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N. Beach Street CHURCH OF CHRIST

Ft. Worth, TX

To the elders and saints at N. Beach Street:

Brethren,

Early Saturday morning (March 5th) my feet touched American soil upon my return from **South America** after a long twelve day journey that took me to visit and preach in **Argentina, Chile** and **Uruguay**. *Michael Head* (New Caney, Texas), *Emilio Acevedo* (Limache, Chile) and *Ramón Vera* (Moreno, Argentina) were my traveling companions.

Argentina (February 24,27,28; March 1)

In the country where *el asado* is the normal daily meal (the equivalent of our Texas Bar-B-Q), we were schedule to preach with the church in **Moreno**, one of several suburbs of **Buenos Aires**. *Ramón Vera* and *Timoteo Guaymas* alternate in the teaching duties. The regular attendance was in the high 20's with several local visitors. Besides our daily congregational teaching assemblies, we enjoyed the warm hospitality offered by the brethren in Moreno. This is a congregation with a very bright future in Argentina.

Chile (February 22,23; March 2,3)

At the beginning of our journey we had preaching appointments with the church in **Talca**, about 3 hours south by car from Santiago. *Esteban Figueroa* and some two other men take turns in the teaching program of the church. Attendance was in the 30's with several brethren from area churches supporting the local efforts. This is a congregation given to hospitality.

In **Limache**, where *Emilio Acevedo* labors, it was a joy to be back with them after so many years. This is a good sound church with a very good future. Emilio is doing a great work here and in many other places throughout Latin America.

Uruguay (February 25,26,27,28)

We traveled by car from **Buenos Aires** to the city of **Rivera, Uruguay**, on the border with **Brazil**. This is a new work with some 20 people. *Gustavo Alsó* is doing the work of

an evangelist; financially supporting himself and his family with two part-time secular jobs.

On the 27th we went on down to **Montevideo**, the capital of **Uruguay**. We met in the home of *Aldébar* and *Hilda Saravia* on Sunday morning for Bible study and worship. A neighbor attended along with us. The small group that had formed about three years ago disbanded. We learned about this just prior to our trip to Uruguay. Aldébar is working hard in teaching others and demonstrates a genuine interest in his work.

Visiting and working with these local churches served to encourage them in their local work. None of these local churches have elders and only one (Limache) has a full-time evangelist working with the local church. Later this year I plan on returning only to Montevideo to assist Aldébar in his efforts of establishing a local church.

Ipís, Costa Rica, Preaching Trip Postponed

After the brethren in **Ipís** learned of the passing of Minnie's brother-in-law, the church in Ipís postponed the scheduled gospel meeting. We are working on setting up a new date in the coming months. We are pleased with the concern the brethren in Ipís demonstrated towards Minnie and her family.

Family Issues:

1. - *Ruben Lerma, Sr.* was not only a brother-in-law to Minnie and me, he was a gentleman and one given to helping people of all races. He died in Corpus Christi from after a massive heart attack. I spoke at his graveside service on Friday, February 5th. Ruben and Mary (his wife and Minnie's sister) were of much help to us in the early years of our married lives. We are deeply grateful to both and pray God's blessings on the Lerma family and all of their relatives.

2. - Minnie and I were informed this past week that the adoption papers are in their final stage. We are very close to finalizing the adoption process. All legal requirements have been met. The grandchildren are delighted and happy!

Conclusion:

My next preaching trip will be to Havana, Cuba, in April. I will have more info on this in my next newsletter.

Pray God's rich blessings on each one of you at North Beach. Thanks so much for your kindness, prayers and fellowship!

In Christ,
Ruben C. Amador