

Merry Christmas

In *The Hallelujah Chorus*. It says: "Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth." How wonderful to celebrate God's coming to earth at Christmas, and to remember the hope we have that Jesus will return and make the kingdom of this world his kingdom forever.

While we remain in Michigan on our time of Home Ministry Assignment, our hearts are with the people we know in Ecuador. Geoff continues to work remotely doing various financial and engineering work and attending meetings on Zoom. And while COVID upsets the plans we try to make; God is using this situation in our lives and in the ministry of HCJB to bring people closer to Him.

When we left Ecuador in May, the economic impact of the pandemic was already being felt by many people. Right now, only 32% of working age Ecuadorians have adequate employment. Because of this, people have become desperate. HCJB Ecuador is broadcasting a message of hope to people that are hurting and they are continuing to help get food to those who need it.

Because of COVID we have not been able to connect with all the churches and people that we would like. We are now planning to stay in the U.S. for a full school year, and this way, Jacob has a place to go if campus housing closes again. Emma is already planning to do her second semester online and stay with us.



Kooistra Family

Sara will continue going to school at Potter's House, and we hope classes will go back to in person soon. She would like to run track in the spring.



Emma, Tammy, and Jacob

This is the first time we have spent so long in the U.S. since becoming missionaries. God seems to have us here for a reason and has been providing for us the different things we need. Our hope is that we will have some time to recover from the stresses of the last few years of ministry and the stress of the lockdown in Ecuador. Thank you for praying for us. It has been so nice to enjoy autumn colors and experience a beautiful autumn season here in Michigan. We hope the winter cooperates as well, since we do not know how much cold we can handle.

This year we have extra expenses with our time in the U.S. As the end of the year approaches, we are looking for monthly and special gifts to keep our budget covered. Below is information on how to give to our ministry with Reach Beyond and HCJB Ecuador.



Sara and Emma

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Response Card for Geoff & Tammy Kooistra's Ministry with Reach Beyond

Donate Online: <u>http://bit.ly/ReachBeyond-Kooistra</u> By Phone: (719)590-9800 By Check: Reach Beyond; PO Box 39800; Colorado Springs, CO 80949-9800 Acct# 110436

