

**From:** Sergio F. Martinez SERGIOMARTINEZ@WOL.ORG  
**Subject:** Merry Christmas from The Martinez Family  
**Date:** December 20, 2024 at 6:29 AM  
**To:** Anita a.eis@monclovabaptist.org

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Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name **Emmanuel**, which being interpreted is, God with us. Matthew 1:23



## Our Family Wishes You a Merry Christmas!

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As we celebrate this special season, I want to take a moment to reflect on the profound meaning of one of the most beautiful names of our Lord: **Emmanuel**, "God with us." This name, which we often hear so much that we might lose sight of its significance, encapsulates the very essence of who God is and His incredible love for us.

From a Hebrew perspective, **Emmanuel** is far more than just a simple expression of closeness. It's the promise of an active divine presence: God is not only with us, but He is also at work on our behalf—protecting, guiding, and sustaining us in every moment. He is not a distant or indifferent God but one who powerfully intervenes

our lives. The name **Emmanuel** also reveals a relational God—one who desires an intimate and personal relationship with us. He didn't just create the world and leave us to fend for ourselves. He is a personal God who commits to being with us in love and faithfulness, even when we fail. In Jesus, this promise of relationship became flesh and blood. God drew near, not in theory, but in a tangible, accessible, and vulnerable way. Jesus is **Emmanuel**, God Himself among us. (Philippians 2:6-8).

There's another powerful aspect of **Emmanuel**: He is a God who suffers and walks with His people. Throughout history, God has not been a distant observer; He has been present in every moment of trial and pain. In Jesus, this truth finds its fullness. God, in His great love, came to share our burdens, experience our suffering, and bring us peace. (Hebrews 12:2-3)

We are so grateful for each of you who walk alongside us in prayer and practical partnership. Your support means more than words can express. With deep love and gratitude,

### **The Martinez Family**

Sergio , Nancy, Noemi, Estevao and Isabella

Word of Life Latin America



## "Reasons for Praise and Thanksgiving in 2024"

- **The spiritual growth of our children** as they navigate many challenges, and their involvement in serving the youth ministry at our local church.
- **God's faithful** provision for all our needs.
- The blessing of **our house** on the Word of Life Argentina property, which we enjoy and use to minister to others.
- **Our oldest daughter Noemí** completing her theological courses at Word of Life Argentina.
- **Our son Estevão** successfully graduating from high school and deciding to attend the Word of Life Bible Institute in 2025.
- **Our youngest daughter Isabella** preparing to join the 2025 summer team for 8 weeks of ministry.
- Over 3,000 young people attended our summer and winter camps this year. **Hundreds made decisions to follow Christ**, and many publicly declared their faith through baptism.
- **The growth of the Bible Institute**, now representing young people from 25 different countries.
- **Strengthened relationships with local churches** as we minister across the country through LCM, Pastors' Conferences, youth mobilization, evangelism, women's and marriage conferences, and more.
- **Partnerships with other ministries**, seminaries, and universities, adding valuable resources and tools for our students.
- **Significant progress in building the trade school**, with plans to inaugurate it in April 2025.

We are overwhelmed with gratitude for God's work in and through our family and ministry this year! All glory to Him!

*"Helping Each Young Person Take Their Next Step with Jesus."*

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**More Information**

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