



July 2022

The Kooistra Keepsake

HCJB Ecuador

Ecuador Trip

In June, all five of us went to Ecuador and enjoyed seeing lots of people and places. It is always a strange experience to get on a plane and to be somewhere completely different at the end of the trip. That is especially true when we go to Ecuador where we have so many memories.

Geoff worked in person with all the HCJB people and helped with decisions to be made for the new building construction project. While we were there, the ground floor was poured, and the columns put up.



Geoff and Tammy at the building site

We continue to define the equipment we will need in the studios and how the cable connections are going to be run. Fortunately, we were able to make some last-minute adjustments for cabling before the floor was poured. For the other levels it will not be so critical.

A few days before we left Ecuador, there was a national strike and demonstrations with people blocking the roads. We had to stay close to Quito, but the area we were in did not have any protests. It did cancel some of our plans, but we were able to leave Ecuador as planned.

For the next two weeks, the demonstrations continued, causing damage, injuries, and shutting down almost all economic activity. Then the groups who were leading the protests agreed to meet with the government and called an end to the strike. They hope to come to good resolutions within 90 days and avoid further strikes. Pray that the peace can continue, and fair agreements will be made.



Geoff at the building site with Hermann, Milton, and Daniel

Friends

We saw lots of friends while in Ecuador and we got together for a weekend with people from our couples' group and their kids too.



Weekend with couples' group

It was fun to catch up with everyone and share memories together. But this was truly hard as we reminisced together with our friends Roberto and Paola about Samantha, their 17-year-old daughter who died of cancer last November.

Family

Sara is gearing up for her final year at Potter's House High School. She has been training for the cross-country season this summer.

Geoff & Tammy



Sara running

Emma graduated from Michigan Tech and is now working at Dematic in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



Jacob continues working and plans to buy a car soon.

Thanks for continuing to pray for us and for the ministry of HCJB Ecuador.

hcjb

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