



Cheryl VanZandbergen <cheryl@cityviewcc.net>

Room in our Hearts...

1 message

Greg & Faith Hurst <greg.hurst@sim.org>
Reply-To: Greg & Faith Hurst <greg.hurst@sim.org>
To: cheryl@cityviewcc.net

Thu, Dec 18, 2025 at 3:28 PM

...for Jesus

[View this email in your browser](#)

Our vision: To mobilize Bolivian churches in La Paz to plant Gospel-focused, disciple-making, missional churches who glorify God in their city, country, and world (Acts 1:8).

**Room for Jesus**

Entering the sanctuary of my home church for a Christmas concert this last Saturday, I (Faith) felt more weary and needy in heart and body than my head was ready to admit. As we sang the familiar words from the carol "Joy to the World", "Let every heart prepare Him room, and Heav'n and nature sing", Greg squeezed my

hand acknowledging our mutual desire to see and savor the beauty of Jesus in these days. Casting Crowns has a fresh take on "Joy to the World" called "Make Room":

...The sleeping town, they did not know	... Is there room in your heart?
That lying in a manger low	Is there room in your heart?
A Savior King who had no home	Is there room in your heart?
Has come to heal our sorrows	For God to write His story?

This is the question I most needed to be reminded of: How am I preparing room in my heart for Jesus?

HomeGOING

Just a week prior, on Dec 6th, I stood in that same sanctuary reading my mom's eulogy. The Lord had mercifully taken mom to her heavenly home on Dec. 1st. Shortly before she passed away, I read John 14 to her: "There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am" (vs 2-3). Even though Christ's arrival to earth as a baby was met with a search for a room, my mom's arrival to heaven was met by an eternal room prepared just for her.

After the funeral ended, our family shared a final moment around the casket. Spontaneously and unplanned, one family member after another took out a white tissue or a handkerchief and waved goodbye to a wife, mother, grandmother, and child of God. Tears of laughter and sadness rolled down our cheeks as we remembered mom and dad's tradition of standing on their own porch, waving white handkerchiefs to say goodbye to their children and grandchildren who were returning to their homes in different cities and countries. This time, however, we were the ones waving good-bye to mom as she returned to her true and everlasting home.



HomeCOMING

One of our favorite moments of living and serving in Bolivia is when our girls come back home and bring their friends. Last Christmas, Kayla brought two of her delightful roommates for a visit--women of joy and wisdom. In April, Mariah brought 8 friends from her church in Denver to serve together on a short-term mission trip. Alongside this incredibly talented bunch we worked with 2 church plants doing art outreach, various kinds of multimedia training, worship and prayer; here is a [1 minute video](#) of their art outreach in a school. In September, Hannah visited Bolivia to attend a wedding and jump on board during an especially full ministry schedule of back-to-back conferences, retreats and training. (Note: Look for our upcoming La

Paz Project 2025 Annual Report in January to find out more about how we have seen God at work in discipleship and church planting!)



Kayla visiting La Paz with two friends from her home in Wheaton, IL.



Praying on move-in day with the parents of Hannah's wonderful new housemates.



Hannah (far right) lives with a delightfully creative and caring group of teachers and nurses.

Home is more than a place...it's a person! We are so very excited to announce that Mariah will be starting a home of her own soon when she marries AJ Wiley this coming August. Mariah and AJ got engaged on November 21 in Denver, Colorado. They celebrated with their community of friends and family. We have loved watching their relationship grow as we see how deeply they are committed to Christ and to one another.



AJ and Mariah are engaged!

Our Perfect Home in Christ

Christmas captivates the heart with the greatest story ever told. Is there room in our hearts today for God to write His story? But, how do our stories enter into God's greater redemptive story. God makes a NEW home in our hearts through Christ, from the cradle to the cross, through faith in Christ. Our hearts find rest in God when we repent and believe in Christ as God's perfect provision to reconcile sinners to Himself. Our hearts find their perfect home in Christ. Ultimately, the best HomeComings and HomeGoing are made possible only in Christ.

Merry Christmas,

The Hurst Family



Greg, Hannah, Faith, Mariah, and Kayla

Ways to Pray for our Family in 2026

ROOM FOR JESUS: Please pray that God will help us see and savor the beauty of Christ, “making room in our hearts” so that we better reflect Him to those around us (Rm 8:29).

HomeGOINGS: Please pray for Faith's father and family as they navigate changes in 2026, as well as for wisdom for Greg and his brother Mark as they help their mother who faces a number of challenging health issues (James 1:5).

HomeCOMINGS: Please pray for the time we will spend with Kayla, Hannah, Mariah... and now AJ, reconnecting with each on a heart level as well as enjoying Christmas to the fullest (1 Thess 2:8).

NEW Homes: Please pray for Kayla, Hannah and Mariah to continue cultivating Christ-centered friendships in their 3 homes, building up one another into the likeness of Christ (Eph 4:11-17).

We are grateful for your friendships, prayers and generosity over the years.



SIM

To Make a Donation Online:

[General Support Needs](#)

[The La Paz Project](#)

[La Paz Project 2024 Annual Report Flipbook](#)

To Make a Donation by Check:

Make payable to "SIM USA":

SIM USA
14830 Choate Circle
Charlotte, NC 28273

Phone: 800/521-6449
Website: www.sim.org

In the memo section, please write two things to designate your donation:

1. "Greg and Faith Hurst- #70105..."
2. Choose one of the following two gift designations: (1) "... for their Monthly Support Account" or (2) "... designated to Project # 91177 (The La Paz Project)".

Contact Information:

E-Mail and Phone:

greg.hurst@sim.org
faith.hurst@sim.org

630-563-5379 (home)
331-600-4476 (Greg- T-Mobile Cell)
331-806-6394 (Faith- T-Mobile Cell)



12/19/25, 9:56 AM

Cityview Community Church Mail - Room in our Hearts...

If you would like to discontinue receiving these updates, please press this link ([unsubscribe from this list](#)).

If you would like to update your contact information please press this link ([update subscription preferences](#)).

Copyright © 2014 - SIM USA, All rights reserved.

