

## Alf and Hilary Cooper

Link Letter no. 39 | April 2023

Contact details: acooper@iach.cl



## Location: Chile

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

Very faithful prayer partners,

How we praise God for your faithful prayers. We learn again and again that prayer is the true combustion behind the ministry!

Recently we have been developing Casa de Oración, a concept that comes from a Brazilian Presbyterian church where they are enjoying 24-hour revival in prayer and worship. We have been visited again and again by the precious Holy Spirit, as also on Sundays, with a glorious presence and power that is somehow all we want or need from heaven!

At times it has felt like the Asbury revival is here as well when we cannot stop worshipping and communing around the living God. We hold a once-a-month prayer day when we pray all day and finish with a special night honouring the Holy Spirit.



Evening of prayer for parents and their children

Miracles flow from there: young babies healed through their operations, young children set free from spiritual oppression, married couples brought close again as they join together in prayer.

## Play the video to see a part of Casa de Oración: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vuLInoqrfJM</u>

We have been exploring new ministries. One is parent–children ministries, where we join together parents and their children in an evening of intercession and prayer and fun. One such evening brought prophetic and practical words as to how to defend our children from the confusing education they are receiving relating to sexual and gender issues in schools. The parents in the group are planning visits to head teachers, informing them that they will not send their children to such classes.

In February we celebrated a big picnic after church where we sang, danced, played and declared Christ to all in the park.

Another new ministry is to the 25–40 year olds, a special age group. We call it LIFE. People in this group are often newly married, in their first jobs and usually exhausted. They fall asleep in cell groups and sermons and sometimes have to carry babies in their arms all service. So they come together in parks, in retreats and have fun together in families. Their timings are often different to that of the rest of church.

Support Alf and Hilary Cooper: churchmissionsociety.org/cooper With Jesus With each other To the edges They recently took over our home for a day and just relaxed!

Together with new ministries we have also been reviving older ministries we know to be effective. This year we are holding three marriage encounter weekends in person and three EMOnline weekends where people join online from all over the world (the last one received people from Manchester!). So we are running six marriage encounter weekends for the first time!

We had such an amazing family time this summer with the visit of the Cooper Macks (Ryan, Mariana and four grandchildren) from Chicago. They first celebrated those special days in Buenos Aires with Mariana's family when Argentina won the World Cup and then came over for the New Year. There couldn't have been a nicer family moment!

A wonderful advance! Just before my PSC (pre-submission committee) where I took the first of two final exams towards completing my doctorate. It means that when we go to the UK this year it should be our last OCMS residency (unless something goes terribly wrong!). So we will be in Oxford from mid-May to the end of June, hoping to do my final submission in June and await my viva in August or September.

We will be available, as always, to visit your churches. We would love to see you. Some of you have already invited us but some we missed last year in 2022. At present the only Sundays left are 28 May and 11 and 25 June. If you would like to invite us please reply to us directly by email (acooper@iach.cl) and we will arrange a visit.

With our love, Alf and Hilary









Photos from top to bottom: We shared such a wonderful holiday with family in Lake Caburga again, together with Cooper cousins who holiday there every year; moving towards completing the doctorate; views of lake Caburga and evening barbecues – a lovely rest!



## **Going further with Church Mission Society**

Jesus never gives up. Neither should we. We live in a fractured, hurting world. It can be tempting to give up: on hope, on people, on the idea that things can ever change. Yet, Jesus invites us to follow him on a journey to the edges. Find out more at churchmissionsociety.org/nevergiveup

If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@ churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400. Church Mission Society is a mission community acknowledged by the Church of England. Registered Company No. 6985330 and Registered Charity No. 1131655 (England and Wales) and SC047163 (Scotland).