
THE LOOP FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO PORTUGAL

March-April 2020

Dear praying friends,

I Thessalonians 5:18 says, *“In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”* Although the current coronavirus situation has brought panic to the world and has changed our normal routines, we as believers can still give thanks to God. This virus has not caught God by surprise. In fact, He has permitted this to happen for a reason that we may not know, but we can be sure that He is working in a way that is greater than we can imagine. My prayer has been through this whole situation that God would be glorified, His power would be revealed, and people would see their need to trust Christ as their Savior.

We were scheduled to return to the States in April for furlough and to see Jocelyn graduate from college. She will graduate with a degree in biology. We are so proud of her and are anxious to see where God will lead her. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

However, due to the coronavirus, international flights were being cancelled and we were advised to get an earlier flight as soon as possible. We were able to get a flight the last weekend that flights were scheduled to the U.S. After arriving in the States, we remained in quarantine for 14 days at home.

Although we arrived in the States earlier than originally planned, we continue to do our services via internet with our people in Portugal. Like some other countries, the Portuguese government issued a state of emergency requiring people to stay at home. During this time, the church continues to stay connected and encourages one another through social media.

In February, we held our annual Sweetheart Banquet. This year we had a great turnout with 15 couples. They always look forward to this special evening of food, games, fellowship and a Bible message.

In March we had another Ladies' Tea. The ladies enjoy getting together. It has been especially encouraging for the ladies who have recently immigrated to Portugal.

We were happy to see Maribel return to the church. David led her to the Lord and began the discipleship course with her. She began missing church and we had not seen her for over a year. She recently returned to church and wants to continue with the discipleship course. At this moment, there are four people being discipled and we are hoping to see all four of them baptized this year.

It is always a blessing to see people in the church with a desire to serve. Recently, a new couple joined the church and wants to help in any way. Tábata has started teaching the children during the morning service and her husband Daniel has started leading the singing and giving the announcements.

Your missionaries to Portugal,

David and Julie Loop

January _____ February _____

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