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***“ It was he who “gave gifts to people”; he appointed some to be apostles, others to be prophets, others to be evangelists, others to be pastors and teachers. He did this to prepare all God’s people for the work of Christian service, in order to build up the body of Christ. Under His control all the different parts of the body fit together, and the whole body is held together by every joint with which it is provided. So when each separate part works as it should, the whole body grows and builds itself up through love.” Ephesians 4:11,12, & 16***

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. We praise the Lord God for all He is doing in our lives and in the ministry here in Peru, for filling us with His Holy Spirit to guide and direct each of our steps, and for pouring out His grace upon us through His precious Son, Jesus Christ. We hope and pray that He has been blessing you wonderfully during this past month and that your life has been filled with His glorious riches and mercy. We want to give you special thanks for your continued prayers for us and support of the ministry in Peru. We definitely see the results of your prayers for us and for the ministry here. You are special people called by our Lord Jesus Christ to minister to His children. Thank you for your faithfulness to His calling. Thank you for your love for Him, for us, and for His children.

In February, we had the privilege of hosting a medical team from Dalton First United Methodist Church lead by Jim Davis. They helped us with a medical campaign at the Casa de Oración Church in Chilca. This was a significant mission for us, because it was the first time we were able to work through our discipleship groups. Appointments were made through our cell group members all over the Huancayo area with an attempt to invite those that were in great need and those that were unsaved. The team gave medical, dental, or eye care attention to 1170 people in four days, and 272 people accepted Christ, while 56 people rededicated their life to Christ. We praise God that 617 people were already Christians, and for everything that He did during these four days. Those that prayed to receive Christ, will now receive follow up visits by those that invited them to the medical campaign, with an invitation to begin to meet in with a small discipleship group. Please pray that the follow up on the new believers will go well and integrate them into the ministry.



Patients waiting in the triage area.

In a medical campaign, there are many different jobs to be done, but it is amazing to see how God uses each person to touch people for Jesus whatever they are doing. Here are a few examples of what takes place: The doctors and nurses prescribe the treatment and medicine; the pharmacists and their helpers fill the prescriptions; the people in the spiritual area share the gospel and pray with many people; the children's workers take care of and play with the children to help the mothers; the cooks prepare all the meals for the teams, and the guides show the people which area they should go to next. Each one of these people has a very important job, and each job is just as important as the others. Always remember that each one of you is a special part of the body of Christ, and the body of Christ is not complete without you and your talents and gifts. Let God's love shine through you as you follow Him!



Sharing the Gospel message with patients.

Just as God uses individuals to work together as a body of Christ, He also wants the churches to work together in unity as one body in Christ, so that all people will come to know Him. In this particular medical campaign, the workers represented different denominations and cultures, but they all worked together as one body in Christ, so that more people could come to know Jesus. Unfortunately, in Peru, many of the leaders of the churches are more concerned about their own particular church and traditions than Christ, and they are jealous of other churches that do well. The Bible says in Ephesians 4: 3-6, “Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives by means of the peace that binds you together. There is one body and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, there is one God and Father of all people, who is Lord of all, works through all, and is in all.” Please pray for the churches in Peru and churches all over the world to work as one body in Christ, because there are millions of people that need to know Jesus, and there is no time for the people in different churches to work against each other; neither is there time for the Christians in one church to be divided against each other. We have only one Lord and one Savior, and we should follow Him and only Him.



Pastor Pedro Duran from a Pentecostal church helping in the spiritual area of the medical Campaign

February was also a significant month for us because Benjamin returned to the states to study. God really blessed him by giving him a job as a translator for Dr. John Church in Dalton, Georgia until school starts. Hopefully, he will be attending Georgia Tech in the fall, and he has an interest in majoring in Chemical Engineering. We will miss Benjamin as a family and also because he was a major part of the ministry, especially in the Praise Band. Please pray for him as he adjusts to living back in the states as a third culture kid. Third culture kids are a mixture of two or more cultures, but are not really completely part of one or the other. In other words, Benjamin is partly American and partly Peruvian, and he doesn't exactly fit in either culture. Fortunately Benjamin is fully part of the culture and a citizen of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. This is one of the consequences of being a missionary kid, but we are confident that God will continue to provide every need that Benjamin has, like He does for each one of us. Also, please pray that God can continue to use Benjamin in the US to bring others to know Jesus.

Arthur traveled with Benjamin and will be in the states for three weeks. He and Benjamin shared about what God is doing in Peru at a Global Impact Celebration at Asbury United Methodist Church in Madison, Alabama, and will be sharing at the President's Gathering of TMS Global in March. In between, they will be trying to get Benjamin settled. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will fill them as they speak and that more people will become involved in God's ministry in Peru and the world.

Mary Beth will be attending a new school this year, Jesús El Maestro High School. The school day is from 8:15 a.m. until 5:35 p.m. Please pray for her as she adjusts to the new school and the longer schedule.

The intern that works with us, Lisa Socher, will be teaching English in Jesús El Maestro High School this year to the students in Kindergarten, first, and second grades. Please pray for God to give her wisdom as she prepares to teach English, and that God can use her to bring these precious children to know Him as their Savior and Lord.

We especially need prayer for the Kid's Club in Pichcus. We are having a hard time finding teachers that can come each Saturday. Many Peruvians work on Saturday and cannot be a part of this ministry. Please pray that God will raise up teachers that have a passion for Him and a heart to teach children about Him.

Thank you so much for being partners with us in God's ministry in Peru. We appreciate everything that you are doing to support us and the ministry in Peru. We couldn't do it without you.

Please be in prayer for each one of our workers and for each one of the ministries and projects. Please continue to pray for financial support for the ministries both from Peruvian sources and U.S. sources. Please continue to be in prayer for the continued growth in the ministries here in Peru, especially in the Canta Valley, Palcazu, Pelmaz, Bermudez, Shiringamazu, Villa America, Huánuco, Sambillo Alto, Rio Azul Ugarteche, San Augustine, KM 40 and Tinahuani. Also, pray for the ministries in Huancayo, especially the Colegio El Camino. Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to awaken and change hearts among the young adults of Huancayo. Please give praise to the Lord for bringing us additional persons called to be part of the missionary team in Peru. Covenant with us to continue in prayer for the young adult leadership team and their continued ministry to the spiritually lost and dying youth of Huancayo. Please pray for the leaders of the churches in Peru, and for their spiritual protection and growth in the Lord Jesus. Also be in prayer for Obed and Cynthia Alvarez, the head of NEWMA (Mision-AMEN), as well as their other leaders and missionaries. Please pray for our safety as we travel, and that we will boldly speak God's Word wherever we go.

We pray that God is drawing you closer and closer to Him every day. God bless you. We love you.

Yours in Christ,

*Arthur, Mary Alice,  
Joshua, Benjamin, Mary Beth*

Arthur, Mary Alice, Benjamin, Joshua, and Mary Beth Ivey  
Missionaries to Peru

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