

The Thurstons

Merry Christmas



Greetings once again from Chile:

These past few months have been very busy for us.

You have probably noticed we have a new address and a new mission for whom we work with. We worked with Son of Man's Mission for 19 years and the SOMM President, Russ Swank and the treasurer, Ardis Swank have just retired. As a result, the mission in late October, ceased their overseas ministry. All the equipment and everything else related to us is in the process of being moved over to our new organization called Integrity Ministries, a non profit organization similar to Son of Man's Mission. We continue to do what we have always done for the last 30 years and that is reaching and building up people for the Lord through the use of media and the Internet. Integrity Ministries is a faith based mission and each missionary raises their own financial support.

We want to thank each and every one of you for your continued support, partnership and prayer in our work the Lord is doing through us in Chile and the Spanish speaking world. We are also glad to continue the work the Lord has called us to do and it is such a blessing to see your continued support.



COMIBAM

On December 7-10, Lina and I participated in a missionary conference called COMIBAM that included close to 1,000 delegates from Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. COMIBAM is dedicated to missions and started after the Lausanne conference in Europe. At the time, church leaders around the world sat together to analyze the Evangelical Church world-wide and COMIBAM was one of the results of that meeting. For this year's COMIBAM event, I was asked to be on the executive committee and I also gave a seminar on "How to use technology in missions."

EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH

The first week of September I drove with some of our staff to Mendoza, Argentina, to videotape the South American international youth leadership congress sponsored by Youth Specialties. 2,800 enthusiastic young people from all over South America attended. Tony Campolo from Pennsylvania and Juan Carlos Ortiz from California spoke. We were prepared so it all turned out well. God really touched these youth leaders in many special ways and He will continue to work wonders in their lives as they take what they have learned and experienced back to their respective countries.

For two weeks in August and two weeks in October, Lina, traveled to the extreme north and south of Chile. She covered over 2000 miles, teaching and preaching in eight cities. She also was the only woman asked to join the Chile steering committee for the Billy Graham Association national Evangelistic outreach, *My Hope*. With only 50% of the churches reporting their impact at the time this letter went to print, over 55,000 decisions for Christ had been made through this outreach.

TEAM FROM BELLINGHAM

In October we had the pleasure of having a team from Brothers Keepers Ministries, Bellingham WA, come down and visit us. They remodeled the studio bathroom and wall-papered our family room. The team included Mike Glick, the leader, Dr. Richards Gardner, Steve and Chantel Gardner, Kerry Garrett, Molly Greenleaf and Aaron Twitchell. Dr. Gardner, a Dermatologist, also spent some time visiting a Children's home and a local Drug Rehab center. He kindly forwarded some products later on to some of the children he had seen at the Children's home.

INTERNET SITE WINS AWARD

On October 15th, our internet music website "EnlaceMusical.com" won an award for the best Christian Music Spanish website for 2005 in all the world. Paul and I joined Steve in Mexico City to receive the award presented by the National Academy of Christian Music and Arts. We thank the Lord for this public recognition. On a side note, our web sites continue to grow in viewership and between September and November of 2005, the amount of content pages read by people increased from 14,525,176 to 17,000,669. PTL!



CHANGING ONE LIFE AT A TIME

On December 2, we received a letter from Mr. Ruben Boliver regarding a message he had found on one our internet sites. He wrote, "this message truly touched and spoke directly to my life. The Lord knows the problem I am carrying and the desert I am passing through. I have had a number of opportunities to sin against my Lord, but I have been faithful to the Lord, my wife, my children, my church and pastor." We are really happy see how the Lord is using our web sites to impact people and we thank you as partners in our ministry for allowing this to happen.

THE FAMILY

Our son Paul continues to work with us in the ministry. He has enjoyed doing all the video engineering side of our ministry and continues to design video systems for our various recordings. Paul also was in charge of putting together the internet simulcast video of the awards ceremony where our web site won first prize.

Our middle son Steve, heads up the ministry and he is also teaching a *Digital Media & Photography* class at Valley Forge Christian College. His family now has some educational benefits thanks to

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this teaching assignment and this has opened up the possibility to help them out with the process of launching a new communications major.

Mary Jane has just finished four years in UNIACC University and now only requires her internship and her final thesis to graduate. She has a double major in *Bilingual Corporate Public Relations* and *Interpretation & Translation* and is in the process of deciding what to do later. At the moment she is very focused on the preparations for her February 25, 2006 wedding. This is cause for great joy in our family. Her fiancée is a computer engineer and works with us in the ministry.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For the health of Lina's mother who just had medical complications.
- For Mary Jane's wedding and the planning process that is underway.
- For our financial health, as the local exchange rate is taxing us beyond reasonable limits.
- For our Chilean staff that they will have finances, spiritual strength and wisdom in their work.

MINI FURLOUGH

On March 2006, we plan to visit the States for three months, so plan on receiving a call from us. We would love to come and share what God is doing through this ministry as well as provide you with additional insight about our new expansion endeavor happening in Chile (read below).

ADVANCE THE FUTURE

You might have received a fund-raising letter from Integrity Ministries detailing the "Advance the Future" endeavor. The ministry has outgrown our present Chilean facilities so we are praying for a miracle to allow us to provide additional staff, project expansions, and more office space. Please plan to help us out with your expertise, time, fund-raising skills and God-given talents. Also, do not feel obligated to give in this area if you are already providing monthly support for us. I'm sure it is overwhelming to hear people asking for funds all the time and we don't want this to be just another ask. If God puts it in your heart to give, please do so. If not, continue to pray for this endeavor because we know that God is in control and He will provide the necessary funding to meet the needs of the ministry.

We want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. You have been such a great blessing to us and your partnership really has made a tremendous difference in people's lives. You have been a blessing to hundreds of thousands of people that have been impacted through our ministry and that is a priceless eternal investment.

God Bless you,

Jim & Lina

**Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth:
my flesh also shall rest in hope. (Ps 16:9 KJV)**