



Latin American Missions Association – L.A.M.A. Perú

La Misión, Caserío El Carmen, E29 Lote 22, MZ, H, 11000
Distrito San Juan Bautista, Ica, Peru
LAMAministry.org
Perú +51 989 957 358 USA +1 858 203 1120 or 858 270 2345

9 April 2019

We have been down here in Peru on this trip for 4 months now, about half of what we plan to be. I last wrote everyone early February after two months. I thought I would catch you all up on our activities through February & March until now.

February was a very busy month. We had initiated the “Nelly’s Kitchen” **construction project** for a very kind widow that has been associated with the mission for a good while. Since we last wrote, we added 3 walls, columns to support walls and ceiling, new ceiling, poured floor (was dirt prior), private walls for bathroom, electrical wiring, plumbing, electrical fixtures and a 1100-liter water tank for the roof which will (when hooked up) give her 24 hours of running water, she only had 1 hour of water a day. There is a good deal of tile work going on now in the new bathroom, which she did not have, as well as a kitchen counter being done. Then, toilet, bath sink and kitchen sink will be installed. Here’s a few quick snapshots before and after. We are aiming to do one of these projects per year with financial support. This particular project ran about \$3,500US. So your [donations](#) are going to a good cause. Please help us to start funding a similar project for next year. We can give you a full accounting of all funds spent on material and labor.



2019 Exterior walls of new bathroom, shower, sink, toilet. Roof water tank

2018 Before Construction

2019 Kitchen, bath and dining room, new walls, ceiling, floor, lighting

Other than the ongoing construction project at a residents’ home, we had some great visits from missionaries, first from Canada, and California, as we mentioned in our last letter, both arriving in January. Seth from California did a lot with the children, introducing them to large surf kites and taking a van full to the beach (one-hour drive to our west). He had hoped to show them “Kite surfing” as the winds at the beach here are great for it. However, winds weren’t right but they got some good beach fun there with many of the locals which was a wonderful activity.

La Misión, Ica, Perú

Seth was also great in assisting with the construction project above, both of them were great with the kids. Hannah especially did a lot of choreography, worship and bible teaching with the children.

CristoBlanco: Having seen from afar last year, but never visiting, we decided to check out a rather unusual landmark that is walking distance from the Mission, Ica's own "Cristo-Blanco". I assume modeled after the famous large statue in Rio, Brazil, I was surprised to see this 30-40-meter-tall statue in the middle of the desert overlooking desert converted to farmland.



Hanna (Canada) & Seth (California) visited for a few months with us. They were both a Godsend with the ministry, Seth with construction & children, Hannah with teaching and choreography



There is one overlooking Cusco that I visited last year when I was there. There is also another in Huaraz, north of Lima. I imagine that there are a few more that have popped up. Seems to be the thing for each state to have. It is all fiberglass (other than the mount), so not as elaborate or big as Rio's original. It appears to be being made into a hopeful tourist stop from the Pan American Highway to our west, with bathrooms

and a large platform under construction. Anyway, we have a new place to take people. Maybe we might even have a Sunday service there in the near future.

Overlapping with Hannah & Seth for a short while, Lea from Texas joined us, with the intent of staying for our end of February Discipleship Training School (DTS) we were hosting from YWAM.

Hannah & Seth departed late February for some Peru and Bolivia touring at this time. We had talked about having Baptisms soon and Hannah took me aside and said that she will be back in a few weeks and would like to get baptized. We hadn't set a firm date, but at that point we did. It was a real blessing that Hannah was so touched by what we do here, and her



Saying goodbyes for Seth & Hannah as they head for a few weeks of touring Peru & Bolivia. Samuel, Lea, Yannirett, Lily, William also in picture, including local regulars Romario, Jean & Fabian

La Misión, Ica, Perú

current walk with the Lord, to desire to be baptized here. I have a new spiritual grand-daughter!!

Shortly after Lea joined us, Raquel also joined from northern Peru, Huaraz area. Both were here as students for the DTS starting February 25. Raquel is an angel, prayer warrior, gifted with working with children, teaching and more. Lea is also a career teacher and mother. We were blessed twice.

February zoomed by with this coming up on us. Although we continued to maintain weekly discipleship meetings in our many villages. Links are provided in the box to different photo albums, to show you that we maintain a pretty busy schedule down here and will continue to do so through the class.



YWAM Ica DTS class gets underway

March - Our first two weeks of our DTS class went by pretty quick as well with two separate teachers joining us from Cusco. Our first teacher, Bernardo, I developed a good friendship with last year even though we don't speak a common language. He oversees many churches in the mountains around Cusco primarily for the Andean residents, most that speak some dialect of Quechua. If you ever get a chance to attend worship services in a Quechua church, do! You may not understand the language, but you may never see such

outpourings of the Holy Spirit and church support. A truly blessed experience, which I invited Bernardo to come share with us in our discipleship class.

At the same time, we started with the Samaritans Purse, Great Adventure classes for the children. We did not get any Christmas boxes this year, so we will have to create our own ([donations please!!](#)). We are using the left over teaching books from last year and will have to make our own boxes for those that graduate.

The next week, another Cusco missionary leader, Jesus Vega, joined us with his wife (Krista) to translate, and with their 5 kids!! They made the 800 mile drive down from the mountains in their own van and spent a week with us. Knowing how much Jesus (Vega) likes to bring in the creation of God in his teachings (having also met him last year) our group took another hike to Cristo Blanco and did some worship and prayer. After a week with us, they took a slow family vacation tour back home to Cusco. Jesus family



Jesus & Kristen Vega and family at La Misión

La Misión, Ica, Perú

will soon be returning to USA (Oregon area) and we MAY be acquiring their van from them for use at the mission if [God provides](#) an answer to our prayer .



Mario Calderon teaches Inductive Bible Study

Having two good informative, God centered topical teaching weeks, the class was on a role, and then came Mario Calderon from Lima to teach *Inductive Bible Study*.



Mario said he had far too much material, could he lengthen the class? He really had us all working hard and left a mark on the students for sure. We actually added a few hours in the week for his great material. Mario also joined us for one of



our out-reaches, this one to San Pedro, where he got himself a workout as well toting brick.

This third week of classes also brought us our Hannah back with tales of Arequipa, Bolivia, Machu Pichu, Cusco, La Paz, but she was quite serious still and desirous of her baptism this Sunday, March 17th.

Baptisms: After Sunday services we had our four candidates for baptism, ages 7 to 72. From Venezuela, Peru and Canada. This was a very blessed event and I couldn't help tear up a bit with Hannah being that I have become somewhat of a spiritual father figure to her.

Daniel Samuel, age 7, our resident young missionary also made his own decision to get baptized having chosen not to last year when we



4 people to get baptized and 2 to do the dunking

did our first baptisms at the mission. He was much younger then! ;-)

Pepe and Jose, both age 72, are also very special to us. This was a 2nd baptism for Jose, but a first for Pepe.



Hannah gives her two baptismers, Sosimo & William, a thank you hug

This was a very blessed day for certain.

La Misión, Ica, Perú

Although our mornings are taken up by classes (and this went on for 3 more weeks) our afternoons are usually busy with one group or another, depending on day of the week. With the advent of the YWAM teaching schedule, we moved our regular 'day off' from Monday to Saturday. This required us to move our usual discipleship we do on Saturday over to Sunday, the same time we do another. So Sunday late afternoons has us in two places, teaching youth. We are at La Misión and also 7 kilometers south in San Juan Bautista. Since we are not a huge group we would like to be (yet), that is sometimes challenging but so far so good.



Raquel & Lily run Samaritan Purse bible teaching at la Misión on Sunday



Yannirett teaching in San Juan Bautista on Sunday

As of this writing we are now in week 7 of our 12-week Discipleship training school. After which we put in practice what we learn and go on the road for 8 weeks doing outreach.

We have a group from Mazatlán Mexico, on their outreach, coming week after next. This will add 14 people to our mission for 8 nights and we will be quite busy. Mazatlán is a pretty good size teaching base for YWAM and their class is splitting in 3 parts to do their outreach, only one of the 3 coming to Peru. This group has people

from USA, Mexico, Chile, Belize, Sweden, Perú and Venezuela. We look forward to their arrival. One of their group will be teaching that week, another offering to translate, still another helping cook, and the rest will help us with needed items around the mission. We will all do discipleship to the villages together. We look forward to that visit.

Our purpose here is to serve the locals. We are dealing with many short term problems (staffing, transportation, resources), but we are looking at the long term. Our bigger problems are the people and how stubbornly they accept that religion is all they need. Most have never owned a bible, they don't know how many gospels there are, nor what is the gospel message. It is doubly sad since they have icons and statues all over the place, cab drivers superstitiously kiss a plastic bobble they have on their dashboard every time they

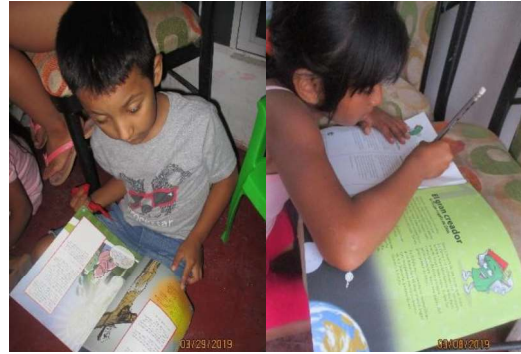


13 of our 14 Mazatlán visitors coming in 10 days.

La Misión, Ica, Perú

pass a church, traffic is stopped for multiple parades during the year to honor this or that saint. Yet no one really attends church and those that do have no idea what they believe.

We are touched by great missionary stories around the globe and we pray to become one. Our dream is to lead everyone to know Jesus Christ and what He did for them. To lead them to lead others as well. We have heard great happenings in poor places similar to ours in Brazil, Argentina, and elsewhere where missionaries are created from the local people. My attraction to



Why we are here, the children and their families



Sosimo and Daniela, San Pedro, Ica, Peru

Bernardo from the mountains of Peru, a gentle man who I don't even share a common language, is driven by his being such a grassroots effective preacher of humble means. Our mission, in 2017, with the leadership of our prior missionaries from Mexico, rallied the local people to go across the river and help many who lost their homes and jobs during floods. Poor people helping poor people. This is what we strive for here, to make disciples out of the local inhabitants, having encouragement and example from visiting missionaries from afar.

We are in communication with a young 19-year-old in east India on the border with Myanmar, who just finished his YWAM DST in February and wants to come to our mission and help the poor and learn Spanish. What spirit drives that age from that far to do so much? I came out of religion and found Jesus in my 40s. I am so touched by high school and college graduates finding Him earlier in life and wanting to fulfill the great commission when they are most effective.

Thank you Lord for making us a part of your plan.

God bless you, we will write again in 2 months. Thank you so much for your support in prayers and finances. Our needs here are great; our plans are even greater. We pray that you write us to ask any questions, support anyone who would like to come work here at the mission, possibly help some that already are.

"The harvest is plentiful; the workers are few!"

In Jesus name,

William & Lily Silverthorn

