



# Uruguay December

## *Extending encouragement...*

To kick off December, I was blessed to fellowship with and preach for the pastors of a church in the city of Rio Branco. We had a powerful move of God and encouraged one another with songs of worship! It felt familiar because the city is rural (the agriculture reminded me of Arkansas in a way). The church has a beautiful story and pastors who are passionate about the work of God. It was refreshing to travel outside of San Jose for a weekend and I met some wonderful people. The neighbors of the Airbnb where I stayed were very hospitable and had beautiful greyhound puppies.

## *To every person...*

In addition to early month traveling, I helped with activities in the San Jose church. I have to brag on the host missionaries, Jacob & Mandy Palma, because they are truly inclusive. They make a point to open up opportunities so that everyone can contribute to the advancement of the church. It is evident through their leadership that they are not only trying to save the lost but build national leadership from a grassroots level. They are on the ground plowing the field and I am honored to be beside them working for this time.



## *At the table...*

Breaking bread at the table will forever be an integral church activity. December was a great opportunity to implement such activities as "End of the Year" parties and Christmas festivities consumed the calendar. I took part in cleaning, preparing food, and purchasing goods for these events. I sat at the table with church members and learned more about their cultures and them as individuals. I even learned how to play some new interactive games. I have to confess that learning these games in Spanish was a bit of an adjustment but I caught on eventually (haha!). We laughed and shared friendly chats. Part of creating disciples is building friendships and trust, and I am grateful to be a part of this discipleship process that is taking place in this beautiful country!



## Highlights:



### *NOCHEBUENA OR CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER!*

*(STRAWBERRY CAKE 🍓 BY  
MANDY PALMA PICTURED)*

### *COMMUNION WITH "REAL" BREAD! 😊*



### *MKs Zara & Lucas in special Christmas service where several sang special songs!*



*It's summer in  
Uruguay! My  
favorite season.  
(Strawberries  
are growing at  
the Palma house)*



## Favorite things:



*Making friends! When you hear your name being  
yelled out in the supermarket, you know you're  
making friends.*



*MATE! It has almost replaced my  
coffee addiction.*



*Sunsets in San Jose. Reminders of  
God's creative power and beauty.*