



UPDATE FROM THE UTTERMOST JULY 2026

Dear Praying Family and Friends-

We have officially passed the one-year mark of living and serving in Punta Arenas, Chile, the city to which the Lord has called our family. In that time, we have experienced many blessings from the Lord. Last November we had the joy of seeing our first person in Punta Arenas trust Christ as Savior, which put us on a path to planting our first church here, Iglesia Bautista Independiente de Magallanes in December. As a church, we have baptized two new believers, partook in the Lord's Supper, conducted discipleship training, done counseling, and even helped others with benevolence. Through various outreach activities, we have distributed hundreds of gospel tracts and copies of the Book of Romans throughout the city.

We still have a long way to go in fully adapting to the culture and learning to speak Chilean Spanish fluently. Our entire family has been in language school now for two months and it is really making a difference. Just last week we learned that Chileans do not use the Spanish word for "appointment" when making a doctor's appointment. Instead, they "ask for an hour." In Chile, the word for "appointment" usually refers to a romantic date. So now I know why the hospital and clinic receptionists looked at me like I was crazy when I would ask for a "date" with the doctor. Oh, and in Chile, the word "taco" means a traffic jam. And they use "culto" for worship outside of the Catholic church.

Now that we have lived at the bottom of the world for a full year, we have had the chance to experience all four seasons. In reality, it feels like there are only two seasons: fall and winter. I had assumed that winter would be hard here, but I think summers are harder. Yes, the winters are cold and dark, but the summers are cold too! The temperature rarely climbed above 68°F. I feel like it never warmed up and we went from winter to fall and back to winter. However, being surrounded by snow-covered mountains year-round has been beautiful.

A few weeks ago, I put out an email letting you know about a tumor that was discovered and promptly removed from my right tonsil area. I have finally received the biopsy information, and the news is not what we have been praying for. The tumor was just smaller than a golf ball, which is why it was starting to restrict my airway. The biopsy confirmed that the tumor was cancerous. Unfortunately, the surgeons were unable to remove all of the cancer. In addition, the cancer has spread to at least one lymph node. I will now have to undergo both radiation and chemotherapy. Although this was not the news we were hoping to receive, we have experienced God's peace every step of the way. We know that none of this has taken Him by surprise, and we trust Him completely with the days ahead.

My plan was to stay here in Punta Arenas and undergo cancer treatment at the government hospital. However, after meeting with the oncologist there, we believe it would be wiser to receive treatment at a specialized cancer center in Santiago. I am already scheduled for a PET scan at a great hospital in Santiago as there is no nuclear medicine here. So I am now working with that hospital to receive my radiation and chemotherapy there as well. This will mean temporarily relocating our family to Santiago for a few months until I finish treatment and the cancer is gone.

Many of you have reached out and offered to help and for that I am very thankful. Beyond the need for prayer, I have no doubt that we will have some financial needs during this process. This will include maintaining our home and church property here while temporarily relocating and maintaining housing in Santiago. However, at this point I do not know what those needs will be or how much. Praise the Lord, I do believe the cancer treatments will be covered by our international insurance plan. My first appointment in Santiago is on August 5, so we have a lot of planning and arrangements to make in the next two weeks. We will continue to publish information on our Facebook page, and I will send out another prayer letter when we have more information. Also, please pray for our new church plant and for our small but growing congregation as they navigate the next few months without their pastor physically present.

As our family looks back on this first year in Punta Arenas, we are reminded that none of it would have been possible without faithful churches like yours. Thank you for standing with us through both the joys of church planting and this unexpected trial. We are grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and faithful support, and we look forward to seeing what the Lord will continue to do in Chile in the months and years ahead.



In Service of the King of Kings-

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"...ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8