



## **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



Discovering creative ways to share the hope

**■ F** of Jesus with people unconnected to church

## Hello friends!

Warm greetings to you, we hope you've had a lovely summer and are now enjoying the fresh autumnal mornings and evenings! We had an unusually chilly winter in Santa Cruz, but the 30+ temps we have now are making up for it! In fact, as I write it's still 30 degrees at 10pm!

Since our last link letter we've had the opportunity to practise our hospitality skills, welcoming visitors from near and far to our home in Santa Cruz: our daughter Liliana, our mission development manager Paul, Bishop Walter's daughter and family, and several birthday celebrations that filled the house with teenagers, laughter and karaoke. We also host a small group during the week from our church. We love how gathering around the table fills our home with joy,



Being guests in Cochabamba

connects people with each other and the Lord, and strengthens our own faith. We also love having guests stay, giving us the chance to "show off" Santa Cruz and the work that we partner with God in doing. Anyone reading this, know you are welcome too!

In July, the tables were turned – we had the chance to be guests as we travelled to the beautiful Bolivian city of Cochabamba, in a valley nestled in the Andes, and best known for being the City of Eternal Spring. There we spent time with the Anglican church, La Trinidad, being encouraged by the work they are doing in the community. Anayah particularly enjoyed the breadmaking workshop with about 30 others from the local community. Making bread by hand is a wonderful way to build friendships as you spend time mixing, kneading and waiting for the dough to rise, twice!

While there, Andrew gave a taster to get people interested in F4 (Financial Freedom for Families), the course that he and Raul from our church in Santa Cruz started by Zoom at La Trinidad in August. We also visited a church plant in another part of the city, in which the local community meets weekly to knit and craft, making things which they then sell to generate income for the community. We were surprised to be welcomed as guests of honour, having a lovely lunch together – our second of the day! Bolivians are known for their very generous hospitality – we left with pretty knitted jumpers and full tummies.

Andrew travelled to La Paz with Paul (CMS) when he visited, and Sara (from Five Talents), to perceive the possibility of starting savings groups with a church plant in a rural indigenous area two hours outside of the city. Five Talents is a micro-enterprise development organisation that we collaborate with through our microfinance programme and Sara, from Tarija, Bolivia, works alongside local communities, training them



in financial stewardship and sustainability. We are so blessed to work with likeminded people who are keen to join Jesus and make disciples at the edges.

We've recently broken ground, literally, on the community garden – a space to be present, listen to the local neighbourhood and offer hospitality as a natural gateway to share Jesus. The garden at the front of the church now has two retaining walls and a new drainpipe coming from the roof that takes the rainwater to a reservoir from where we can water the garden! The next step will

be relocating some of the plants that have taken over the space, pruning some very large trees to allow light into the garden and putting in healthy soil and sod. This will be followed by inviting the local community together with our church to get our hands dirty and plant. We recently held a life group social evening where we planted seeds and looked at the parable of the sower, connecting it to the importance of being in a small life group during the week to help us grow in our knowledge and love for the Lord and others. When these seeds grow up, we hope to plant them in the community garden.

The Bible study in the toilets, led by our microfinance partners, Jenny and Richard, is going strong. We're currently studying the Gospel of Mark, having spent 1.5 years studying John's Gospel. It's a beautiful community who are really keen to know God and make him known to others in their context. Recently we've started going out to pray for others in the local park. Lisa has been getting together with the ladies for coffee once a month to get to know them on a deeper level – it was really special that Anayah got to join in while she was on school holidays.

I wrote in the last link letter about our friend Adviento, his faithful participation in this Bible study, his health struggles and how much this community rallied around him to love and look after him through it all. Sadly, in May, Adviento passed away at the age of 50. We miss him, his beautiful heart and smile. I'll write more on his life and what it meant to us in our Christmas reflection.

In October, the LOGOS English classes will start up again in our church. Please pray for our team of teaching assistants recruited from the public university in Santa Cruz. These young ladies, studying to be English teachers, are just finishing up their third year of uni. I am encouraged by their commitment and enthusiasm. Please pray for the teachers and students to feel welcomed as we build a Christ-centred community of learners.

Thank you for your continued love and support which allows us to continue to share the hope of Jesus out in the local community.

Much love and every blessing,

Andrew, Lisa, Liliana and Anayah x



**Photos from top to bottom:** Anayah making bread, building community at La Trinidad Church in Cochabamba; breaking ground – community garden project; Bible study in the toilets; LOGOS English team 2025–26



## Discovering creative ways to share the hope of Jesus

It's so encouraging to hear news from other CMS partners sharing the hope of Jesus with people not yet connected to churches. In the UK, CMS's Pioneer Mission Training programme is equipping people to respond creatively to the Holy Spirit beyond the boundaries of traditional church. Read more and get inspired by other stories of hope at churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope

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