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Shank Update - Matched Giving Today and Oct. & Nov. Update 2023

1 message

Mike & Marina <mmshank@southamericamission.org>
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To: cheryl@cityviewcc.net

Tue, Nov 28, 2023 at 6:30 AM

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Giving Tuesday TODAY ONLY - Matched Giving for SAM's Vision Fund!

South America Mission's vision is to see "Dynamic churches multiplied across South America that transform local communities and the world as they embody the Kingdom of God."

[SAM's Vision Fund](#) helps SAM to keep and continually improve the structure that empowers healthy, Jesus-centered ministry. Our leadership team focuses in four key action areas:

- **Sending Missionaries**
- **Shepherding Community**
- **Expanding Ministry**
- **Stewardship of Resources**

FOR TODAY ONLY, giving to any SAM missionary or ministry initiative results in a matching gift of the same amount (up to \$23,000) towards the Vision Fund!

October and November 2023

Dependence and Discernment

It feels impossible that it has already been a month since Marilyn was born! Between preparing, family visiting, the actual birth, the recovery and readjustment, time has really flown by these past couple of months.

As we experience the joys and challenges of having two little ones, we feel even more needy for the Lord. We need His grace, His patience, His strength, His love, and His joy. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1). We praise God for His perfect consistency, and that He is our joy and strength, and has adopted us through the truth of the Gospel and the gift of our faith.

As we enter into this new season, we often are finding ourselves asking one another "what is faithful?" We mean this in terms of ministry activities outside the home (or inviting others into our home), ministry preparation (studying, Mike starting up Master's degree in January again, etc.), family time, and rest (spiritual renewal and holistically). Please pray for discernment and God's leading as we seek to be faithful in each season.

Thank you for your prayer and partnership with us in Jesus Christ!



Top left: Spending time with indigenous Bolivian missionary friends who moved to a remote area of Bolivia to work with a different ethnic group.

Top right: Mike celebrating the birthday of one of the two brothers (Andres and Kaleb) he has been meeting with regularly.

Bottom: Mike got to be part of a panel discussion to finish up a theology course at a local church

Praise God for...

- Marilyn and Marina are recovering well, and Moses seems to be getting a bit used to his little sister!
- Blessing of family and friends visiting and supporting us with Marilyn's birth.
- More opportunities for Mike to serve in preaching and teaching.

Join us in praying for...

- God to raise up Bolivians to serve as Gospel workers among the ethnic groups within Bolivia. Many indigenous communities have little significant Gospel presence in their "heart" language.
- Bolivian pastors, leaders, and churches to mature and "bear fruit in every good work and increase in the knowledge of God" (Col. 1:10).
- Discernment as we ask the Lord's guidance for ministry priorities for 2024.

To get in touch with us, please either email us at mmshank@southamericamission.org or send us a message on WhatsApp

Mike's Bolivian phone number is +591 6009-7781, and Marina's is +591 7753-0574.

We would love to talk to you personally about what God is doing in Bolivia and how you can get involved!

Check out our website and blog at www.merefollowers.com

If you would like to learn more about South America Mission or become a financial partner, click below! Thank you for your prayer, encouragement, and partnership with us in the Gospel!

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