



Venezuela 2006

"I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."

Matthew 16:18

* **NEW!!** Address:

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Note:

Make checks payable to Team Expansion. Do not put my name anywhere on the check. Donations are tax-deductible. Feel free to contact me with questions, news, prayer requests, etc.

SEPTEMBER 2006

Team Expansion

Together Venezuela

Church planting with Samuel Schutz

CARACAS, VENEZUELA
CÚA, VENEZUELA
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

Siempre Con Cristo Out On Its Own

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

September saw a big step in the growth of Siempre Con Cristo, our church plant in Cúa. We permanently moved our Sunday service from the afternoon to the morning, cutting the umbilical chord of support from Hoy Con Cristo.

meetings had over 50 people total each of the last two weeks of the month!

Look for next month to be filled with more exciting changes and additions to the Siempre Con Cristo weekly schedule.

Thank you all for your continued

prayers and your generous financial support. As we head into the last quarter of the year I urge you all to keep up the good work. These are exciting times as we work together for the Kingdom.



It's standing room only in Siempre Con Cristo. We moved the Sunday service to the morning and soon will add a second.

On September 10, we moved Sunday service from 4pm to 10am, anticipating the need to move to two services very soon as attendance continues to rise above capacity.

After a year and a half of borrowing preachers, musicians, and evangelists and other leaders from our sister church, we will now forge ahead on our own meaning more dependence on us missionaries as well as the young leaders in Cúa.

In spite of the time change, Siempre Con Cristo had large September attendances for its Sunday Service, youth group, and cell meetings. Our two cell

With Joy in Christ,

Sam



Siempre Con Cristo continued to grow in September with 3 more baptisms: Neves (left), Celeste (right) and Ireles (not pictured).

I Now Present To You...

Siempre Con Cristo, our church plant in Cúa, hit a milestone in September. We had our first wedding.

Marcos and Johanna, both 20 years old, are two young people in the church. They had been dating for some time. They were both baptized in February of this year. Soon after they declared their desire to get married.

In a culture where marriage is a lost tradition, where most don't bother because the wedding is too expensive and the marriage probably won't last anyway, it was truly a beautiful moment when Marcos and Johanna, against all odds, carried through on their commitment to join their lives together God's way.

We know that the base of a strong community and a strong church is strong Christian marriages and families. Join with us in asking the Lord to bless this young couple and that all the singles in the church would find their mate in Christ.

Three weeks later and 2800 miles away another couple was united in holy matrimony. My brother Steve received his bride Kezia. I was honored to be his best man.



Johana and Marcos were married September 3 in Cúa



Steve and Kezia were married September 23 in Rochester.

New Drum Set, No Drummer

We received a bit of sad news in late September. Carlos Enrique, our 17-year-old drummer took an opportunity to study in a good university in the western Venezuelan city of Maracaibo.

While this is good news for Carlos, it is a bummer for Siempre Con Cristo as Carlos is a great kid, a good drummer and we had high hopes for him as a worship and youth leader.



Praise God for the new drum set, purchased with special offerings to the church and installed the end of September.

Ironically, for months Carlos had been eagerly awaiting the arrival of the drum set that was donated earlier in the year. We finally accumulated all the accessories needed and installed it four days after he left. Praise God... I guess...

Miscellaneous

- ⇒ Reminder: New mailing address as of last month
- ⇒ September Sunday Attendance Average: 63
- ⇒ Friday Youth Attendance Average: 25
- ⇒ Vehicle Fund: \$3,000 (goal: \$20,000)

Prayer/Praise Points

- ◆ **Praise** for the baptisms of Neves, Celeste, and Ireles.
- ◆ **Praise** for the marriages of Marcos and Johana, Steve and Kezia.
- ◆ **Pray** for God's guidance as we fire up more cell meetings and add a Sunday service.
- ◆ **Pray** for God to raise up leaders as the Church grows and adds meetings.

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