



Tim & Christa  
**SIMMONS**

Ethan & Evan

CHURCH PLANTERS to URUGUAY



*“To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.”*

—Acts 26:18



Dear Friend,

Thank you so much for taking the time to look at our information! Uruguay is a country that has long been overlooked and forgotten by many missionaries and churches. There is a great need for Gospel-preaching churches to be planted there. Many people there are trusting in religion to save them, but religion won't save them. Only a relationship with Jesus, Who died on the Cross for them, will save them from their sins. Many others have forsaken religion altogether. Many place their hope in this present world, but what hope is there apart from Jesus? Many people go their entire lives without one time hearing a presentation of the Gospel. God has called our family to plant churches in the country of Uruguay.

Would you pray about having our family come to your church to present our burden for planting Gospel-preaching churches in Uruguay? We would be honored to be with your church family and share our heart for the people of Uruguay. If you do choose to partner with us, our commitment to you is that we will be faithful stewards in taking the Gospel to Uruguay.

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*Jim Simons*

# WHY URUGUAY?



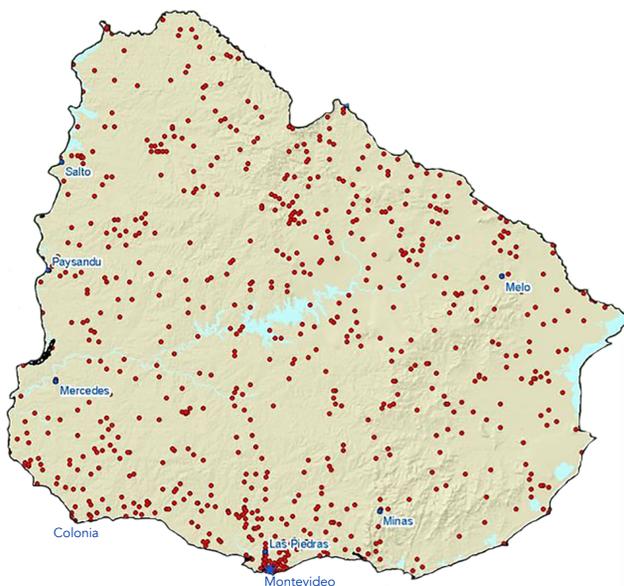
# ABOUT URUGUAY



Uruguay is the most secular and the least religious nation in Latin America. It is on the east coast of South America, south of Brazil, with a population of about 3½ million. In 1828 they became an independent nation. It is a democratic republic with complete freedom of religion. Only about 5% of Uruguayans are saved.

## CIAO

Spanish, with a mix of Italian, is the main language. It is called Rioplatense Spanish. The common word for *goodbye* in Uruguay is the Italian word *ciao*.



- Less than 2% saved  
No active church planting
- Cities over 50,000 people

Data from within 10 years  
Source: worldmap.org  
Used with permission



## MATÉ

A popular drink is *maté*. It is a loose-leaf tea, rich in caffeine with a bitter taste.

## PESOS

The American dollar is worth about 28 Uruguayan pesos.



## UMBANDA

The Afro-Brazilian religion of Umbanda is gaining popularity in Uruguay. It blends African traditions with Roman Catholicism, Spiritism, and indigenous American beliefs.



## Tim's Testimony

I grew up in a Christian home, and my dad is a pastor. When I was three, my mom showed me how to go to Heaven, and I prayed to trust in Jesus for Heaven. I can remember going out soul winning and inviting people to church on a weekly basis with my dad from a young age.

When I was 15, I went with my dad to a pastors' conference. During a Wednesday evening service on March 22, 2006, I surrendered to go into full-time ministry. I surrendered to do whatever the Lord wanted me to do with my life. I wasn't sure what it would be, but I decided to be yielded to whatever He wanted me to do. In the fall of that same year, the Christian school I went to had a missions conference. The Holy Spirit got a hold of my heart at the conference, and I surrendered to go to the mission field.

I enrolled in Hyles-Anderson College in the fall of 2010 and finished with a degree in missions in 2014. In the first week of my sophomore year, Pastor Rick Finley came and preached a salvation message. I had been struggling with doubts about my salvation. That night I trusted in Christ and got the assurance of my salvation on September 1, 2011. I met Christa the first week of college on the bus route. We dated throughout our college time, and in December of my senior year, we were married. Ethan was born the following October, and Evan was born in August of 2016.

After getting counsel, I decided not to go right into deputation from college. I did an internship at First Baptist Church with FBMI and with Keith Cowling, which I completed in May of 2017. As I was nearing the completion of the internship, I started praying about where we should go as missionaries. The Lord directed my heart specifically to the need in Uruguay. After my family took a three-week trip there in the fall of 2017, the Lord's leading was confirmed in our hearts. I am so excited about going back to Uruguay to preach the Gospel!

## Christa's Testimony

At the age of 11, my mom was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, an autoimmune disease that has no cure. My family was changed drastically with that news. I was told that my mom might not live much longer. Death became very real and scary. I began doubting everything I had been taught through the church. Was God real? If He was, then why was my mom going through this? I questioned everything about God for almost a year.

In November of 2003, my pastor began preaching a Wednesday night Bible study. I remember thinking that if something happened, I didn't know where I would go when I died. Sure, I had been brought up in a Christian home, I went soul winning, I taught a Bible school class, and I was very involved in our Bus Ministry; but had I never settled my eternal destiny. As soon as the service was over, I went to my mom and asked her to help me settle my eternal destination for when I died. Even though I knew all the verses and could quote every single one, she opened her Bible up and showed me how I could know for sure I was going to Heaven when I died. Once it was settled, I finally had the peace in my heart that I was going to Heaven.



## Our Family

We believe that as missionaries we should work together as a family to reach Uruguay for the glory of God. We desire for our children to grow up enjoying being missionaries and grateful for the opportunity. Please pray for protection, guidance, and wisdom for our family as we seek to make a difference in Uruguay.



*Ethan* means “strong, enduring, firm”. His favorite toys are trains. He loves animals. His



*Evan* means “God is gracious.” His favorite toys are cars and trucks. His favorite food is macaroni and cheese. His favorite Bible

## Special Days

Tim - 12/19

Christa - 7/8

Anniversary - 12/14/13

Ethan - 10/17/14

Evan - 8/8/16

## Our Plan

We believe it is important when beginning an endeavor, especially one as important as the proclamation of the Gospel, that a clear purpose is decided beforehand. We only have one life; therefore, it is important that we live each day intentionally and purposefully for the glory of God. We desire to be good stewards of the finances trusted to us.

**Our Vision:** To reach lost souls by multiplying Gospel-preaching churches throughout Uruguay

## Our Purpose

**WIN SOULS** Matthew 28:19

We believe that Christ’s last command should be our first priority. One-on-one soul winning still works today. We will share the good news of the Gospel personally with everyone we can, utilizing whatever methods, resources, and means we can. We believe it is important to take the time necessary to present the Gospel so that it is understood in its entirety. We will proclaim the Gospel, both at church and from house to house.

**DISCIPLE BELIEVERS** I Peter 2:2

Once someone has trusted in Christ for salvation, we cannot just leave them alone to grow on their own. Satan immediately begins to do whatever he can to try to hinder their growth. We must lovingly shepherd them in the foundational truths of the faith. We will have an organized discipleship program for new believers to be enrolled in and be discipled one on one. We will also open our lives to new believers as an example for them to follow.

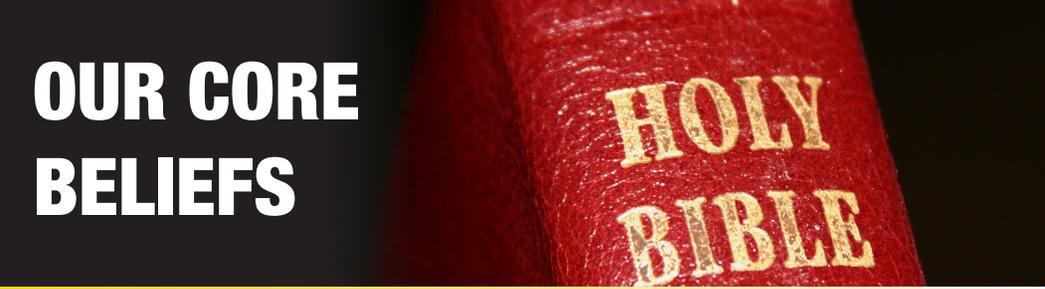
**TRAIN LEADERS** II Timothy 2:2

We will look for faithful men to train as leaders in the church and in our church plants. Once we have established a church, we will begin a Bible institute to train the nationals to reach their own people. Nationals are the only way we will reach Uruguay with the Gospel. We will follow Christ’s example of training the 12 disciples. There will be a balance of formal biblical education, one-on-one mentorship, and opportunities for involvement in the ministries of the local church. The goal is for these men to lead the churches we plant.

**MULTIPLY CHURCHES** Romans 10:14-15

Our goal is that the result of training leaders will be the multiplication of churches. There are 72 cities in Uruguay, not counting the numerous towns and villages. Most of them do not have a Gospel-preaching church. Each city, town, and village needs a Gospel-preaching church. Uruguayans rarely travel outside of their *barrio* (neighborhood), so there is also a need to plant churches in each *barrio* as well. We desire to train leaders who will pastor church plants and who will also train new leaders to do the same.

# OUR CORE BELIEFS



**HOLY BIBLE**



## THE BIBLE

We believe the Bible (the 66 books from Genesis to Revelation) to be the revealed Word of God, fully and verbally inspired of God. We believe the Scriptures to be inerrant and infallible. We believe that the King James Version is the preserved Word of God for the English-speaking people and is the only acceptable translation to be used in the church (Psalm 12:6-7; II Timothy 3:15-17).

## GOD

We believe in one God, Who is eternal, self-existent, infinite, and immutable. We believe He has one nature, one essence, and one substance, yet manifests Himself to man in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Deuteronomy 6:4; I John 5:7).

## JESUS CHRIST

We believe Jesus Christ to be eternally God and to possess all the attributes of Deity. We believe that Jesus Christ was virgin-born, that He was God incarnate, and that He lived a perfect, sinless life, at the end of which He was offered for all mankind as a substitutionary sacrifice for man's sin (Isaiah 7:14, John 1:1; Philippians 2:5-11).

## THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe the Holy Spirit of God is a person Who has personality and all the attributes of Deity. We believe He has a special ministry that began at Pentecost and will continue until the Rapture. This ministry includes reproving the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment (Genesis 1:2; John 14:16-18; Acts 1:5; I Corinthians 6:19-20).

## SIN AND SALVATION

We believe all men were born with an inherited sin nature received from our common ancestor, Adam. We believe that because of his nature, man is a sinner by choice, and he is totally incapable of reforming himself or ceasing from his sin by his own power. We believe salvation is a free gift of God received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe every born-again child of God is eternally secure in Christ with a sealed salvation. The evidence of salvation will be faith, repentance, and newness of life. (Romans 3:10-23; 5:6-12; 6:23; 10:9-13; II Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 1:13; 2:8-9; I John 5:13).

## BAPTISM

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water. It is an act of obedience following salvation that symbolizes the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. We baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:41).

## THE LOCAL CHURCH

We believe that a church is a called-out assembly. Jesus is the Cornerstone, Foundation, Head, and Chief Shepherd of every true church. Each local church is made up of baptized believers. The members God calls to lead the church are called elders or pastors. Deacons may be chosen to free the pastor to give himself more fully to prayer and the ministry of the Word (Matthew 16:18; Acts 6:1-7; Ephesians 5:23; I Timothy 3:1-2, 4-5; Hebrews 13:17; James 5:14; I Peter 5:1-4).

## SEPARATION

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord. God commands His people to separate from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and associations; and to refrain from all immodest appearances. (Romans 12:1-2; I Corinthians 6:19-20; I John 2:15-17).

## MISSIONS

We believe that God has given the church a Great Commission to proclaim the Gospel to all nations. As ambassadors of Christ, we must use all available means to go to the foreign nations and not wait for them to come to us. We believe missionaries are to be sent out of the local church (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; 13:1-3).

## Giving

We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God's wealth entrusted to him, is responsible to support his local church financially. We believe that God has established the tithe as a basis for giving, but that every Christian should also give other offerings sacrificially and cheerfully to the support of the church, the relief of those in need, and the spread of the Gospel (Proverbs 3:9-10; Malachi 3:10; Acts 4:34-37; I Corinthians 16:2; II Corinthians 9:6-7).

# RECOMMENDATIONS



Pastor Dean Noonan, Sr.  
Faith Baptist Church  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin

Dear Pastor,

It is with great joy that I recommend Tim and Christa Simmons for your consideration. They are dedicated servants of God with a very refreshing spirit. God has and is continuing to prepare this family for His amazing plan for their lives as they serve the people of Uruguay.

Christa grew up here at Faith Baptist Church of Greater Milwaukee and has always had a fervor to serve the Lord. I believe she is equipped to be a pastor's wife on the mission field. Both Tim and Christa have demonstrated the character and love for their Saviour that it will take to be faithful to the Lord on the foreign field.

I would like to encourage you to consider allowing them to represent you and your church in Uruguay. I believe that investing in this family will be a wise, eternal investment.

God bless,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Dean Noonan".

Dean Noonan  
Pastor



Pastor John Wilkerson  
First Baptist Church  
Hammond, Indiana

To whom it may concern:

This note of recommendation comes in reference to Tim and Christa Simmons.

Every serious servant of God longs to be involved in the propagation of Gospel of His Son. Finding trusted messengers to do so is a great joy to our hearts.

Brother and Mrs. Tim Simmons are great examples of dependable Christians. We believe in their obvious hearts for God and their commitment to make disciples for our Lord Jesus. They have demonstrated in college and in our First Baptist Church local ministry both seriousness and steadfastness for our Lord's work.

We readily suggest their ministry as a consideration for your church's missions program. Please feel free to call me at 219-932-0711 if further questions still exist.

God bless,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "John Wilkerson".

John Wilkerson  
Pastor

# PRAYER REQUESTS



- ◇ Churches and individuals to see the need and to pray about taking our family on for support
- ◇ Safety as we travel to raise support and then move to Uruguay
- ◇ Protection, guidance, and wisdom for us as we seek to make a difference in Uruguay
- ◇ The eyes of the Uruguayan people to be opened to their need for salvation as in Acts 26:18
- ◇ Faithful men who we can train, and for many churches to be planted
- ◇ More laborers to go to Uruguay



Why should anyone hear the Gospel twice,  
before everyone has heard it once?

-Oswald J. Smith



**WEBSITE**

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**FACEBOOK**

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**TWITTER**

[@Simmons2Uruguay](https://twitter.com/Simmons2Uruguay)

**SENDING CHURCH**

Faith Baptist Church

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(414) 301-9319 • [Faithbaptistmilw.org](http://Faithbaptistmilw.org)

**SUPPORT AGENCY**

Fundamental Baptist Missions International

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Missionary #179