

# THE ARAUJO FAMILY



Serving the Lord in Arequipa, Peru | [js@araujofamily.com](mailto:js@araujofamily.com) | +51.953.510.366

## I-130 Petition, Approved!

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, we received exciting news from USCIS. *Our I-130 Visa Petition was approved and has moved on to the second stage in the process.* Praise the Lord! Within days, we received a new case number from the National Visa Center and details about the next steps to take. We paid an IV (immigrant visa) fee of **\$325** and an AOS (affidavit of support) fee of **\$120**. It took a while to get three different Peruvian judicial certificates completed, but we finally uploaded those after Sarah translated them into English. Now, we are *almost* ready to submit the final IV application. Once submitted, we hope to be deemed "documentarily qualified" by the NVC and quickly move to the third stage of the process: an in-person immigrant visa appointment at the U.S. Embassy in Lima. Please continue praying for God's hand upon each stage of this process, for my desire to visit the states *this 2026 alongside my entire family*, and for us to be able to report to our supporting churches after 5 years.

## Other Family News

In October, Adelyn was diagnosed with *atopic dermatitis* (or childhood eczema). She has suffered several flare-ups which cause enough itching and discomfort to create open sores, not to mention some anxious behaviors and inability to focus. Please pray for our wisdom, as this is new to us - learning to manage/maintain her sensitive skin microbiome, recognizing flare-ups/triggers/allergens, and deciding which treatment is best for her. On a different note, Adelyn's US passport expires in May, so with less than 6 months of validity on her current passport, we have to renew it quickly. We were able to get a passport renewal appointment for Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 10am at the U.S. Embassy in Lima, requiring both Sarah and I to be present along with Adelyn. Obviously, that means that our entire family (Aylah included) needs round-trip tickets to Lima as well as lodging - which is the perfect excuse to spend a few days away from the heavy ministry demands we carry at times and enjoy Lima together.



Junior, Sarah, Adelyn & Aylah

Reflecting on 2025 and looking ahead to 2026, as a family, we placed Ecclesiastes 3:11 on display in our tiny apartment. *"He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end."* In all seasons of life, all conditions and circumstances, triumphs and trials, we need only trust the Eternal One who divinely orchestrates all things beautifully in His time, according to His perfect will, for His purposes, and to display the incomprehensible splendor of His glory. We rest in that this year, as we wait, trust, and aim to serve the Lord even more faithfully, walking worthy of the calling to which we have been called (Ephesians 4:1). Thank you for partnering with us SO incredibly, so generously, and so faithfully in 2025. By God's grace, let us do more, be more, and yield ourselves more entirely to Him in 2026. May He do *beautiful* things in us and through us!

## Raising up T.H.I.S. Generation for Christ

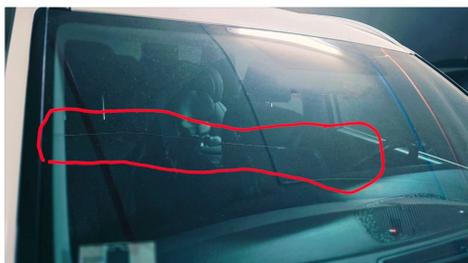
**T** **Training** - On November 21<sup>st</sup>, we held our second graduation ceremony since restructuring our seminary program over 4 years ago. We were blessed to have IPM Educational Consultant, Dr. Tom Wolfe, participate in a seminary conference the week leading up to the graduation ceremony. After satisfactorily presenting their dissertation defense before a panel of our seminary professors and board of directors, we are grateful to announce that *three* graduates were presented with their diplomas! **Theresa**, a single mother of 6 graduated in first place, demonstrating incredible personal sacrifice, commitment, and application of what she had studied all while facing great suffering after her husband abandoned her completely. **Alejandra** and **Diego** are both university students who also made incredible sacrifices over the years in order to study part-time in the seminary program while carrying other major responsibilities in ministry. Please pray for all three of them to continue to serve the Lord faithfully and in an even greater capacity now that they have graduated from the seminary. Please also continue praying for our seminary director **Pastor Rolando Moscoso**. He was unable to participate in the closing graduation ceremony, after suffering a severe migraine that put him in the hospital. While his initial diagnosis months ago was fibromyalgia, he is still undergoing bloodwork and additional tests as they try to rule out other potential neurological disorders. We are still asking the Lord to provide **\$350** to help him get both of the magnetic resonance images done that are pending (funds for one MRI have already been provided, praise the Lord).



2025 Seminary Graduation Ceremony



Boat 1 of 2 on our survey trip in the Amazon



Our cracked windshield (zoom in please)

## Other Prayer Needs:

- While Sarah and I were teaching our respective seminary classes one evening in October, our vehicle was vandalized outside the church. We loaded up Adelyn and Aylah around 10PM that night to head home when Sarah noticed a line across the front windshield on the passenger side. Someone used a sharp point to hit the perimeter of the windshield that caused damage to maybe 1/3 of the window. Since then, as you can imagine, the crack has spread across nearly 3/4 of the window. A new front windshield was quoted to us at nearly **\$1,990**. Would you please pray for this urgent need to replace it before the crack spreads much further?

Check contributions to our ministry should be made payable to IPM and sent to IPM, Inc., 100 Spring Ave., Hanover, PA 17331.

To give online, click [DONATE HERE](#)

\*Be sure to include a note with all contributions designating "Junior Araujo Support" or any other special designation that you may have for us. Thank you!

**H**elping - If you remember from our last prayer letter, I mentioned to you the exciting opportunity that I have to act as a liaison of sorts in getting the gospel to an unreached area in the Peruvian Amazon jungle. Plans solidified over the past three months, and I would like to ask for your earnest prayers for myself, Luis Uscamayta (my youth leader in training), a team of 9 Americans, and a team of 8 Peruvian nationals from the Iquitos area who are part of this next survey trip. I flew to Iquitos on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, where our team met together and made necessary preparations leading up to our trip. On Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>, we will depart on a 40-hour journey by boat to explore remote tribal areas. We will start on the Amazon River, then hit the left tributary of the Amazon River called the Ampiyacu River, before setting up "camp" per se at our base along the Napo River. We will be in the Loreto Region, specifically in the community of San Rafael. As we make this journey, we will be stopping along the way in several different communities where we will be gathering with authorities by the cover of night to present our plan and obtain permission to be in contact with the indigenous ethnic groups there. Please, if ever I needed your prayers, this is the time, dear prayer warriors. Pray for safety (this area is known for dangerous narco-trafficking), pray for health (the Loreto region is plagued with malaria, dengue, yellow fever, leishmaniasis, among other diseases), pray for permission from community authorities to make contact with their people, pray for open doors for the gospel without violence or resistance, pray for wisdom on many levels as we use other national liaisons throughout the entire process of this trip, and pray for God's clear leading in setting up a future basecamp. We will return to Iquitos on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup> before flying out of Iquitos on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup>.

**I**mpacting - It is currently summer break here in Peru which means one thing in ministry...CAMP! Back-to-back-to-back: youth camp, youth leadership camp, and family camp...oh my! Our international youth camp began on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> and lasted through Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup>, with a slightly reduced attendance this year of only 70 campers due to the economic crisis hitting both Bolivia and Argentina. Our youth camp theme this year was on "masks" and walking our faith in authenticity. Luis Uscamayta and the younger youth leaders handled all of the camp planning, organization, and execution. Praise the Lord, one young lady (**Silvia**) made a profession of faith, and countless others shared testimonies of the Lord at work in their hearts and lives. On Monday the 12<sup>th</sup>, we launched right into our first-ever youth leadership retreat that we opened up to other Baptist churches with whom we have close fellowship. We had 38 youth leaders in attendance from Bolivia and Peru, representing 7 churches in total. This brief yet impactful retreat focused on moralism, "the enemy of godliness," and concluded on the morning of Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup>. Immediately afterwards, we transitioned into family camp on that same Wednesday night that went through Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>. This is the first year in the history of family camp that we were able to offer each family in attendance their own private room. Since the camp property was remodeled last year and additional rooms were constructed, we no longer have to divide families into men's and women's dormitories. It provided for a much more intimate camp setting for the 15 families in attendance (65 campers in total). It was especially encouraging to see believers' wayward/unbelieving adult children in attendance at camp after years and years of being closed off to church. Please pray specifically for **Luisa Maria** and **Priscilla** who were essentially raised in the church. May the Lord continue to work in their hearts and bring them to salvation!

**S**owing - The church plant in Majes is doing well. I continue to travel every Sunday afternoon (usually with at least one other church member) to hold services there before returning to Arequipa late at night. I also continue to hold youth meetings the first Friday of every month. Unfortunately, the foreman that I hired and had sign a contract for the necessary work to close off the open wall and build a garage was supposed to conclude his work on November 24<sup>th</sup>, but he hasn't even started. He kept pushing back the start date due to "unforeseen" circumstances, until finally he just stopped answering messages and phone calls. I gave him a 50% down payment of **\$450** with the remaining 50% to be paid upon completion. Since it appears we have been scammed, I most likely will have to report this incident to police authorities so that this "foreman" won't be able to continue defrauding others. I don't like that option, but I'm not sure what else I should do. Please pray for my wisdom and for God's provision for the needed construction in Majes to secure the open wall and have a safe place to store our vehicle and begin staying the night for long weekends to minister here. *Thank you.*

**Our love in Christ from Arequipa, Peru** - Junior, Sarah, Adelyn & Aylah