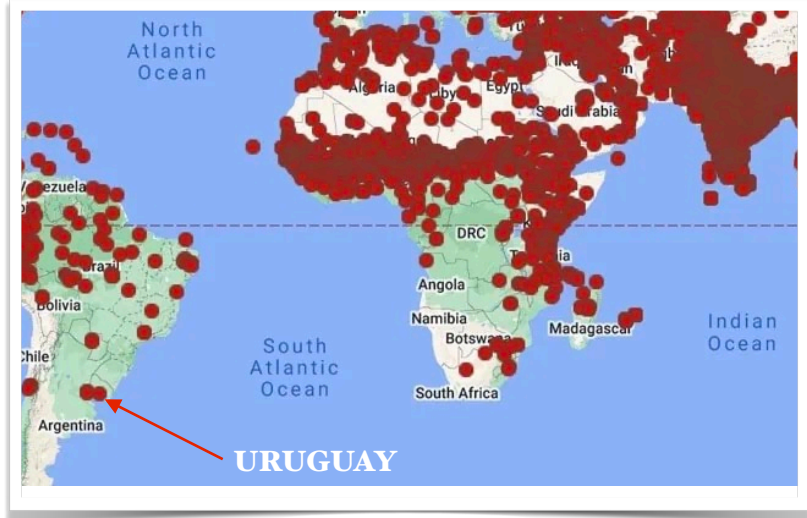


THE ALVAREZ FAMILY

BBFI Missionaries to Uruguay, South America

Mateo still fighting

We've asked you to pray for Mateo in recent letters. He has had difficult moments when his family and even Emily and I thought were the last days of his life. During those times we visited him almost daily and talked about the Gospel in relation with his life. One day with tears in his eyes he just said "I just don't have faith". This comes from a 25 year old man who has been bombarded with humanism and other philosophies throughout his entire life. In recent days he has shown signs of improvement but still not wanting to believe in Jesus as his Savior. Because he knows our heart towards him, he is no longer guarded when we are around. We go, we talk, we take him cinnamon rolls, his favorite pastries, and we pray together. I know the seed has been planted. His dad, step mother and many people are praying for his salvation. May God allow us to see him surrendering his life to Him. Keep praying!



Uruguay: an unreached place

A few weeks ago I was watching a church service from Heritage Baptist Church in Forest, VA, where Felipe attends. Pastor Smith, a BBFI MK, was preaching about unreached areas in the world. Most of us immediately think of the 10/40 window, where the majority of the people who live there never heard a Gospel presentation. Suddenly he showed a map on the slide presentation and with red dots on areas that are considered unreached and there it was: Uruguay.

There is a great misconception when it comes to Latin America. Although the Gospel has been present for over 100 years in the continent, there are still areas where there has not been a church planter, a missionary, an evangelist or people who even heard the Gospel story. Would you pray that the Lord will send more workers to the country of Uruguay? #missions

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Welcome 2024!!!

This particular end of the year and beginning of a new one has been quite intense and hard.

A few weeks ago we asked you to pray for Santiago and Sheila. They were recently saved and were expecting twins. On December 22nd Sheila lost her babies. This has been immensely painful for the entire family and although I tried to reach Santiago several times, he doesn't want to talk at this moment. A day before that, another church member, Emma, found out that her daughter has malignant colon cancer. Another difficult situation right before Christmas. During those days Mateo was having his worst week due to his peritoneum cancer. I don't remember finishing up a year with so many painful situations but our Christmas Service was filled with gratitude for one another, for how the church serves each other, especially in times like this. We celebrated how good God has been to us, how good He is now and will be in the future. We celebrated our volunteers and the opportunity to serve God, the church and our community.

(From left).

We took time to deliver Christmas baskets to several families in need. We reinforce the idea that we celebrate Emmanuel "God is with us" and that no matter our circumstances, we are not alone. The situations can be overwhelming at times but the Lord IS faithful. We welcome a 2024 that will bring blessings and trials, we welcome a 2024 that will find us working together so more people can find salvation through Jesus Christ and you have such an important part in this. Thank you for remaining behind our family and ministry. #newyear

End of the Year Project. There is no better way to end the year than by improving our church entrance. We have had to deal with people not respecting our space. This has been a problem for years. Every day over 40 vehicles illegally park in our front yard and at times even blocking our entrance. When we ask them no to do so, some even get very verbally aggressive. So I went to the city and got all the permits. The City inspectors approved. This is a major blessing to us. People are not happy but we needed to make this happen if we want to have a good testimony in the community. Some called the city, but we had the building permits. Soon people will adjust and move on, and we will have more space for church

