



Many of you have partnered with us since 1977 during 18 months of deputation, language school and over 38 years of ministry in Paraguay. As we begin our furlough we want to share with you how God has been leading.

We began this letter during the chaotic days of our transition of leaving, selling everything, and those tearful farewell services. We are now installed in our daughter's home in Greenville, SC for the weeks it takes to settle in our own place and purchase a vehicle for this furlough time. Following is the letter that we tried to write and send several months ago.

For several years we have been heading towards finishing our 8th term in Paraguay with the goal of turning over the ministries to our Paraguayan coworkers. Our plan of leaving in December of 2017 was obviously not God's timetable for us. Meanwhile we have been in the process of selling everything with plans to return to South Carolina for furlough.

Saying goodbye after 38 years in our adopted country of Paraguay is going to be hard. We've already begun some of the transition as early as our December 8th church retreat where Paul passed the baton to Pastor Juan Flores. During that retreat, Pastor Abraham (sic) was also installed as pastor and two new deacons were appointed to help carry the load in the three churches in Tobati, Almada, and Candia.



Though our furlough was delayed by 6 months, we realize due to many events that it was God's perfect timing. We assisted our co-workers with special needs. Paul will continue as president of the ABWE mission incorporation for legal matters that will need attention in Paraguay even while we are on furlough.

Our mission leadership is helping us with a path forward to assure good stewardship and strategic ministry opportunities for the future of the work in Paraguay. God has given us the green light for our return to furlough ministries to begin in early June.

### Almada and Tobati our last Sunday



We arrived in Greenville, SC on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. This last week we have been getting acclimated to the American way of life.

We plan to visit Paul's 91 year old Papa in Kenya towards the end of August and anticipate the need to return to Paraguay for mission related legal matters sometime in January 2019.

We will be contacting our supporting churches to set up a suitable time to report to those who have faithfully stood with us during our life of ministry in Paraguay.

A new ministry phase and an Open Door have been presented to us as we are ending our years in Paraguay. We look forward to explaining that opportunity to you and asking for your counsel as we meet and visit with our supporting pastors and church families who have stood with us financially and in prayer.

Rejoicing,

Paul and Marla Fields  
ABWE on furlough ministries from Paraguay