



OCTOBER '26

THE HODGSONS

LIFE AND MINISTRY IN PARAGUAY



Dear Friends,

Greetings from Ciudad del Este, Paraguay. It is hard to believe six months have already passed since our last letter. The Memory-Novelty Model (amongst many others) postulates that as we age, we experience fewer new and exciting events, and time seems to go faster as our memories store less information. Seeing as I (Cory) am not a neurologist, nor do I have any other qualifications that allow me to speak to this, it makes sense to me. Even though the time has passed rapidly, the last six months have been full of activity, ministry, and guests.

Our ministries in Paraguay are going well, and it is exciting to see the local believers taking over various responsibilities. The men we are training as church leaders at our first church plant, Iglesia Biblica Bereana (Berean Bible Church) in the city of Presidente Franco, continue to step up and take charge in the church. Werner and Jemi are part of the congregation and lead a weekly group for couples (both married and unmarried) who want to learn how to have a healthy, Christ-centered relationship. Freddy leads worship every Sunday and is also part of our leadership group. As a doctor, he has a very busy schedule but always prioritizes church ministry. It is exciting to see them grow and develop as they prepare to lead the congregation! The church will have a Bible conference in November and has invited Pastor Alonso Cabezas and his wife Sylvia from Costa Rica to teach and encourage the congregation.

A few months ago, we started a new ministry in the La Blanca or Km 5.5 neighborhood of Ciudad del Este. Our team has been hosting a weekly Bible study there for the past two months, and we have people from the community attending regularly and participating in the group. Please join us in praying for those who have been attending, including Wilma, a woman who has been faithfully attending every week and is a great encouragement to our team. Pray as well for Verena, a young lady from a Catholic background with a thirst to study the Scriptures and learn about Jesus.

We are also encouraged by some of the members of our Bereana Church family who have also been attending the Km 5.5 Bible study weekly and enjoying the fellowship and teaching. In addition to the adult Bible study, we have been conducting a Saturday morning children's ministry in this neighborhood for the past couple of years. Please pray for this new ministry and for the people we are seeking to reach with the Good News of Jesus Christ crucified. Our team plans to use the Bible study and children's program to launch a new church in this neighborhood in the coming year.



Bible study at Km 5.5, working towards a church plant in that neighborhood



Cheering on Paraguay in the World Cup



Elijah and his robotics team representing Paraguay at the international competition in St. Louis, Missouri

Our daughter Naomi visited us for her summer break, and we enjoyed having her with us from the beginning of May until the end of July. She has now started her fourth and final year at Grace Christian University. We are also excited that she has secured an internship at the Meyer-May House (designed by Frank Lloyd Wright) that is now a small museum. She will begin her time there in the Spring semester.

Earlier this year, our oldest son, Elijah, traveled to St. Louis, Missouri, with his robotics team to represent Paraguay at an international robotics competition. They had a wonderful experience meeting teams from around the world. Elijah's final year of high school is quickly coming to an end. He will graduate from high school in December, and we have already purchased his plane ticket for his move to Michigan next January. Please pray for Elijah as this transition looms and there are many big changes coming for him and for the rest of our family.

Our youngest son, Timmy, is finishing his school year, and he will immediately be starting the next grade. Since we are homeschooling him and we will be traveling back to the US for home assignment next April, we hope to finish his next grade before that. Please pray for him (and his teachers) as we will be fitting a whole year into a shorter time span!

Kim had her gallbladder removed at the end of March and has recovered well from that. As her body creates scar tissue, she has had some discomfort, but overall, the surgery was a success, and the pain has gone away. Cory had surgery to correct a bunion on his left foot, which involved cutting and turning the bone under his pinky toe. The recovery has been slow but steady. We also celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary on July 7th, and we are thankful for the years the Lord has given us together!

Here are some of our prayer requests:

- For Naomi as she finishes her time in college and starts an internship.
- For Elijah as he finishes his senior year and prepares for a new chapter in his life.
- For Timmy as he works hard completing his daily lessons.
- For our health and recovery from our procedures.
- For the existing church, Iglesia Bíblica Bereana, as the congregation grows and matures in Christ.
- For the new church plant in the Km 5.5 neighborhood.

Thank you for your prayers and support in our lives and ministries. We are grateful for you!

In His Service,

The Hodgson Family



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Elijah and his teammates presenting their final project for the year



Thank you to everyone who helped us with our new vehicle!



We celebrated 25 years of marriage in July



SCAN to give online

