

Dan & Daryl Collins Bolivia

Collins' Coffee Talk

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Kicking the Cardboard Habit

For 11 years Daryl and I have had been going to friend's houses for nice, pleasant dinners, and then it happens. I notice the cardboard box. Outwardly we're chatting away and all is seemingly normal. But inwardly I'm thinking "Hmm... that box looks really sturdy, reinforced corners, ...we could really use that." I think this box hoarding has become an addiction. But I'd like to announce that I've finally kicked the habit, and last week we gave away our last stack of cardboard. For the first time in our married lives we are not renting. We're the happy owners of a nice Bolivian apartment. And thankfully, as far as we can tell we're not moving anymore.



The view of Cochabamba from our new home.

Honestly, moving this time around was really exhausting and not just because we live on the third floor. We just hadn't planned on our rental being sold and having to spend our Christmas vacation packing and house hunting. But I really have to say, God has blessed us. There's no other way to describe it. He set up the conversation that put us in contact with the previous owners of our new home. At a time when the US mortgage market was and is in crisis, God again stepped in and literally spoke to a person who then contacted us and loaned us the money we needed to finish the purchase. We have great neighbors in our building who get together regularly for BBQs and game nights. And we're right beside a 4 block long city park. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path."*



Thank you God for guiding us and providing a home for our family. We are very thankful for Your provision.

Love from Bolivia, Dan Daryl Naomi Ben and Rachel Collins

Recycling in Bolivia



We just can't escape that we are and will always be Oregonians. We love rain, green, the UO Ducks, and we are proud recyclers. For our first six months in Bolivia, even though they don't separate glass, tin, and paper, we dutifully sorted and saved. But eventually we still had to throw our neatly organized bags in the trash because they don't recycle here, well, not until now.

Daryl is an artist. She has been carefully saving, sorting, and storing our old clothes. And for the last nine months she has been cutting, stitching, and turning our old shirts, pants, and pj's into one-of-a-kind purses. She's made friends with retailers in the fabric and sewing supply stores. And she's having a blast doing it. So look out Bolivia, Daryl's here!



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**"We're not the future. We're the present."
- Isidro Choque, President of the Bolivian Baptist Student Union**

In the midst of the financial crisis in the US, all of our financial needs have been met by your financial generosity. In fact we have even been able to expand our ministries as we strive to train the emerging generation of leaders in Bolivia. On behalf of our family and the student and young adult groups that we serve, thank you.

**(top) Ariel leading worship at church.
(middle) First Volleyball practice**



One of the first things we did this year was to hire some help. Ariel Soliz is our new part-time *Coordinator of Volunteers and Projects*, helping with our short term and intern program and also developing strategic projects for WorldVenture Bolivia. Between June and September, we have 3 short term teams and 5 interns all coming down from the US. Please pray for Hans & Lindsay Nyberg, Rosemarie Caward, Laura Egli, and Wendy Nelson as they prepare to serve in Bolivia. And pray for Ariel, Dan, and Daryl as they work on the many logistics for these teams and new arrivals.



In Ariel's first week Dan asked, **"If you had a dream to reach students for Christ, what would it be?"** A few days later he said, "I would like to start a volleyball team in the city league for a deeper type of life discipleship and intentional evangelism. What do you think?" Volleyball is very popular in our city and Ariel happens to be a respected high level player. Things are moving quickly. Players are being selected. Uniforms and logos are being

designed. We're developing an integral discipleship and evangelism strategy. Practices started this week and we have our first tournament in June. So stay tuned, and root for our team!



Last year Dan began working with Pastor Eddie Perez as he oversaw the Bolivian Baptist Student Union. With a \$300 gift, we gave Eddie enough travel funds for 9 months of trips to student groups across Bolivia. What started as a test project training students in Basic Bible Truths has grown into a School of Biblical Leadership in 7 of the 9 Departments of Bolivia. Dan is teaching two groups, one in Oruro and another here in Central Cochabamba. Those who finish all 7 modules in the one year course receive enough training to be preaching elders in their local congregations. We're training college-age students to be lay pastors. We don't know about you, but this makes us very excited!



**(middle) Dan's group in Oruro
(bottom) Dan's group in Cochabamba**

Prayer and Praise

- Pray for our marriage and family, for a filling of the Spirit that would show in the way we live and speak, and for protection against our enemy.
- Pray for Naomi, Ben, and Rachel as they continue to make friends in their schools and our neighborhood
- Pray for Ariel Soliz and the Volleyball Project, and for the players who are joining the team
- Pray for the Schools of Biblical Leadership in Oruro and Cochabamba and around Bolivia
- Pray for Eddie Perez and Daniel, for wisdom as they teach, and safety in their travels.
- Pray for Daryl and the relationships she is building through her "clothes recycling" purse making
- Pray for our new neighbors in our condominium building
- Praise God for providing a new home for our family
- Praise God for the continued health of our family
- Praise God for providing for all of our financial needs and blessing us with resources to keep serving Him in Bolivia