



April 2019



Dear family and friends!

Come visit Venezuela with us

The sports field fills with children, young people, and adults as the white van approaches. The team unloads and sets up the stage and the program begins.

The silent message of the mime troupe speaks loudly enough to penetrate the hearts of gang pressured teens, some carrying guns, many enslaved by drugs. Evil stands on one side while good stands on the other hassling a young person who must choose, her facial expression showing tension until the decision is made. Finally, relief and joy radiate her happy mime face – she chooses good.



As the mime team walk behind the stage, the younger children in the audience shout, “Pedrito, Pedrito!” The familiar and long anticipated friend, Pedrito (Little Peter) the octopus puppet, pops up showing his smiling face for both young and old. With a shy tilt of

his head he talks about his many legs which makes everyone giggle. Then he tells an exciting Bible story. Pedrito adds these words, “You never have to be afraid as God will always help you!”

In Venezuela there are many reasons to be afraid.



Country in Crisis - God's intervention

The people of Venezuela continue to suffer in the midst of a significant political and economic crisis. There is not enough food or medicine. The transportation system is crumbling. Many people are dying from illnesses that could normally be treated.

TWR's national partner, Radio Trans Mundial (RTM) Venezuela, broadcasts Pedrito's children's program weekly while presenting rallies with Pedrito and the mime team in churches, slum locations and sport venues. Pedrito goes through situations these children face each day in a country experiencing a severe crisis.

But in God's perfect agenda miracles happen. A pastor tells us, "Although half of my church left the country, our church is still just as full! The other half is **filled with new members looking for God** and answers in this time of crisis."

Prayer & Praise

- Praise God for the faithful men, women and young people with RTM Venezuela who remain in their homeland. One young man says, "If we leave, we give the faith of our country into the hands of other people."
- Pray for safety, courage and strengthened faith for the RTM Venezuela team as they reach out to their neighbors and friends.
- Pray for us as we prepare to travel to Ohio, Illinois and Michigan April 25-May 15 to visit friends and family while on deputation.
- Pray for David's mom whom we plan to see while in Michigan. She has been placed in hospice. Pray for our time with her to be a blessing and encouragement.

Blessings dear ones,

David & Flora Rittenhouse

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TWR mission address:

Trans World Radio

PO Box 8700

Cary, NC 27512

1-800-456-7897

David email: drittenhouse@twr.org

www.twr.org/global_staff/rittenhouse/

Flora email: frittenhouse@twr.org

www.twr.org