

# W5 on Missions

## Who... Jim & Diane McBeth

Jim was born and raised in London, ON and became a Christian at the age of 20. Diane was born in Montreal, QC but grew up in Winnipeg, Toronto and London and came to Christ at age 13. They were both actively involved at King Street United Church in London when they were



Jim and Diane McBeth with  
their son, Pedro

married in 1976. Jim graduated from Ontario Theological Seminary (now Tyndale) in 1983.

Past ministry experience of the McBeth's includes: Navigators; pastoring in three BCOC churches in Toronto, Barrie and Hamilton; and a month long mission to an orphanage in Mozambique.

Amongst Jim's hobbies are piano, guitar and working on the computer while Diane has taught folk art painting classes and enjoys cooking.

The McBeth's have five children: Ryan, Nicole, Renee, Amy and Pedrito. Pedro is with them in Bolivia.

**What...** Jim and Diane McBeth were first appointed with Canadian Baptist Ministries as Global Field Staff to Angola in February 2004. In Angola, they served in leadership development with CBM's partner, the Angolan Evangelical Church (IEA). In consultation with CBM, the McBeth's were reassigned to Latin America in September 2009.

## Where... Cochabamba, Bolivia

**What...** Jim serves as the Latin America Team Leader where he helps facilitate ministries with CBM Field Staff and the Bolivian Baptist Union (BBU).

CBM's Team Bolivia minister in various areas: Christian schools, youth and youth leader development, lay leadership development, micro-enterprise, prison children and ESL (English Second Language). Because agriculture is dominant in Bolivia, starter animals and training on improved farming techniques and raising livestock are offered to many farmers. Through this, many farmers are able to break free from the poverty cycle so prevalent in Bolivia.

Jim works in conjunction with all these ministries as he travels teaching, speaking and searching for new ministry opportunities. He seeks out beneficial partnership links

between Short Term Mission teams from Canada and the local Bolivian churches. Jim is also helping the Bolivian Baptist Union leaders to develop a five year strategic plan that will form the future ministries of the CBM/BBU partnership.

Diane is involved in the creation, realization and supervision of community development programs in integral mission. In cooperation with the Bolivian Baptist Church and their NGO, "OBADES", such programs will encourage more local churches to be actively involved in the spiritual and physical needs of their own communities.

Having completed a 12 week intensive Spanish language training program in the fall of 2009, the McBeth's continue language training on a part-time basis as they serve in their respective ministries. Jim will be putting his training to the test as he prepares to teach his first course in Spanish at the Bolivian Baptist Seminary, Cochabamba, in March.

**Why...** To further develop the historic partnership between Bolivian and Canadian Baptists for the glory of God and His Kingdom. "We are excited about the possibilities that are here. One of the blessings of being team leader is getting to work with a great team of colleagues here." (from *The McBeth Update*, December 2009)

**Lisa Lohnes**

Corresponding Secretary for UBWMU/ABW