family

doing through the raising up of faithful Uruguayans. It was a privilege to model the biblical preparation and commissioning of a pastor for many who had never seen it before.

Tricia and I were blessed to have **our missions director and his wife spend ten days with us** while here for the graduation. **This was their first visit to Uruguay** and was a wonderful opportunity to give them **a firsthand look at the work in Salto**, enjoy a day trip into Brazil and Argentina, and introduce them to Montevideo before they returned to Canada.

Our **apologetics study** with the young adults concluded on a high note. For our final session, one of the men, currently studying medicine, gave **an outstanding presentation on the complexity of blood as evidence of God's design**. Afterwards, we enjoyed a traditional Uruguayan barbecue over orange wood coals together at Patricio's parents' home. Although I had to leave early, the group remained for several hours talking with Patricio's atheist father. Later, **they referred to the exchange as their "final exam" as they applied what they had learned about defending their faith**. He eventually acknowledged that there must be a God. While he has not yet trusted Christ, **this was an encouraging step forward**. Please pray for Patricio and Candela, as well as all our young people, as they continue reaching out to their family and friends with the gospel.

One unexpected blessing came when **two of the young adults volunteered to continue leading the apologetics group** after our move to Montevideo. I will continue providing materials and mentoring them from a distance as they seek a place to meet and invite others to join. Please pray that the group will **continue to grow, strengthening believers and reaching those who have not yet come to faith**.

As Daniel assumes leadership of the church in Salto, another challenge has arisen: **the congregation has been informed that they must vacate their current meeting place by the end of the year**. Please pray for wisdom as Daniel leads the church through this transition and seeks a more permanent location for the congregation. I will continue assisting and encouraging him as he takes on this new responsibility.

FAMILY NEWS

Thank you for your prayers for Tricia's recovery. **The swelling and bruising have almost completely resolved, and she has regained some feeling on the left side of her face**. She continues to experience **significant**

numbness, however, particularly in her mouth. The surgeon says that it will take time for nerves to heal, so your continued prayers for a full recovery are greatly appreciated.

Tricia was also scheduled for **a six-month follow-up MRI on June 22nd to monitor her brain tumour**. Unfortunately, when we met with the doctor to review the results, **we discovered that they had performed the MRI on the wrong part of her head**. As a result, the scan will need to be repeated. Now that we have relocated to Montevideo, we will also be transitioning to a new private healthcare provider. Please pray that the Lord would lead us to **the best option available and that the process to join goes smoothly**.

Thank you for also praying for Josephine as she sought the Lord's direction over the past few months. **She and Kristiyan were married in a small civil ceremony in the UK on June 16th**. Because of her visa situation and the complexities of international travel for family members on both sides, they chose to keep the ceremony that day simple and **plan to celebrate with a larger wedding and reception next year**.

Kristiyan is originally from Bulgaria but grew up in the UK. He and Josephine first became friends in late 2024 and began seeing each other last autumn. **Josephine's current visa expires in September**, so now that they are married, **they're applying for a UK spousal visa**. If you think of it, **please pray for clear wisdom, smooth processing, and the Lord's perfect provision and timing in every detail**.

FURLOUGH 2027

As we look ahead, in the coming months **we will begin planning a furlough for 2027**. **Some of the churches have not seen Tricia since our early deputation days of 2016**, so we are looking forward to renewing those friendships and sharing what God has been doing in Uruguay.

Although our primary focus will be in the West we are also available to travel farther afield for **missions conferences, special meetings, or missionary presentations** if the opportunity arises. I will soon begin contacting churches to schedule meetings. If you would like to have us in, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Yours for Uruguay,
Marco & Tricia Paulichen



The happy couple, Kristiyan & Josephine

