

Under the Southern Cross

A STRONG TOWER

June 2022

"The name of the Lord is a strong tower..." (Prov. 18:10). **STRONG TOWER**, a study of the names of God, is the title of the book I put together this year for our ladies' Bible studies on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings. I believe it has been a source of growth and blessing as we've rotated meetings in different homes with usually 5-10 in each group. Would you **pray** for God's work in: Anita, Karina, Antonia, Gladys, Rocío, Pamela, Claudia, Cecilia, Galit, Carolina D., Carolina C., Daniela, Carla, Mildred, Johanna, Rosy, Norma, Mónica, and Marcela? Little did I realize how much we would need to rely on the Lord's strong tower during this difficult year. While much of the world has moved on from Covid-19, in Chile sanitary protocols remain very much a part of our daily lives. Fears, real and imagined, beat like the storm winds that blew roofs off and fences down in our neighborhood last week. Rentals, real estate, and the cost of living in general have all skyrocketed. On a personal note, my January bout with Covid damaged my vocal cords and left me (Diane) permanently hoarse so teaching isn't easy and singing impossible. (I'm so sad about that!) The masking mandate also makes lip reading a challenge for us hearing impaired 😊. Please **pray** that the Word of God may strengthen and uphold the Punta Mira church group in the midst of daily struggles. The leadership team is preaching through the life of Christ in the Gospel of Mark this year. How we need His "strong tower"!



Eloy's graduation



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Prayer Requests

- **Praise** that we were able to travel to Santiago the last weekend in June to attend Punta Mira leader **Eloy's** graduation from the 2-year Bible institute program. He continues to study online toward a 4-year diploma. Please **pray** for him, his wife **Galit**, and their future in ministry.
- **Praise** for **families** willing and able to share their homes for meetings during this extended time without a building. **Pray** that people would not become discouraged and that we would be directed to land or a building to rent/buy at a reasonable price.
- **Praise** that we have the opportunity to host a mid-year get-together for our missionaries July 19-21. **Thanks** for praying for **Christina**. She is settled in a teaching job and good apartment in the southern city of Temuco.
- **Pray** for the country of Chile with ongoing social, political, and pandemic-related issues; for personal health needs.



In the continuing saga of **our search for a church property**: Following a tip from elder Dixon, a group from the congregation checked out a bare (nonurbanized) lot in *Rinconada*, an area just outside the city proper and slightly outside the area we preferred to consider. But the size was right, the price was right, and we were enthusiastic about the potential in this growing area. However, after two months of study by two Christian lawyers, we were counseled NOT to go ahead with this purchase, since the owner wanted the full price upfront yet was legally restricted from finalizing the sale for three years! While we're thankful for the Lord's evident leading, everyone is quite disappointed, to say the least. Recently we started Sunday morning services on a small scale again at **Dixon and Johanna's** home. Their neighbors, **Lalo and Rocío** (also church members) are hosting the kids for Sunday school classes. It's far from ideal. Now we're looking into another house with a big yard seen for sale in the immediate area of Punta Mira recently. The road to a church home seems long! Thank you for **praying** that God might indeed be our strong tower of wisdom and patience in the meantime.