



Andrew and Lisa Peart

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Location: Bolivia



What we do: Partnering with the local church to engage with the community in pioneering mission through generous, creative hospitality



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

¡Feliz Navidad!

We send you sunny and very warm greetings from Bolivia as we approach the slightly longer days of summer and you enter the shorter, cosier days of winter. We're celebrating our ninth Christmas season in Santa Cruz, not that I'm counting! Wherever you celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus this year, may it be a blessed time of peace and joy!

As we lead up to Christmas, I've been reflecting on the story of a particular part of Jesus' birth as written in Luke 2:6-7: *"While they were there the time came for the baby to be born and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger because **there was no room** for them in the inn."*

This year, good friends of ours in England have **made room** for our daughter, Liliana, to live with them while she takes a gap year and applies to universities in the UK, allowing us to return to Bolivia knowing she's safe and in caring hands. She has a lovely room, which is much more than physical shelter – they've **made room**, welcoming her into their family of four, providing a safe space for her to settle into a country that she's not lived in for the last eight years. They've **made room** at their kitchen table for family fellowship, nourishment and a home to return to on uni breaks. We are so grateful.

In 2019/20 we **made room** for Daniela to live in our home for one year after she reached the age of adulthood and was no longer allowed to live in the orphanage she grew up in. This was both wonderful and challenging for us as a family. Five years on, she's finished high school, has a job and a place of her own, yet knows that there is always **room for her in our home, at our table and in our lives**. We look forward to spending Christmas together again this year.

The Bible study in the toilets

Jenny and Richard, our microfinance partners who we walk alongside, investing in their lives and their public toilet business, **make room** for people in their neighbourhood to sit at their table and study God's Word weekly, offering them a safe place to be heard and share life together.

They also **make room** for 70 people living on the edges of society to receive both physical and spiritual nourishment once a month in this same space. It's not just on these days that they **make room**, it is pretty much a daily thing! Pray for those who come to know that Jesus makes room for them in his house, too.



Anayah, Liliana and Daniela hugging goodbye before our UK visit, June

Support Andrew and Lisa Peart:
churchmissionsociety.org/peart

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



This summer while in the UK, we were nourished by a host of gracious strangers, wonderful friends and treasured family who all **made room** in their churches, lives and homes for us to eat, sleep, and share stories well into the night – we are no longer strangers, but friends.

A highlight was a Taste of Bolivia evening in our sending church in Hartley Wintney.

Making room is the heart of biblical hospitality. It requires sacrifice, rooting out our self-centredness, draws us into the light of authentic community. We as a family continue to learn from those we walk alongside, being both guest and host in our context.

I'm fascinated that there was no room at the inn for the birth of our King Jesus, yet he is the one who **makes room** for us and others at his table and asks us to do the same. I recommend Christine Pohl's book Making Room – it unpacks this theme beautifully!

We'd love you to pray that our long-anticipated community garden project is less project and more **making room** and space to **practise hospitality**. In our last update we spoke of rising costs and other challenges we've been facing in getting this going. **Continue to pray** that we would trust the Lord is working these challenges for his good purpose! We look forward to sharing an update on the project soon.

Anayah and I had an interesting welcome "home" to Santa Cruz in October which included lost luggage, air contamination (forest fires) resulting in school closures, roadblocks, ruling political party infighting, fuel shortages and increased prices on just about everything.

Thankfully, due to rain, the forest fires that raged for five months are now under control. **Please pray** for the restoration of natural habitats, wildlife and the livelihoods that have been destroyed. Also pray for wisdom for local and national leaders and peaceful governance in the run-up to the 2025 elections.

Anayah danced beautifully in a production of The King of Pop, a tribute to Michael Jackson three weeks after we returned to Bolivia. So impressive that she learned the choreography by video while in the UK, while her dance team had three months!

Andrew is due back in December, please pray that there are no more delays in his return. We really miss him.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for making room for us in your lives through prayer and your generous hospitality. As always, we treasure your continued support and partnership in the gospel, allowing us to invest in people like Richard, Jenny and others.

Bendiciones en Cristo,

Andrew, Lisa, Liliana and Anayah x



Photos from top to bottom: A Taste of Bolivia evening at our sending church, St John's Hartley Wintney, September; Anayah at her King of Pop dance tribute to Michael Jackson; outreach lunch at Jenny and Richard's; Peart family time, Isle of Lewis, Scotland



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