

Hello from Chile!

I've got more pictures of the Chilean winter! As you can see, the Andes mountains literally "loom" over Santiago! We had a storm which deposited tons of snow right above us.



One of the nicer days



The morning sun is just coming up over the mountains behind us.
See it shining on the white building on the left?



Ginger bought me a
Coke
in Panama that says,
essentially
"Sweetie"!
What a woman!

Ginger and I were privileged to attend a family reunion in the great state of Colorado. It was great to see everyone. The reunion lasted ten days and we all had a good time. Our children were also able to go and we got to enjoy visiting with them as well. They live in two different parts of the US so it is usually a bit difficult to see them all together at the same time.

On our first flight back to Chile we flew to Panama City for the first leg of the journey. Immediately after we got settled into our seats a man across the aisle from me leaned over and asked me if I spoke German. That is pretty weird on a flight from the US to Panama. I said "yes" and switched to German. It turns out that he was a German living in Canada, who was flying to Bolivia to try to find a house to buy. He said that he and his wife, also a German, were looking for a cheaper place to live. He, I'll call him Ike, said he was a Mennonite. I told him a

good friend of mine used to be a Mennonite preacher and this launched a discussion about my friend, now a Pentecostal preacher, and his journey to find what was missing in his life. I told him how my friend had encountered the gospel while traveling in Australia and how it completely changed the course of his life. Ike and I talked about the love of God and the need to seek the truth in God's word. It went very well! Ike was very receptive of the gospel and I ask that you pray with me for him and his family to obey God's word and receive everything that God wants to give them.

I have officially begun "intermediate Spanish classes for foreigners" at the University of Chile. These are a bit different than my earlier classes. They all now have us place the desks in a big circle so we are all looking at each other, not just staring at the teacher and a whiteboard. I was surprised to find that I understand almost everything the teachers and other students are saying. At the beginning of the last semester they were speaking a bit too fast for me but now I'm not having too much trouble keeping up. I guess I must be learning!

In the church, I continue to teach three times every 2 weeks. We are in the middle of our study of the end times and Revelation. The reading and the teaching continue to stretch my language skills, and the saints are receiving the teaching enthusiastically and being blessed. The word of God is amazing if we'll take the time to dig in and study it a bit! It is so encouraging and enlightening and gives us strength in our walk with God!



"With you forever" - Little Caesars Pizza
I'm pretty sure I ate one back in the '80's that
is still with me!



Some of you know that I've had some minor but persistent health problems for the past few years. When we were in Colorado I stumbled onto the source of my problem. I found out that I have developed "nightshade intolerance." What is that, you ask? I asked the same question! My body now reacts badly to alkaloids found in plants related to nightshade. Nightshade intolerance means that the body is unable to digest, or break down, alkaloid compounds found in nightshade plants. These plants include tomatoes, potatoes, bell peppers, eggplant, paprika, chili powder and cayenne. I had nearly every symptom perfectly! When I stopped eating those things all the symptoms



This is Fred.

Just kidding!

This is NOT a
Missionary Alternative
Housepet!



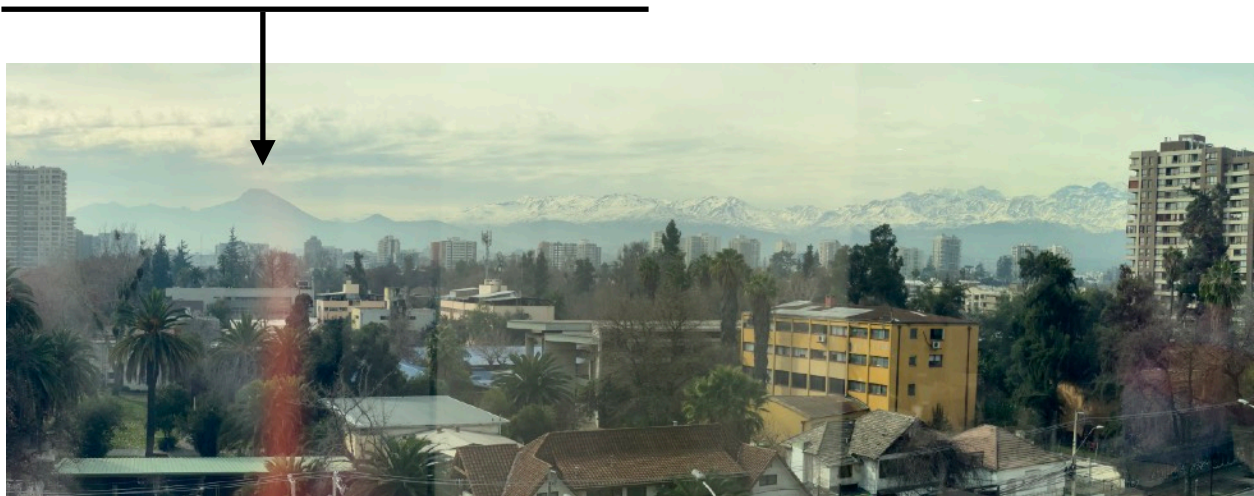
Alternative Missionary Sustenance that does
not contain those bothersome alkaloids! Yes, folks,
we live in the land of glorious meat!

went away! I now feel very good, but I'm a little sad about not being able to eat potatoes, tomatoes, and all the lovely things made from them! That means no potato chips, french fries, potato salad, marinara sauce, red spaghetti sauce, or regular chili. I love chili! Now I have to find an alternative recipe. On the other hand, I love feeling much better so I really can't complain too much. You could say I'm going to "Pasarlo un Chanco!" It literally means "I'm going to have a pig!" or "I'm going to have a good time!" Chileans love their animal expressions!

That's all for this month. Thank you for your prayers and God bless you all!

Bill and Ginger

That is the hill behind our apartment that appears
in pictures taken from our balcony



A view of the Andes from Ñuñoa, where the church and the University campus are located. It looks further away in the picture than it actually is!