

Link Letter No.10 August 2013

Dear friends,

Greetings from the Paraguayan Chaco

We have had our usual mix of hot and cold weather in the Chaco this winter. We had three frosts in a row at the beginning of August, which we had not had for some years. This has left a lot of the plants looking temporarily shriveled, and killed off staples such as sweet potatoes which will recover with the return of warmer weather. In spite of the cold, most of the days have been bright and sunny. We expect the hot northerly winds to return soon.

We continue to make progress on the checking of the Enxet Old Testament biblical



Asuncion, Juan, Tito



Tim Curtis

CMS mission partner
Paraguayan Chaco

Tim is the Coordinator of the Enxet Old Testament Translation Team based at the Anglican Centre in Rio Verde, Paraguayan Chaco. He works alongside the translators Juan Martinez and Asuncion Rojas as they translate into the Enxet language and check completed drafts and keeps the Anglican Church of Paraguay, CMS and the United Bible Societies updated on progress.

texts. During August, United Bible Society consultant Tio Lahaye visited the team in Rio Verde and updated the Paratext programme that the translators use.

We tested updated spell checks on Lamentations, Jonah, Obadiah, and Esther. We had a problem trying to install the illustrations for the Old Testament and were unable to download the Enxet New Testament so that the

translators can begin to edit it next year. These tasks will have to wait until Tito's next visit, or until the team meets in Asuncion where problems of this kind can be solved over the internet.

The team always enjoys Tito's visits which bring us a welcome break from the usual daily routine. Just before Tito's visit we completed checks on Juan's draft of Job, which included a good deal of restructuring on a number

of passages so that they flow naturally. The good news is that we are on target to finishing the checks on the Old Testament texts at the end of December this year. During 2014 the team will be revising the 1997 Enxet New Testament, a task which is expected continue until the end of December 2014. God willing, this will be the date for completing the translation project and handing the work in.

I have received an invitation from the Paraguayan Bible Society to visit Sao Paulo, Brazil, at the beginning of November to discuss options for the type setting/typography of the Enxet Bible, and printing. There is a strong likelihood that the Enxet Bibles will be printed in Brazil, which now prints many of the world's bibles. I would value your prayers that the right decisions would be made. The 1997 New Testament was printed in South Korea. The costs of the type setting are usually separate from the printing costs and it is possible that a donor in

Brazil may cover these type setting costs.

Next year, in addition to working on the final stages of the translation project, I hope to be in the UK from early January until the end of March to visit my link churches and give everyone an update on the translators' progress. I expect to rejoin the translation team for the revision of the 1997 New Testament at the beginning of April.



Mission PY volunteers



Tim visiting Paciencia in February

I have enjoyed the company and fellowship of the volunteers from Mission Paraguay staying at the Rio Verde centre this August. Under the supervision of Chris Hawksbee and David Orrit, they have been working on helping to



Rio Verde Sunday school

complete a new church at the village of Paciencia, in La Patria, over 100km to the east of Rio Verde, where there are a number of Anglican churches. They have carried out a number of repairs at the Rio Verde centre as well as many daily round trips to La Patria to work there. I was able to visit the church in Paciencia earlier this year, when just the frame of the church was standing. A number of years ago, Mission Paraguay volunteers built the San Mateo church in Rio Verde, so it has been encouraging for them to meet the congregation there and to see the Sunday school work amongst the children.

As I write, preparations are underway for the swearing in ceremony tomorrow of Paraguay's new president Horacio Cartes, elected earlier this year. Foreign heads of state and dignitaries have been arriving during the course of the day, and flags are out decorating some of the main avenues in Asuncion. August 15 is a public holiday in

Paraguay, held to celebrate the founding of the city of Asuncion in 1537.



Tito Lahaye

Points for prayer and praise

- Give thanks for the progress made on the translation and for Tito Lahaye's visit to Rio Verde during August during which the latest Paratext programme was installed.

Pray that we will be able to merge the Old and New Testament projects at some stage without any glitches.

■ Give thanks for the visit of the Mission Paraguay volunteers and for their work on the church building in Paciencia and for their cheerful company and fellowship. Pray for the San Mateo church, Sunday school in Rio Verde.

■ Please pray for president Horacio Cartes as he begins his term of office.



Tim with Juan, Asuncion and Tito

With love in the Lord Jesus

Tim and the translators

PS. Did you know that you can now receive link letters by email, sent as a pdf? If you would like to receive them this way and help CMS save money, **please contact the links team on links@cms-uk.org**

www.cms-uk.org



Church Mission Society

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