

# ¡FELIZ NAVIDAD! LOVE FROM NATHAN, KATE, LILY AND DAISY

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**"ON COMING TO THE HOUSE, THEY SAW THE CHILD WITH HIS MOTHER MARY, AND THEY BOWED DOWN AND WORSHIPPED HIM. THEN THEY OPENED THEIR TREASURES AND PRESENTED HIM WITH GIFTS OF GOLD AND OF INCENSE AND OF MYRRH." MATTHEW 2:11**

## THE "ASSOCIATION RAÍCES"

For a long time we have been passionate about supporting national (Bolivian) ministries

and seeing them better resourced. So we are excited to share with you that on 10th December we signed the "act of the constitution" of the "Asociación Raices", an

association created to fund, resource and facilitate training for Bolivian Christians in ministry. The inaugural board members will be Nathan, Moisés Padilla (an elder at "Yo Soy" church) and Norma Porter (missionary with International Teams Canada). We are excited about the prospect of getting behind Bolivian Pastors, missionaries, bible college students and ministries and

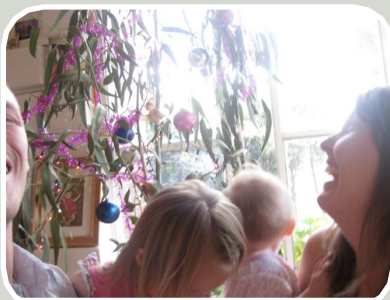


Board members of the "Asociación Raices" Moisés Padilla, Norma Porter, our lawyer Janeth Martinez & Nathan.

believe that this is the best way for churches in the developed world to bless the national Bolivian church.

## YO SOY CHURCH - JOHN 4:26

We have preached through Romans, Philippians and Jonah this year and are presently doing a Christmas series. Nathan will preach this Sunday and has been preaching about once a month. Yo Soy recently formed a worship band which has been a great addition to our services, even without a microphone or speakers. There is a bible study group on Thursdays and we have started leading a young people's group too.



This is our attempt at a family Christmas photo. As it turns out, its not easy to do a self-take with a 2 year old and a 1 year old

In Bolivia youth group includes all single people still living at home so it has a slightly different dynamic to youth group in Australia. There are 7 in our group. We have recently been encouraged by several locals who have made commitments to the Lord. It has also been great to see family members and children from the kids centre that runs out of our church during the week come along to church.

### FAMILY NEWS

While many of you already know, we are excited to tell you that **Kate is pregnant again**. We are expecting the birth of our third child in late February 2010. God willing the new addition to the family will be born in



**Matt & Elsa**

Cochabamba in the hospital where Lily was born. Sadly our doctor, Dr Peralta, has leukaemia. Please pray for him. He is presently undergoing treatment and is continuing to see his patients. We really hope that he recovers and delivers our baby.

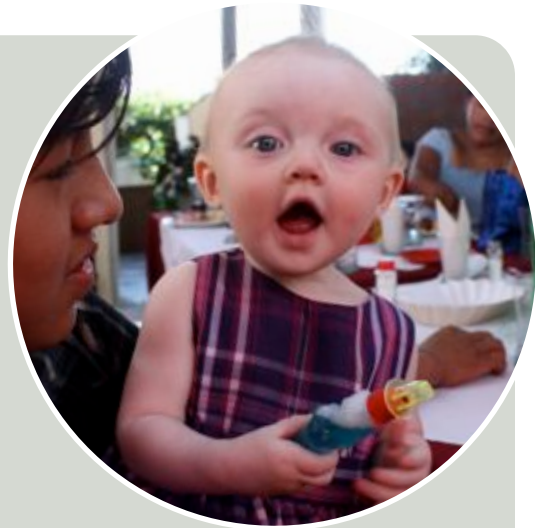
Exactly on her birthday, 22nd November, we hosted **Daisy's first**

**birthday party**. We hired out a small local lunch restaurant and together with about 60 guests enjoyed an excellent home-style Bolivian lunch. Daisy has been a great blessing to us and it was great to see so many of our friends together to celebrate her life.

We noticed recently that **Lily's eyes** seemed to not focus properly. We took her to an eye specialist who prescribed her strong glasses. If the glasses don't correct her vision within a month or so she will have to persevere with patches and may require surgery. Please pray for her and her doctor that these treatments would work.

Like in Australia, **Christmas** is a very big deal here in Bolivia. We are looking forward to Christmas and it has been fun watching the girls, particularly Lily, talk about baby Jesus and enjoy the tree, carols, decorations and all the Christmas trimmings. While it is still a special time for us, we will really miss our families and familiar traditions this time of year.

December 21 will be a sad day for us as we **farewell Matt and Elsa Johnson**, our friends and co-workers who are returning to Chicago. We have shared the highs and lows of life here in Bolivia with them for the last two years. Life here seems a little emptier without them and we will miss them very much. Please



**Daisy's first Birthday**

pray for them, for us too as they go and particularly Lily, she now associates aeroplanes with people coming and going from her life.

**Give thanks with us for the establishment of the association. Pray that the Lord would use "Yo Soy" and the children's centre to bring people into relationship with Jesus. Pray that our neighbours Gerly, Adriana and Junior, and Selma, would make life changing commitments to serve Jesus. That God would heal Lily's eyes and care for Kate and baby and the doctors who will look after them.**



**Lily's new glasses**