



December 2025 – February 2026
+ Special Update

Dear Praying Brethren,

We would like to apologize for not sending this letter sooner. **At the end of February, my wife, Anna, was admitted to the hospital, and the past two months have been unusually intense, as we will explain below.** Each time I have sat down to finish this letter, I have had to revise it after another doctor's appointment or update. As such, this letter will be a little longer than usual and will be in two parts: first, an update on Anna; and second, the ministry and family update I had nearly completed before this whole ordeal began.

Anna was hospitalized for several days with severe pelvic pain. After many tests and scans, it was determined that she had two unrelated issues: an infection and what was believed to be tendonitis in the adductors of her right leg. The infection was treated with antibiotics and cleared without additional problems, and the tendonitis was to be treated with anti-inflammatory meds and rest. However, the pain in her upper leg continued to get worse. **About two weeks after her hospital stay, the pain got so bad that she had to go on near complete bed rest.** From mid-March until very recently (the last week of April), she has been largely unable to do anything that requires the use of her leg. The initial diagnosis was tendonitis [inflammation of the tendon(s)], but after nearly two months of pain and limited mobility, it looks like that may have been wrong. Currently, we have appointments scheduled with a couple of different specialists, and she has recently had another MRI and is continuing with therapy sessions. In the past week, we have seen some improvement, but she is still far from 100%. Only the Lord knows what is going on, and we are trusting Him to give the doctors clarity and wisdom to treat it correctly.

As you can imagine, this situation has been incredibly difficult to manage with three kids, ministry responsibilities, and the normal day-to-day household chores. As a result, I have had to adjust my schedule considerably, and we are still adapting to the changes. Thankfully, the folks here at church have stepped in on numerous occasions to provide meals, childcare, and transportation. This time has been challenging, but there is no telling how much more difficult it would have been without the help and support of the brethren. Thank you for all your prayers, and please continue praying that the Lord would give her a speedy recovery.

One of the biggest blessings of these past months was **Catalina's baptism**. It was a special moment for us, and it meant a great deal to me personally to be the one to baptize her. We thank the Lord for His work in her heart and for the privilege of seeing her publicly profess her faith, in Spanish no less!

At the end of January, the Lord opened an unexpected door for us to move into a new home. We knew the place we were renting was temporary, and we had already been looking into moving sometime later this year. However, the Lord provided something for us much sooner than we anticipated, and in a home far larger than we ever expected. The move happened very quickly, and we are still getting settled in, though much more slowly, given Anna's hospital stay and injury. However, along every step of the way, we have seen the Lord's clear leading and provision. There is not enough space here to tell of how the Lord moved and answered so many prayers, but we have been greatly encouraged by His generosity and kindness towards us.

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I have started teaching a one-on-one preaching class with a young man in the church named **Andrés**. This has involved translating my teaching notes into Spanish as we work through the material together. He has expressed a desire to learn how to preach and believes the Lord may be calling him into the ministry. He is still seeking the Lord's will regarding this and would really appreciate your prayers.

Around the end of February, I absentmindedly left my wallet in the car, in plain view, with cash visible, and forgot to lock the vehicle. Yes, I realize it was essentially an open invitation for a thief. Well, someone did. I was away from my car for only about fifteen minutes, and in that time, my wallet was taken. I had to go through the headache of filing a police report, then start the costly, complicated process of replacing my cards and IDs, some of which are from the U.S., which made things even more complicated. Incredibly, about a week and a half later, I received a call saying that someone had found my wallet in the woods a few blocks from where it had been stolen. I was able to recover everything except the cash and was happy to return to the police station to cancel the report. Praise the Lord for His mercy despite my mistakes!

We would also like to express our sincere thanks for the extra Christmas offerings from many churches and individuals. Your generosity during the holiday season was a great encouragement to our family, and we are truly grateful for your kindness and faithfulness. We would also be remiss not to thank you all for the generous outpouring of extra offerings intended for the purchase of a vehicle. We were not expecting this, and we will set aside all such designated gifts until we are ready to get a second vehicle. Thank you again for all your prayers, support, and thoughts. You folks are truly a blessing!

In His Service,

Justin, Anna, Catalina, Justus, & Anamelia Pizzo

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