



CROSS COLLABORATION

MTW MISSIONARIES TO PERU

APRIL 2017

MISSIONS NEWSLETTER

**PLANTING CHURCHES
IN AREQUIPA, PERU**

**WILL YOU PARTNER
WITH US?**

ONLINE:
WWW.MTW.ORG

MAIL:
MISSION TO THE WORLD
PO BOX 2589
SUWANEE, GA 30024-0982

MEMO:
BONHAM FAMILY - 10078
GUTIERREZ FAMILY - 12762

**READ THIS LETTER
AND PRAY!**



Retreat

One of our favorite traditions in the beginning of the year is to take a church retreat to the beach just a few hours from Arequipa. For us it is in the middle of the summer, so the weather is perfect and just hot enough for us to appreciate the fact that the hotel has no hot water! In the weeks

leading up to the retreat, the whole team participates in getting everyone ready to go. This year, Nathaniel handled the logistics of the retreat: signups, housing, scholarships, assigning roommates, collecting the funds,



encouraging the youth to invite their friends and coordinating the chartered bus. Alicia was in charge of all the breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and drink needs for the whole group. Nate prepared and gave powerful messages for each morning and evening for the adults, while Nikki prepared and taught interactive lessons for the children during

those times as well. All four of us had a running list of things we needed bring for a retreat of over 45 people with unfurnished and rustic accommodations. The best part of the retreat was the focus we had on the young people who have been attending our youth group the last few months. We were encouraged to see such a strong presence of youth, and that they were able to bring their friends to join us. In the end, we all came home with rosy, sunburned cheeks, hearts full with the encouragement we had received in the gospel, and a closeness as a church that events like these foster so well.

Membership Growth

Since we have had several new people regularly attending our church lately, it was time to host another round of membership classes. This time because of the size of the crowd,



Nathaniel and Nate took three long Sunday afternoons to explain the foundations of the faith and what it means to commit as a member of our church, La Roca. The attendees were encouraged and eager to join our church. We were able to admit three of the six who took our class, one being an adult baptism, and we will



continue to work with three others who need further discipleship as they consider what it means to trust wholly on Jesus.



Presbytery

In March, Nate and Nathaniel attended Presbytery in Cusco. Many important issues were discussed, including a proposal we made as a mission in Peru to help jump start some new churches planting

efforts throughout the South of Peru. We were also able to bring up some delicate church disciplinary issues and were able to seek wise counsel from the members of Presbytery. The most exciting part of those meetings, however, was that Nathaniel was elected President of the Presbytery for the next two years. This will be a great responsibility and is a tremendous honor that he was voted in for this role. Please pray with us that Nathaniel will have wisdom as he leads the Presbytery for these next two years and for our team and mission as we seek to bring many new initiatives to the Presbytery floor.

Flooding

Many of you have heard, and asked about the flooding in Peru this last month. We are very grateful that Arequipa was mostly spared from the damage that devastated so much of Peru. One thing that was difficult for us during that time was that the mudslides in Arequipa knocked out the main water source and it took 10 days for the water to come back on in some areas. Unfortunately for the Bonham's, they were the family in our church that was without water the longest, but their cheerful attitudes were an example to all. Even the schools had no water, so all schools in Arequipa were canceled for a week and students are now having to make up those lost days on Saturdays. Because of the frequency of water cuts in Arequipa, and the difficulty many of our church members have to buy water, we have a team of men coming from Madison Heights Church in Madison, MS in May to install reserve water tanks on the roofs of some of our needy church members. This will help relieve some of the stress during these regular water cuts and provide a way for these our church members to help those in their communities when these cuts take place.

Special Prayer Request Update

We also want to thank you for praying for Lacey, Nikki's sister. The surgery to remove the tumor went as well as the doctors could have hoped. Please continue praying for their family and the journey ahead of radiology and chemotherapy.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise God for answered prayers for Lacey's surgery. Prayer for upcoming treatments.
- Prayer for the Bonham's as Nate continues working in Peru while Nikki and kids help Lacey.
- Pray for Madison Heights Church (short-term missions trip installing water tanks in Arequipa).
- Pray for new members. Pray they would be the good soil, and produce 100 fold.
- Pray for the team as they help lead the presbytery.