



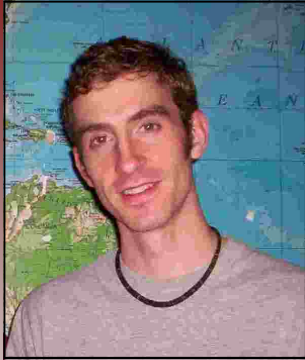
DECEMBER 2006

Team Expansion

# Together Venezuela

Church Planting with Sam Schutz

CARACAS, VENEZUELA  
CÚA, VENEZUELA  
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA



## Venezuela 2006

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

Matthew 16:18

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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.

## Happy Birthday Jesus!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We ended 2006 on a very high note. On December 10, Siempre Con Cristo held its Christmas service and celebration. 125 people attended the single service! Afterwards we ate hallacas and awarded Certificates of Appreciation to those who have been serving in the Church.

With high attendance in December we ended the year averaging 69 in Sunday attendance. This was below our yearly goal but, considering the circumstances, was a success. For more information on this and an evaluation of all our 2006 goals check out the PMP review on page 2.

The year 2006 was an amazing first year as a full-time missionary, replete



Eric hands Rosalia a Certificate of Appreciation for hosting one of our two mid-week cells.

with challenges and accomplishments, struggles and successes. One giant success was the support, financial and otherwise, provided by you, the faithful partners in this ministry. Thank you very much and may God bless you in 2007.

With Joy in Christ,  
Sam

## Chávez Re-Elected

On December 4, Hugo Chávez Frias was elected for another 6 years as President of Venezuela. Emboldened by the 35% margin of victory, he soon declared measures to further his socialistic regime including nationalizing the telecommunications industry and renaming his country as the Socialistic Republic of Venezuela.

Meanwhile, many citizens are concerned that Venezuela is slouching towards Cuba. Sugar is in short supply apparently due to government rationing.



Diego and I got in the voting line at 4am.

And our teammate Matt Johnson continues to wait for his religious visa. Please pray for the future of Venezuela

# 2006 PMP Review

1. **Serve as missionary on Cúa sub-team leading Siempre Con Cristo (Cúa church) to be an indigenous church**
  - Self-propagating
    - 120 average Sunday attendance
    - 50 baptisms
  - Self-governing
    - Leadership development (see below)
  - Self-supporting
    - 1.200.000 Bs. monthly offering
2. **Serve as youth pastor for Siempre Con Cristo**
  - 40 average Friday attendance
  - 10 youth baptisms
  - Capacitate 4-6 youth as small group leaders (José Manuel, Hilda, Carolina, Carlos Enrique, Manuel, Jessica...)
  - Hold monthly youth staff planning and capacitation meetings
3. **Lead worship for Siempre Con Cristo Sunday services**
  - Hold Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon rehearsals
  - Train Carlos Enrique as Drummer
  - Train Noel on Bass
  - Raise up keyboardist
  - Identify potential Sunday worship leader (Noel, Carlos Enrique)
4. **Lead worship for Friday youth group**
  - Hold Thursday night rehearsals
  - Train Abril as vocalist
  - Train Nufrachi as vocalist
  - Train José Manuel as vocalist
  - Train Reni as vocalist and guitarist
  - Incorporate more musicians from Cúa (Marta, Juan Carlos, Génesis, Manuel)
  - Identify potential youth worship leader (Reni, José Manuel, Carlos Enrique)
5. **Lead worship in Wednesday Night Cell meetings**
6. **Lead worship in Thursday Night Cell meetings**
7. **Attend Monday morning church staff meetings**
8. **Attend Tuesday morning sermon prep and accountability time with Pastors Eric, Diego, and Julio**
  - Prepare youth messages with Julio
  - Assist with Cell lesson and sermon prep
9. **Be apprentice to Eric**
  - Leadership training
  - Preaching and teaching
  - Missionary methods
10. **Attain fluency in Spanish and further cultural adaptation**
11. **Successfully make visa renewal trip in August and December**

**Achieved**

69 average Sunday attendance  
 24 baptisms (120 and 50 were chosen expecting partnership with other church and its pastors)  
 See below  
 1.534.000 Bs.

**Not Achieved**

24 average attendance  
 16 youth baptisms  
 Not achieved (youth group strategy changed after separation from other church)  
**Note:** after church separation, youth pastor duties were shared between Chatty and myself until Dairo was named youth pastor in December

**Achieved**

Achieved  
 Achieved (basically trained himself)  
 Achieved  
 Not achieved (no keyboardist, no keyboard)  
 Achieved (Noel has led worship and has done extremely well, he led during my six week absence)

**Achieved**

Achieved  
 Not achieved (separated from SCC with other church)  
 Not achieved (busy with college, gave up lessons)  
 Not achieved (gave up lessons)  
 Achieved (is improving; faithful and hardworking)  
 Achieved (Noemí – vocals; others beginning lessons)  
 Achieved (Renny has led youth worship regularly and is improving weekly)

**Achieved**

**Achieved**

**N/A** (this meeting was discontinued after the church separation)  
**N/A** (time proved more social than productive; stopped attending to use time working on my own)

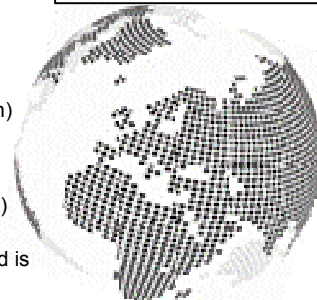
**Partially achieved**

Partially achieved (much was learned, not as much as I had hoped)  
 Partially achieved  
 Achieved

**Achieved**

**Achieved**

Here is a review of my goals for 2006 as outlined in my Personal Ministry Plan. Two points of note: (1) When these goals were established in January 2006, Siempre Con Cristo had merged with another Cúa church which decided to separate from us three months later; (2) The Barry family was away on furlough for two months during the summer during which time church growth was checked. If you have any questions about this PMP Review, do not hesitate to contact me.



**Prayer/Praise Points**

- ◆ **Praise** for a fruitful 2006
- ◆ **Pray** for a fruitful 2007
- ◆ **Pray** for my move from Caracas to Cúa and the challenges that come with moving into a new house
- ◆ **Pray** for stability and safety in Venezuela

