



Alf and Hilary Cooper

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Location: Chile



What we do: Working to see churches planted and multiplied in Chile and beyond through pastoring La Trinidad de Las Condes church.



Bringing hope where people have given up on God and the church

Dear, faithful prayer partners,

Where else, by who else, when, ever, was such unexpected and surprising news brought to earth? The Son of God, Jesus, born in Nazareth of a virgin Jewish maiden, come to remove all barriers to God and make him known to us, a lost people! We celebrate and make known this news at Christmas, especially to those who have not yet met the crucified and risen Jesus.

Thank you for your prayers over another very eventful year for the Kingdom of God here in our corner of the Vineyard! I always say that when we get to heaven, only then will we be able to measure how much prayer it was that moved the work of the Kingdom of God down here on earth! So, thank you, with all our hearts, for your prayers!

The kind of events I mention are: 1) a new TV programme with a converted director in our church, 2) a nationwide assembly in La Trinidad, 3) the successful renewal and transitioning of the Rancagua mission into a parish church, complete with pastor, 4) the planting of the new mission in Santa Cruz, 5) the reopening of the Batuco mission, 6) the remarkable blessings over our evangelistic events and subsequent arrival of new people to our Trinidad community.

First, a bit of **an announcement**: Next year Hilary and I are planning, together with CMS, what we are calling **the Cooper Celebration Tour**, after 50 years of service (although Hilary has put in 71 years!). We hope to be in the UK from mid-May to mid-August and will try to get around as many of our link churches as possible. This won't mark the end of our ministry, but this is likely to be our final lengthy UK trip before we cease to be mission partners, which should be in 2026. We hope to simply enjoy being with all of you after so many years of fellowship – so please do get in touch to book a date as soon as you are able.

Events from the past year

1) The new TV programme is called **Con Dios y Ley** (with God and Law), in contrast to **Vasco Moulián's** past anarchic programme, Sin Dios ni Ley (implying No God nor Law). Vasco's story in itself is wonderful. So anarchic was his life that he became totally enslaved to alcohol and drugs until, amazingly, he ended up in our church through some friends with whom he played sport. He came to Christ, began being discipled and then came to me asking if I would accompany him on a new television programme that was growing in his



Our new TV programme, Con Dios y Ley

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**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



heart. So far, we have recorded three programmes that started well on YouTube and on open television. We already have a viewing of 50,000 and wish for this programme to influence Chile with a new (for secular TV) Christian outlook. So, our programme, with outrageous guests, commentaries on politics and recent events, scandals and court cases, is taking off! We are loving it.... This needs very urgent prayer! You can find the new programme on YouTube under CDYL.

2) During the first days of October we were very honoured. A national body representing 80 per cent of Chilean evangelical churches (**Plataforma Evangélica Nacional**, or PLENA) asked if they could have their biannual assembly in La Trinidad! They were intrigued by what they called this **“Anglicostal” church**. After my PhD thesis, where I propose that all churches have access to full Pentecostal blessings, I have become the centre of intrigued inquiry among my Pentecostal brethren! So, for three wonderful days we hosted, fed and listened to brothers and sisters, and received many reports and testimonies of how the gospel has been spread and continues to be spread in Chile today! We interacted very happily and set new goals, made corrections to our roadmap and were greatly encouraged by the Lord! **Revival in Chile** is still top of our agenda!

3) As we have been reporting, the **Rancagua mission** came under our pastoral care and has prospered to the extent that we were able to install **Angello Salse as pastor of the new church**. After some teething problems in relation to a new vision coming to an older mission, we are seeing very encouraging growth. Sundays now top 50 members where previously we had only 15. Much prayer for Angello and Anita, please!

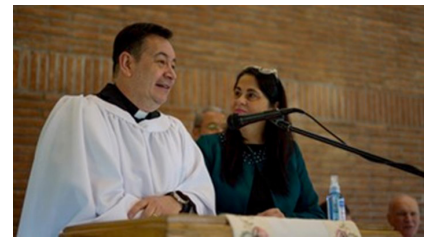
4) Similarly, our co-pastor Juan Luis Navarro has been busy planting a **new mission in Santa Cruz!** So he disappears every other weekend and comes back full of good news about the latest converts in this new territory.

5) We rejoiced together over the reopening of the **Batuco mission** in an ex-police station that was donated to the Anglican church during Piñera’s presidency. It has been a long haul to rebuild this venue and now to bring together Mapuche Anglicans, resident in Santiago, with a core team that will launch social projects in the neighbourhood. A Catholic mission will also take part in this exciting venture in a very depressed section of the city where immigrants reside and need jobs.

6) This coming weekend we are about to go into the next **Cursillo** (we have six of these per year). It has been remarkable how our Marriage Encounters, in person and online, Cursillos, Leones (men’s retreats), and women’s, children’s and youth events are all filling up like never before! Something is in the air. **Our welcome team and beginners’ groups** are becoming difficult to handle with all the new people who are arriving. There is a blessed sense of things getting out of control and falling necessarily under the total control of the Holy Spirit! Maybe that is what we have been praying for when we ask for revival! Keep helping us in prayer!

Fond Christmas embraces (“abrazos”) to you all,

Alf and Hilary Cooper



Photos from top to bottom: Hilary and I over the hand-scripted Bible at the PLENA assembly; Angello Salse’s ordination and installation at Rancagua church; reopening of the Batuco mission; welcome group receiving newcomers including Vasco Moulián



Bringing hope where people have given up on God and church

We’ve loved hearing recent mission stories from others in our area of work.

Jonathan in Ecuador has grown spiritually and got his first job as he’s gained life skills, and a Breakfast Club in Hull celebrated 25 years of food, community and steps of faith.

Read more at churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope