

The Hodgsons' Update

Missionary life in Paraguay

Cory, Kim, Naomi, Elijah, and Timothy

March 2023

Dear Friends,
Greetings from cloudy, cold West Michigan! For the last eight or nine prayer letters, we have been writing from Paraguay and enduring the subtropical heat. In early January we left our home, friends, ministries, and warm weather for our home assignment in the USA. The snow, ice, and cold in Michigan are a big adjustment for us! There are a lot of things happening right now with the Hodgson family.



The Hodgson family in Ciudad del Este in Paraguay

Our last several months in Paraguay were a whirlwind of activity, planning, and goodbyes in preparation for our home assignment. Cory underwent his second abdominal surgery to resolve complications from the first procedure in August. We finished the Spanish Bible study in December, and also wrapped up the English and Portuguese Bible Studies around the same time. For the Portuguese Bible study, we had an end-of-year party and celebrated a year of worship, fellowship, and solid Bible teaching. Please pray these studies will continue well in our absence.

Packing up to leave for home assignment is a challenging and stressful process. We are subletting our house while we are stateside, so we had to pack all our personal belongings and make the house ready for different people. The end of the year is inevitably busy with Christmas activities and finalizing the ministry calendar. As a field, we meet together with the other missionary families on a

regular basis, which was complicated by constant sickness and travel. We were packing and sorting until the last minute and we finally let go and left our house to set out for the long trip to Michigan.



Cory preaching at Grace Christian University

Our time back “home” in Michigan has been great, and very busy. We have met with many friends and had the opportunity to see several family members. We are living with Cory’s dad in NE Grand Rapids, so the kids can play outside, sled, and make snow creations. Naomi earned her high school equivalency in November and has been accepted to attend Grace Christian University in the Fall of this year. She also just finished a nationally recognized phlebotomy course, which will allow her to work in the medical field drawing blood. Elijah and Timmy are taking classes via an online school program, which will give us flexibility to travel.

We need your prayers! We started missionary conferences a few weeks ago, and we are at a new church each weekend, and usually have several activities throughout the week. We will visit a church in Wisconsin soon, and later on in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. Once the conference circuit is done here, we will have a few weeks to regroup before hitting the road again. Our plan is to visit churches in Alabama, Texas, Arizona, and California before dropping Naomi off in Anaheim, CA for a twelve-day conference for missionary kids transitioning back into

life in the US. From there we will continue northward to the Pacific Northwest where we will begin conferences towards the end of September. Please pray for us as we present our ministries and travel the country.



CCory teaching a Spanish Bible study on Romans

Upon our return to Paraguay, Cory will begin translating some Swahili materials into Spanish. He will initially focus on two books. The first book explains evangelism in both a biblical and practical way with the goal of sending people into the community to share Christ with others. The second book is about biblical stewardship. Both books are of great value and can be used extensively throughout the Spanish-speaking world.



English Bible study at our house

Please be in prayer for our friends and coworkers Brian and Gloria Abranovich. Brian is from Argentina and Gloria is from Brazil. They have been serving in our church in Ciudad del Este and have experienced God's calling to missions with Grace Ministries International in the African country of Mozambique. They will be going there later this year with their daughter Nina after they finish some theological and cross-cultural training in Brazil.



Gloria, Nina, Brian Abranovich

We appreciate your prayers and support while we are on home assignment and as we experience many life changes in the coming months. Thank you so much for being part of our team!

In His Service,

Cory, Kim, Naomi, Elijah, and Timothy Hodgson