

BODLIEN HEADLINES

Furlough Edition

Victory Lap: 2021

Furlough is a weird word. It is used primarily in the military as a 'leave of absence' from your regular duties. It has gotten a bad reputation recently in the minds of workers around the world this past year as the possibility of being 'furloughed' struck fear into many and has already affected many others. When a missionary goes on furlough (or home-assignment) they are taking a regularly scheduled break from the field to report back to their supporters, visit churches and spend time with their families. I think it is time for a re-brand for this word and use a term that carries more meaning and excitement, because really we are sharing with everyone the victories in ministry that we have witnessed over the past 3 years. "Victory Lap" is the new term we have chosen.



Toward the beginning of most of the Apostle Paul's letters to the churches, he tells them 'thank you' or that he thanks God for them. He is grateful for their faith, their love, and their support of his ministry. For us, this truly is a "Victory Lap" across the country to tell of all the ways that God has worked and say "thank you" to all those who have had a part in supporting and praying for this work through our family in Chile. We are so grateful for you all.

We began our travels in Florida in mid-February. Our idea was to start in the South in the winter and work our way north as it gets warmer. However, after a year of such isolated quarantine in Chile for, I think the germs were just waiting to pounce on us and we caught Covid just shortly after we arrived to Florida, which forced us to spend some much needed time as a family and resting. Since recovering, we have been through the south already, visiting supporting churches and many families as well. As we write this, we are in the mid-west for a few weeks (OH, MI, IN) and head eastward in May-July (VA, PA, NY, RI, ME). We hope we get to see you in person to say 'thank you' face to face!



Projects Update

This past year our property has been empty of activity as the restrictions in Chile have kept us, as well as all churches, from having in-person activities. We have pivoted to work online and gather together online, but this has given us an opportunity to work on the property. There has been a growing list of projects and the pandemic has given us some extra time to get a few things done at the camp, but there is still much to do.

>> New Staff Housing:

In September we tore-down two old staff houses and rebuilt them into a two story building with 4 new staff housing units. The project began as a dream of a Chilean family who has been impacted by the ministry. They wanted to be a blessing to the Chilean missionaries. What a blessing to see this project completed.



>>New Pool Surface and Bathhouse<<

Our camp pool was resurfaced and repaired, and the pool bathhouse was renovated because of the generous support of many friends in the USA.



Praise/Prayer

Requests:

- **Schedule-** We have our ministry calendar set for the year, although the lockdowns are still heavy in Chile. Pray that we can keep connecting whether it is online or in person.
- **Projects-** Praise God that we have had some extra time to complete needed improvements on our property and get organized. There is still much to do. Pray for progress to be made on more cabin repairs and property infrastructure.
- **Victory Lap 2021-** Please pray for health and safety as we continue to travel through the USA in 2021. Send me a note if you'd like to get together. markbodlien@wol.org
- **Family-** Our family has changed and grown so much these past 4 years. We are excited to see many friends and family. We pray this trip will be a refreshing time for our family.