

The Matsuda Family

Independent Baptist Missionaries to Arequipa, Peru

"For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building."
1 Corinthians 3:9



January 2023

Dear Brethren,

Greetings in the name of our precious Lord! As we start a new year, it is our sincere desire and prayer that you will continue to be greatly blessed and used by our Lord for His glory!

The Work in Arequipa

As we have reported in previous letters, we are continuing to have our regular church services and programs. Praise the Lord, we have a group of people who are regularly coming (normally between 30 and 40 people). There are a few of these people who have not yet made a decision to be baptized, but we are praying that God's will be done in their lives. We are also praying that God will continue to work in the lives of the new believers and members so that they will continue to grow in Him.

Construction of the Church Building

Another matter that we have been praying about is the construction of our church building. Since we moved to Arequipa 6 years ago, we have always been renting buildings and we have always run into different problems because of it – being asked to move out so the building can be used for something else, problems with the building itself, etc. Even now, we are having problems with the building we are currently renting because water is seeping in through the roof and ruining several things. We have had to place buckets in different parts of the church building and ask people to sit in different places because of the water dripping in! It will be such a huge answer to prayer for our church to have its own building to meet in, without having to worry about moving or rain seeping in!



By God's grace, we are hoping we can start building in March or April (once the rainy season in our city has come to an end). By starting to build, I am referring to laying down the foundation on which we will build upon. According to an estimate we came up with last year, we need \$65,000 dollars to complete the first floor. We are praying that God will move mightily on our behalf and provide the money. The brethren in our church are starting to give offerings towards this project, and we are asking them to pray about how much the Lord would have them give (obviously no one is forced; these are voluntary offerings), but what we have does not even scratch the surface of what is needed. We know that God is all-powerful and can do anything! We believe God is working in the people here to teach them to take steps of faith by learning to give, and they are also learning how big our God truly is. Please help us pray for this matter, and if the Lord lays it on your heart to help, we will praise Him for it!

Political Situation in Peru

During the month of December, the Peruvian president attempted a coup by dissolving the congress because he wanted to have total control over the government. Two hours after announcing this, congress threw him out of the presidency and the police captured him and put him in jail. This unleashed a wave of protests, riots, unrest and violence throughout the entire country. Up until now, almost 60 people have died as a result of the protests. Roads have been blocked, making it impossible for anything to come into or go out of different cities, which has resulted in a shortage of food, gas (everyone in the country cooks with gas stoves and most of the water is heated with gas), and gasoline. The rioters have taken over airports in different cities and have set buildings and houses on fire. Twice, while we were in the middle of a church service, protesters marched right in front of the building we are renting, and we had to close and lock the doors to make sure the rioters wouldn't come in. We were very thankful that nothing happened to our people or the vehicles parked outside.



Contact Information:

Mz. 1 Lt. 16 Urb. Las Esmeraldas,
Arequipa, Perú
Phone:
51 1 994 778 242

If you would like to send a check, please make it out to
Brentwood Baptist Church Mission Account and please
include in the memo that it is for "Matsuda Support."

The address is:

Brentwood Baptist Church, PO Box 13663
Roanoke, VA 24036

www.thematsudafamily.com
contact@thematsudafamily.com
[danau55@hotmail.com](mailto:dantau55@hotmail.com)

Paypal:
daniel.matsuda@spanish4servants.com

Peru is facing an awful situation. Because of covid and all the restrictions, Peru's economy was practically destroyed. Now, with all the protesting for the past 2 months, many people have not been able to work or carry on with their businesses. Grocery stores are practically empty, and those that are selling groceries are selling things at 2 or 3 times the price.

The protesters are demanding the new president resign, but she is not budging. It looks like the protests are going to continue on for a good while. At times, the army unblocks the roads so that some things can come through. Please help us pray for this situation.

Our Family

Our family is immensely grateful to our Lord for the blessing He gave us this month! Our 7th child, Margaret Dalia, was born on January 23 at 1:06 a.m. Sunday evening, just a few hours before she was born, there were protesters on the streets and different roads were all blocked off, so we had been a little nervous about whether we would be able to make it to the clinic for her birth. Praise the Lord, we made it to the clinic without any problems. We arrived at 11:58 p.m. on Sunday night and our baby was born one hour later! We are so thankful that everything went smoothly



and quickly with the delivery, without any complications! Monday morning, I had to buy a shot because of my wife's blood type (she is RH negative). When I arrived to the only pharmacy in the city that sells this vaccine, between 200 and 250 protesters were on the street in front of the pharmacy. When I was finally able to get inside, the person behind the counter had me wait a long time and then let me know that I was buying the very last shot. With all the roads blocked off and the airports closed, we would not have been able to have another shot sent to us. Our Lord was with us every step of the way, providing exactly what we needed! At home, everyone is overjoyed with their new little sister. Thank you so very much for praying for my wife and daughter!

Van

As we have mentioned in previous letters, we were able to purchase our van on credit. We still owe \$17,800 dollars on the car. We would appreciate your prayers for this matter. We hope to get it paid off as soon as possible.

Thank You!

We are so thankful for your faithful support and prayers! Thank you for investing in our ministry and the Lord's work here so that we can continue serving the Lord in this place. May God truly bless each of you!

Your Servants in Christ,
Daniel Matsuda and Family
Independent Baptist Missionaries