

THE KOTVAS FAMILY

Missionaries to the Deaf and Hearing— Peru, South America & Beyond

Sending Church: Emmanuel Baptist Church – 1819 Hill Ave. Ft. Myers, FL 33901 – (239) 936-4252 – Pastor Bob Ossewaarde



April – May 2024 Prayer Letter

Dear Friends and Family,

It is wonderful to know that God is, and that He is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him. This statement from Hebrews 11:6 has been a strong tower of strength to me and has helped me increase my foundational faith and confidence in my Bible and my Savior. I thank God for these “handfuls of purpose” that He gives us on our life-faith journey.

Ministry News

As of the writing of this letter, my family and I are preparing to leave to return to Peru after three months of a short but extremely busy furlough. By the time you read this letter, we will be home and wrapping up our Mission Conference at Efata. We are so thrilled to have Spanish Pastor Fabio Betancourth coming as our special speaker from Bible Baptist Church of Bradenton, FL. During this short furlough we were able to accomplish several important goals.

1. We were able to participate and interpret the Servant's Conference at First Baptist Church, Hammond's Spanish church for a Deaf Mexican young man who attended.
2. We were able to see our two new grandsons that were born during this furlough.
3. We were able to go to Joy's Graduation from Bible College.
4. We were able to see most of our kids and family in the US.
5. We traveled over 15,000 miles and visited many of our supporting churches and several new ones.
6. I was able to take care of all my medical appointments with the VA.

One of the most awesome goals we were able to fulfill is the raising of more funds for the new church we are building for our mission work in Chancay, Peru, two-and-a-half hours north of our Lima location.

My, how God has provided through you, our wonderful supporting churches and friends. We were able to raise the initial \$25,000 for Phase 1 to build the church building which is under construction as I am writing this. This is going to relieve the pressure from the landlord taking back over half the building they currently rent.

Once the church auditorium is done, we will be working on the four classrooms and the bathrooms. If you would like to help us with this second phase, it would be a great blessing. In this letter, I have included some pictures on the back so you can see the progress.



Regarding the Deaf school, we increased our students from 5 last year after we reopened to 23 this year. We plan to open our High School again next year, and we are working towards that goal. Please pray for this very necessary part of our ministry in Lima.

The mass evangelism outreaches in Piura and Arequipa have been delayed due to Customs issues for the containers with the Bibles – Typical Peru! Pray we can get the containers in and reschedule our dates for the events.

Family News

Our children are looking forward to going home. They love Peru much more than being in the States.

It was so wonderful to see our two new grandsons. Julianne & Frank's seventh, Daniel Jediah; and Judson and Valeria's first, Joshua Ryan. Thus, so far 15 grandkids. WE ARE BLESSED!

Please know we truly are grateful for all of you, our supporting churches and individuals. Lord willing, on our next furlough, we will be able to see those we were not able to visit this time around. There just was not enough time. You are more than welcome to come and visit us.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe & Lisa'.

Joe & Lisa
Joel, Jessica, Jennifer