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**Subject:** Update from Matias & Kristen Ladino  
**Date:** January 26, 2026 at 8:00 AM  
**To:** info@monclovabaptist.org



Recently, we sat down and reflected on everything God had taught us in 2025, and it was five pages long. In 2025, we thought God was going to move us (as in to Argentina). We were wrong. Instead, God was going to move IN us, to teach us new lessons that we had not yet learned: to prune, to fertilize, to water us and grow us, to cause us to grow deeper roots to prepare us for what is ahead. God cannot use us if we think we are in charge.

You cannot use a horse that is not first broken and then trained. God is breaking us and training us to be fully submitted to His will, His purpose, His plan, and His timing. Too often, we have acted like Martha, worrying about



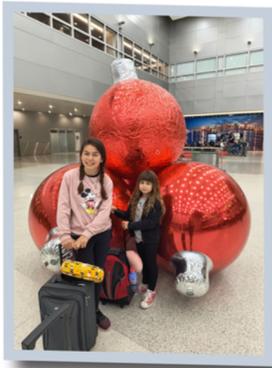
this or that: frantic, striving, and trying to “make things happen.” Instead, God whispered to us, “Stop! Not by power, not by might, but by my Spirit,” Zachariah 4:6.

Our circumstances, in our mind, seem impossible, but there is nothing too difficult for God. We have surrendered, and now we sit at His feet and wait for Him to move on our behalf. Is He moving? Yeah, so much so that we’re over here scratching our heads saying, “Only God could have made that happen!” People started calling us, asking if they could buy our animals. We sold all of our chickens and all of our goats in the span of one week. We had piles and piles of scrap metal that the scrap yards wouldn’t take for one reason or another. It was an absolute eyesore. One day, a man showed up with a truck and said, “I’ll take that all of your hands, and I’ll even pay you for it. Oh, and I’ll even take those old cars that have been sitting there for twenty years.”



Remember that bridge, the one that we prayed to God for six years to be fixed, that one that none of the neighbors wanted to pay for, that bridge that the city washed their hands of, the bridge that left us stranded every winter for weeks on end and then we had to rebuild every year, the bridge that we needed fixed in order to sell this property and move on? Remember that one, haha? We had all but given up! But God! Somehow, God moved (we literally cannot explain it) and miraculously all the neighbors came together to build it, neighbors that wouldn't even say hello to us, who hated our guts and wished us dead. Those same neighbors came together, divided the cost, donated supplies, worked in the 100 degree heat, hand-mixing concrete, under the blazing sun to build a big beautiful bridge that will stand the test of time. The neighbors themselves can't believe what they were able to accomplish! Everyone is so excited that the neighborhood is holding a fundraiser in February to help raise funds to be able to build a concrete pad on top of the structure. Thank you, Jesus.

And as for the property, well, we don't have a buyer yet, but God led us to a man who divides properties into smaller chunks, so it will be easier to sell. We had not considered this option previously because the process used to take several years. We had tried once before to divide the portion of the land that was part of the ministry from the part that was "ours," and it was rejected after three years of waiting. So, we saw this as an impossibility. But, in October of 2025, the law changed, and now the process should only take months instead of years! Also,



***On their way to the USA!***

we were able to find out why the initial petition was rejected, and we obtained the information needed for its future acceptance. In November 2025, we hired Dario. His part of preparing all the paperwork should take four to six months, and then we'll have approximately two months with the government agency. Properties, in general, are not selling in Chile at this time, and especially large ones. We believe God is leading us in this direction, and we praise Him for it and trust His timing! Please continue to pray for us, for God to move us forward, and that He will get all the glory for it!

In December, Kristen and the girls were gifted with tickets to travel to the US for the Christmas and New Year holidays. It was so good to see family after three years and to meet new additions to our family, including our adorable nephew/cousin Charlie! Matias sacrificed to stay in Chile to hold down the fort and work on several projects going on. We are so thankful to God for His goodness, His endless mercy, and for every day that we get to serve and know Him. There is no greater joy!

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Matias and Kristen's health
- For unity in our team
- Open doors for ministry
- Wisdom in decision-making
- The Lord's protection and guidance over the ministry
- The sale of the property in Chile and a smooth moving process

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