



Pastoral team retreat

So, a rather big event has happened in the Walker household since our last prayer letter. Drum roll please.... We watched Star Wars for the first time. I throw this in because for some of you it will be vitally important (which one, which one?!). Apologies to those of you who think this news is not deserving to be in a prayer letter. But now that I have your attention, please read on to find out about sticks that walk, a feast of Biblical Theology, visitors galore and multiple motoring mishaps.

God's Big Picture

Andrew and I have been greatly encouraged in our Bible reading over the years by having a better understanding of how the Bible fits together. As students, we were both introduced to biblical theology (how the whole Bible points to Jesus) at Bible Overview talks on a student conference. So, we've been thrilled to use a series called 'Creation to New Creation' at church, accompanied by a weekly, more in-depth online course, open to the whole diocese. The sign up for the course has been better than we hoped, with about 45 people joining from all over Argentina. *Please pray for our church, and all the people on the course, to really rejoice in God's overarching plan of salvation for humanity and for us to be stretched and challenged as we read or re-read bits of the Bible we don't normally look at.*

Reaching Out – Mendoza Gospel Conference! 21–22 June

Last year we held our first ever conference, thinking about relational evangelism. This year, we're doing it all over again, spreading the invitations out further and trying to link with more churches in Mendoza. So far there's



Building on the church roof

been a good response. Lack of churches is not a problem around here, but a lack of unity and suspicion of other Christians is very common. We obviously can't be on the same page as all the other churches, but we hope and pray that a conference like this could bear fruit as we unite around core gospel truths and the need to share them with the lost.

Please pray for our team from Chile, coming to preach and serve. Please pray that we would find enough accommodation for everyone! It's a very rustic kind of conference – mattresses on floor kind of stuff – but we do want to be able to host as many people as possible.

Please do pray for our church building too. We've had various structural issues with the roof and foundations plus waterworks issues with the bathrooms. We'd love it to be resolved by the conference! Please pray for the work, praise God with us for provision of finances to cover a huge project and pray that we would be able to bless others with our church building.

Visitors aplenty

We are very thankful to the Lord for a great time with Andrew's parents. We had a wonderful time in the south of Argentina and sharing life here in Mendoza. We also had some visitors from Oxford and an Easter visit from a Crosslinks family serving in Chile. It was a lovely time of fellowship. Our Easter services were a real joy, especially our Good Friday meeting which we shared with a local evangelical church. It's wonderful seeing people together from different cultures and languages and backgrounds worshipping together.



Our Easter service

A slide of Mendoza life

We celebrated Maia's 12th birthday recently and, as it was a bank holiday, we went for a walk with family friends (between us we are 6 adults and 14 kids!!). During the walk we had the great excitement of finding an enormous stick insect with what we assumed was a baby on its back, but after some zoological investigation we discovered it was actually the male! Who knew?! We love these little random moments! Andrew and I also had the treat of going on a hike the other day – without the children. Usually, Mendoza has unbroken blue skies and blazing sun, even in winter, but every place has its down days. When we reached the summit (2100m – after a 900m ascent) we could see each other and some fog. But it was still a good walk and a reminder of what hiking in the UK is like.

Other news, for all you Top Gear fans, is that we had a tyre stolen from our car. Then, a few days later someone backed into the side of it and dented the back door. This means we've had a lot of insurance admin and we'll lose our car for a week while it gets repaired. We're thankful we can get everywhere we need to by bike and we're hoping the week in question won't be too cold. There are a couple more car anecdotes, but I can't do them justice in the word count!



Walking sticks – male and female!!!

Coming up

We're very much looking forward to the arrival of my sister and family who will be visiting in July! Andrew, Francisco and Elisa will be travelling to Buenos Aires for the winter youth camp, there's a pastors' retreat and some Sunday School (Uvitas) training for the leaders which I'll be running. There will undoubtedly be lots of unexpected things that pop up too, so thank you for your prayers and please do keep on praying!

Much love in Christ,
Andrew, Bethanie, Maia, Emilio, Lucy and Noah xxxxx

If you would like to receive slightly more regular updates by WhatsApp, please do get in touch directly or via Crosslinks to ask how.

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