



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

Dearest praying partners in mission,

Thanks, as ever, for your prayers and loving concern expressed regularly through WhatsApps, emails and calls. We feel your love and the prospect of seeing you again soon fills us with happiness!

Cooper Celebration Tour

Someone at CMS realised that we had been “doing mission” for more than 50 years. They meant that Alf returned to Chile with SAMS in 1975. Hilary, of course, has been on mission all her life as she came out to Cholchol in 1953 with her parents at the tender age of one! CMS suggested we come for a “Cooper Celebration Tour” during 2025 (we know, it sounds like The Rolling Stones!). So, we took up the idea and have been planning accordingly. We hope to arrive in the UK on 3 May and leave (after an Ireland tour and a CMS conference) in early August. The news leaked and we already have bookings throughout May up until 1 June as well as the final weeks of July in Ireland. The rest of June and early July are still open.

As well as celebrating 50 years, this will mark the start of a season of transition for us – this will be our final tour of UK churches as CMS mission partners. During 2026 we will both reach the point of being officially retired and supported through our pensions, though we will of course still be connected to CMS and keep our passion for sharing Jesus! Plans will fall into place over the next year so we will share more about our plans and how you can keep supporting the vital work of making disciples over the coming months. We would like to see as many of you who have been our faithful supporters over the years as we can during this visit – so please get in touch soon so we can book that in. We would love to see you.

Con Dios y Ley (with God and Law)

As we mentioned in our previous letter, we are very excited about our new TV programme, aired weekly on YouTube and on Chilean TV. The story behind it is that a very well-known Chilean TV producer, Vasco Moulián, used to direct a TV show called Sin Dios ni Ley (pun on Ley) (No God nor Law). It was an anarchic programme as the title suggests and as its director lived out. However, Vasco fell afoul of drugs, alcohol and reckless living and ended up in the swamps of failure, rejection and emptiness. By his own confession, he was lost. Then, as God moves so mysteriously, he came to our church through friendly contacts, was converted to Christ (almost like Paul of Tarsus) and was disciplined for months, together with his partner, Claudia. One day, he came to me



Alf and Hilary thinking about the Cooper Celebration Tour in Cachagua

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



and said, "Pastor, I can no longer resist what I feel God is telling me to do: a new programme called Con Dios y Ley" (Under God and Law). I expressed my instant approval and then he informed me: "Great! And by the way, you are in the programme!" So we began filming that next Monday, 21 October. He arranges for top politicians and controversial national figures to interact with our biblical testimony, presenting alternatives to Chile's present political and cultural scene. We have filmed 17 episodes so far (https://youtu.be/dli_L1LLfe0), with exciting results. One ex-presidential candidate who we had on the programme later came to Christ. Others have expressed the remarkable

effect the programme has had on them. Vasco's baptism (also on YouTube: <https://youtube.com/shorts/m1prxj1LBA?si=y3sfki4mXJ2KgBP1>) has been seen by a massive following. CMS's manager in Latin America Paul Tester came to one of the shoots and can tell you about it!

New bishop and archbishop

On 12 January, the Anglican Province of Chile came together in the Grange School assembly hall, represented by 350 leaders and members of la Iglesia Anglicana de Chile (IACH). The occasion celebrated, on the one hand, the consecration and installation of a new bishop over the metropolitan region, Juan Esteban Saravia, and also the naming of the new archbishop, Enrique Lago. We also thanked God for the blessing of retiring Bishop Héctor "Tito" Zavala's pioneering ministry among us as Chile's first national archbishop. The occasion celebrated the necessary handover to the newer bishops and pastors of our church in Chile and we rejoiced together over all that has been accomplished and continues to challenge us as the IACH, now and into the future.



La Trinidad on holiday

It is almost a joke to think of our church on holiday. We have had to maintain the beginners' group as every Sunday new people show up. All three services have continued to function normally in order to accommodate the congregations that arrive. Our pastors are taking turns at these and with the prayer meetings. Hilary and I are meanwhile enjoying the south and the lakes here, and even though we are on holiday, everywhere we go the Lord opens up wonderful opportunities with family or acquaintances to share Christ and his salvation. We are becoming more radical as we share the gospel. We have no time to lose. We realise there is widespread ignorance about how people can come to Christ and must come to Christ. So we expect to be sharing these urgencies as we now come to see you.... Pray for us, please.

With our love,
Alf and Hilary



Photos from top to bottom: Consecration of Bishop Juan Esteban Saravia; together with son Jahnn at the consecration; the set of Con Dios y Ley; grandchildren visiting the set!



Bringing hope where people have given up on God and church

We've been encouraged to hear stories from others who are part of our wider area of work. In Honduras, Carlos had a change of heart working with a Christian ministry, and in the UK Garry Ion reports on how Carlisle's Community Shed is sharing skills, community and Jesus. Read more at churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope