



# The Blackburns

## Mike, Leslie and Cameron

*Hello from the Blackburns,*

April/May 2024

People sometimes say “this must be the year of change” when several major milestone or life-events happen within a few months’ time. We have certainly had a few of those so far this year!

God took Leslie’s dad home to be with Him on April 6<sup>th</sup>. While this earthly loss leaves hearts here grieving, it is truly overwhelming to realize he is in the Presence of God, beholding sights unimaginable, and is now forever whole and always in agreement with God. Thank you to all who took the time to pray for them over the last almost two years.

Mike returned safely from his March trip to Bolivia. The medical team set up clinics in 4 different areas. In spite of a government sanctioned lock down (one day census) and some last minute road blocks – literal road blocks – God used the medical team, volunteers, pastors and missionaries to reach over 400 people with medical aid and with the gospel, acknowledging just over 100 souls saved as a result. One of these was a man with whom Mike shared the gospel .... in Spanish with no interpreter! All four churches participated in the outreach into their own community. Pray for them as they continue to follow up with individuals and families. (more daily details on this trip are available in our Facebook group - see below)

Mike worked his final days with the police department during that first week of April to close out a 20 year career with the city of Virginia Beach. He will be using up his accumulated leave days until July 1<sup>st</sup>, his official retirement date from the department.

We also now have a high school graduate! Cameron will be celebrating his new found “freedom” by working full-time for a local company that will offer him opportunity to hone his welding & fabrication skills. He has also enrolled in the Junior Volunteer program at a local fire department and will pursue some of that training in the coming months.

We are in the middle of contacting different states for our legal documents in updated form so they can be apostilled, translated and then apostilled again. These are the required forms of identifications in order to start our residency paperwork as soon as possible once arriving in Bolivia.

We were able to present the ministry at 2 mission conferences in April and one other church in May. Two of these churches have already been able to take us on for support. A church that we visited last year just notified us that they would be adding us to their missionary family as well. We praise God for every body of believers that has committed a portion of their resources to further the work of reaching souls in Bolivia. We are very humbled to have so many faithful churches here in the US partnering with us.

We are anticipating some extensive travel later in the summer to visit family members near and far. Lord willing we will schedule a few churches along those routes as God brings in the last little bit of our needed support. Thank you to each one who prays for us and who keeps up with us via email or Facebook...we thank God for you!

*Sincerely,*

*Mike, Leslie and Cameron Blackburn*

Serving With Church-Planters in Bolivia

*Visit "Blackburns to  
Bolivia" Facebook group  
for more photos/updates*

**“...with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;” Philippians 1:27**