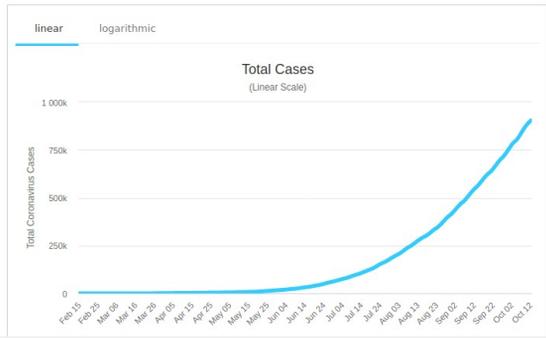


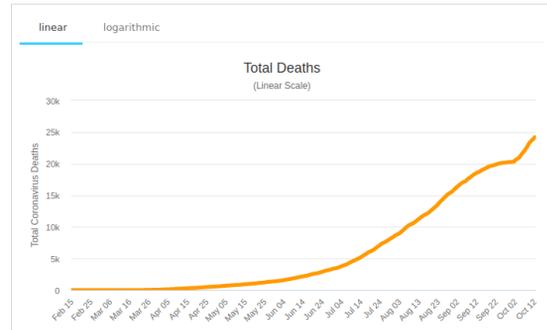
Dear Everyone,

Greetings from Spring in San Francisco where afternoon temperatures are starting to hit 30, and farmers are hoping that it will rain soon after this year's prolonged dry season. After covid19 progressing in a more or less orderly fashion (in a manner of speaking) through the never-ending lockdown, in the last few weeks there is a sense of being in a battle to keep it under control. San Francisco has finally entered the fray; we went from nearly zero to over a thousand cases practically overnight last week. These are the most up to date graphs for the country as a whole:

Total Coronavirus Cases in Argentina



Total Coronavirus Deaths in Argentina

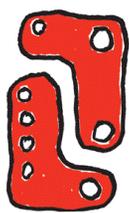


We are responding to different peoples' needs as we meet them, usually by sharing groceries, or supporting folk in their small scale economic enterprises, otherwise we are trying to tread a balance between living life, taking necessary precautions, and waiting it out.



The Lazos church has gone back to virtual services; this screen shot is from Sunday. The Gloria de Dios church are still meeting in person. This congregation has less access to electronic resources so the ability to meet physically is important for them. However it is throwing up some complications. This is a society that values physical contact as part of social interaction, particularly in more working class neighbourhoods. Added to which would be the role that touch plays in expressions of spirituality and fellowship, with laying on of hands and anointing with oil being seen as intrinsic to ministry. These would be seen as ways in which we express love to our brethren in Christ, and therefore, the spiritual logic goes, God would want us to carry on these vital acts of fellowship, and so he will protect us. However, the pastor's paid job is undertaker, and from the viewpoint of his daily experience, he is being clear about counteracting some of the overenthusiastic promises made by others from the pulpit. It's a sensitive issue, understanding where people are at, while working to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Home life continues as normal, or normal for this year anyway, as people chug along with schoolwork and other activities. Hazel handed in her final university assignment and received it back with feedback for resubmitting, so she is trying to summon some enthusiasm to give it a (hopefully) final rewrite. The blog is being updated at www.frostmartinhazel.org Thank you all for your ongoing prayers and support.



Hazel X Martin



Joni & Daniel

