October 9, 2020

Dear Faithful Financial Partners,

We hope by now that you have received our prayer letter for October. One of the important items in that letter was a change in our date for retirement, from Dec. 31, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021. We made this decision for several reasons:

* The coronavirus has changed plans for almost everyone, including us. International flights are just now becoming more available here, but still no direct flights to the USA.
* My illness at the beginning of June has slowed us down. The Lord has been faithful to bring us through that experience, but we lost time and energy.
* U.S. Immigration Services was backlogged even before the virus hit the USA. With the coronavirus restrictions, they have been responding even more slowly. And without a visa for Lidia, we cannot travel!

First, we are very grateful for all you have done for us during these many years, some since the beginning in 1979. You have been Generous, Faithful, Caring, and Compassionate. Thank you!

Second, we want to be as honest and transparent as we can. Because of what we told you last year, we feel that it is only fair that we give you the freedom to end your financial commitment on Dec. 31, 2020. Please do not feel obligated to continue supporting us after December. We realize that churches especially must plan their annual budgets at least a year in advance, and many of you as individuals also plan for the year. So we leave this decision in your hands.

**WHAT WILL WE DO?**

* We will be staying in Montevideo until we are given permission to travel to the USA. During this time of waiting we will continue to serve pastors here in Montevideo and national missionaries working outside of Uruguay.
* Concerning our finances, we have already lowered our salary and housing figures for this year.
* From January 2021 we will not take any salary or help for housing; we plan to live on our social security and our savings for retirement.
* There will still be several expenses which must be funded in our mission support figure, such as medical care, international travel, ministry expenses, and mission administration.
* Therefore, if some of you can continue to help with our financial support, that will be greatly appreciated!
* If you have any further questions, we will be glad to answer them.

**WHAT ARE OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE?**

1. Our immediate plans are to travel to the USA when it is possible – to say a final good-bye to all of you who have made our ministry possible! Our plan is to visit all of you next year – 14 faithful churches and 56 faithful partners!
2. After our final goodbyes and retirement, we will return to Uruguay. Because of the extreme economic problems and social unrest in Argentina, for now our move to Argentina is on hold, and we will continue to live in Uruguay.
3. Our long range plans are to continue with WorldVenture as “Global Specialists”. This is a special position for retired missionaries who continue to serve in some capacity. These specialists do not receive any compensation. We hope to serve as “pastors” to the Uruguayan missionaries in the countries where they serve.

Thank you for praying for us as we move through these stages of transition.

For His Glory,

Bob & Lidia Johns

WorldVenture, Uruguay