



**Feeding the Poor**

This has been a very harsh winter for those living in the Andes Mountains. Last month I joined a group of church leaders in distributing food to the Mapuches in the Icalma region. Through cooperation with the churches in the area, we were



able to distribute food to 220 families (each receiving a 20kg bag of flour and a box of assorted essentials). Because of limited supplies, families with young children were given priority. Even though we have not started our ministry focus, we constantly are looking for opportunities to learn about the Mapuche culture. Icalma presented a wonderful experience which allowed the Chilean church to demonstrate the compassion of Christ. It also provided a wonderful learning experience for me. Even though there is a church, there is also a great need for guidance, especially in outreach and church planting. The Mapuche are a very generous and warm-hearted people, despite the injustices they have experienced. Our hearts are burdened for them, as we become more aware of their needs. Yes, they need the essentials of life, but more importantly, they need the essentials of eternal life.

**Message from the Latin American Director**

I wanted to share with you my excitement after visiting the Lynch family and witnessing the work among the Mapuche. The need is great. The Mapuche present a challenge from other indigenous groups, since there is no central location for outreach. I was pleased to see that the Lynches understood the importance of preparation for long term effectiveness. Too often, ministry is started before the missionary understands how to share a culturally relevant Gospel message. For this reason, we have encouraged Chad and Ruthanne to spend one year in language and culture study before starting their focused ministry.

Chad and Ruthanne have great potential. Despite a recent car accident and several illnesses, they continue with a great attitude and a strong desire to see churches planted among the Mapuche. I want to thank each of you who have prayed and given faithfully during this time of learning and transition. I invite you to continue partnering with them as they prepare to make an impact in Chile.  
 Joseph Milioni, UWM, Latin America Area Director

**Accident Reflection from Ruthanne**

“It only hurts when I laugh.” My rib and shoulder are healing nicely since our single car accident last month after a freak snowstorm. I am thankful to God for his healing and for the medical care I have received. Praise God no one else was



injured. We learned so many lessons in this whole process. Of course we have learned a whole new set of medical vocabulary. While talking with my doctor I learned the difference between having an accident *with* the truck (meaning the truck hit me) and *in* the truck (meaning I was in the

truck when the accident occurred). A single word changes the entire meaning of the sentence. We have learned to lean on our neighbors and friends who have offered rides into town or even loaned us their car. This has been huge, especially in the first few weeks after the injury when the jostling of the bus was very painful. We have become more aware of the legal system. Here you are “guilty until proven innocent.” Chad was arrested after the accident and held until the extent of my injuries was known. We passed an accident last week where a passenger was killed. The driver at fault is headed to jail for one to five years. We are so grateful that we only hit a tree and that no one else was injured! We are thankful for the peace we have experienced -- peace that could only come from God. Thank you so much for your prayers! I know it is prayers that have carried us through this challenging time.

**To Contribute to our Ministry:**  
 Make Check Payable to:  
**United World Mission** \*Attach Note Specifying our Account: Acct#**31301**  
 Mail Check to:  
**United World Mission, P.O. Box 1667 Monument, CO 80132-1667**

To be removed from mailing list notify us at : 224 W Queen St Hillsborough, NC 227278

**Contact Info:**  
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 VILCUN, IX REGION, CHILE

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### ***Prayer Requests:***

Pray for our physical, mental, spiritual and emotional health and safety.



Pray for opportunities to learn and practice our Spanish in situations beyond our formal classes.

Pray that Marcus, Brandon and Anna will be protected from evil influences.

Pray that each of us will have a good friend.

Pray that we will be able to balance learning and ministry opportunities with personal time with God and our family.

Pray for open doors into the Mapuche culture.

Pray for the repair of our truck.

### ***Praises:***

Ruthanne has recovered almost completely from the auto accident.

Our team mates are currently on furlough in the US and have allowed us to use their truck while they are gone.

We are remaining healthy!

Opportunities to build relationships with those around us.

We received our one year visa to stay in Chile.

We are noticing improvements in our ability to speak Spanish.

We are finally starting to feel settled in.

We thank God for all of **YOU** that are partnering with us in prayer, giving and encouragement. We are Blessed!

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## **Raising Missionary Children**



After spending the last 5 years in preparation for missionary work, we still find ourselves unprepared for the unexpected challenges of transitioning our children into a new culture. In the midst of the great adventure of moving to Chile, comes the fears, the frustration and tears of being the outsider; the one who is different. As our children started a Spanish speaking school, they became targets of jokes, name calling and bullying. Some days our children would return to the house hungry because their lunch was taken. As parents, who desire to

protect their children, we find ourselves in a very difficult situation. To intensify the struggle, our lack of language skills has limited our ability to fully express our concerns. As we find ourselves helpless before men, we have turned to prayer and the promises of God. We find ourselves reflecting on the 1 Cor 13:4; 'Love is patient' (long-suffering). Paul starts his description of love by telling us that love has the ability to be wronged without fighting back. If this is love then I pray we learn to practice love here in Chile. Please join us in prayer for the Mapuche but also for the people in our community and the children's school.

As to not paint too harsh a picture, each month is getting **better**. As language skills improve and our children are able to communicate, the problems are diminishing. Marcus is pouring himself into soccer and has been asked by a local coach to play competitively for the region. Anna has made a good friend with the daughter of our language helper. As for Brandon, he hasn't found his niche yet but we are starting to play some tennis and he has great potential. Continue to keep our children in your prayers as they adjust to this new culture.

## **Chile's Independence Day**



September 18, is Chile's Independence Day but the celebration continues for a week. The children were able to participate in a school fiesta to celebrate the heritage of Chile. They sang songs and danced the "cueca" a traditional dance that all Chileans are taught. It was fun to see all the children dressed in costumes representing the various parts of Chile.

We spent the 18<sup>th</sup> with friends at a Mapuche church. There were sack races, foot races, tug of war, soccer game and a contest to see who could climb a tree

first. A eucalyptus tree (about 12 inches diameter) stripped of it's bark is very slippery and almost impossible to climb, but very humorous to watch someone try to reach the top to win the prize. We ate our first horse meat (a Mapuche favorite for special occasions). It was delicious and a new favorite for the kids "Mom, when are you going to cook a horse?"....Ah, not yet!