



Dear Grace Baptist,

It is Friday, September 4, 2020, and we have been in lockdown for a total of **169 days!**

As you are aware, God is leading us to transition out of the ministry in Argentina, at least for a season. This has been an exceedingly difficult time to say goodbye to all we know and love the past 15 years, especially in the midst a global pandemic. The [extreme and extended lockdown](#) here has prolonged the transition process in several ways. Because of the lockdown in our area for nearly six months:

**1. We have been extremely impaired in selling our house and belongings.** We have meticulously sold hundreds of smaller items piece by piece online, but it's terribly slow and limited. (Imagine an estate sale, but no one can physically come to your house, so you must post photos and a description of each item separately, respond to inquiries, receive payment, and then ship or deliver each item.) Regarding our house, it is listed with a realtor, but, once again, access to tour the house has been restricted.

**2. Bringing in a new pastor for the church has been delayed.** A wolf has been revealed from among our church members who is on an active campaign to divide the church and steal sheep ([Acts 20:29](#)). We can only marvel at God's sovereignty to hinder us from leaving before it happened. Our desire is to not leave this flock without a shepherd ([John 10:12](#)). In God's providence, we now have a pastoral candidate! He will be with us for several online meetings for the next two weeks, and then the church will vote on **September 16. Please pray for the Lord to bring this godly pastor and his wonderful family in to shepherd this flock.**

**3. Closed borders and a ban on commercial flights have further impeded the**

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**transition.** The tickets we purchased for June were canceled, and now September's. There are some limited flights available with other airlines, but the conditions are not really conducive to an international move. We might be able to use our credit (from the previously purchased tickets) for a flight in October, but the government has to give the go-ahead on opening more flights.

*As many of you have already keenly observed, God has a reason for still keeping us here! Please pray that the Lord would accomplish all of these things described above in the next month if that is His will. This has definitely been a trial of perseverance, but at the same time, God's Word has become so rich and more alive than ever and has been our comfort! **Thank you for your patience, understanding, and continued support as we have had to move the starting date for our leave of absence again.** Attached is a letter from Baptist World Mission.*

*Greenwood's leave of absence to begin November 30*

**In the midst of all this opposition, there is some good news about the Good News!**

First of all, God continues to work in our community. We told you about the two men who trusted Christ over the past two weeks. In addition, three other people are asking questions about God and the Bible and are starting Bible studies now! Secondly, the man who is the pastoral candidate is an active soul winner and would continue to do so in Pilar. That is exactly what we have been praying for!

*Thank you, Grace Baptist, for holding the ropes for us in prayer and encouragement.*

*By His grace alone,  
James, Amy, & Josiah*

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