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Lacoursiere Link



FEB
29th
2020

Greetings to our praying friends & family in Christ! How are you doing?

While at our home church in **Sunday School** in Canada last year, the opening question our **Adult class** was often, “**Where did you find God this week?**”. It was **always interesting** to hear from others, and also share and think how **God participates in our lives!** And how **He invites us** to partake of His life! It is awesome to see Him **working in and through us ...and others!**

Last year in Canada from Aug. 1st to Oct. 16th in Canada, we were able to see many friends and make so **many special memories!**

Other highlights for us in Canada were spending time, though short, with **our kids & grandkids.** We had a **camping trip** with our **entire family**, days after our arrival. And then we were able to visit them **all again** in their respective homes! A **tea party**, and selling **cookies**, and time at **the Y in Winnipeg with our 3 oldest!** **Shopping & walks** to the library with **Madi in Edmonton.** Just being in their lives for a short time was **such a special treat!**

And it was an exceptional honor to see and hold **Willow** on the day of her birth, **our fifth grandchild**, born to **Ashley & (our son) Josh!**

Then, **mid October**, we returned to **Peru** and **quickly got back** into things, and soon after, the **Christmas planning and activities** began.

Now we would like to share just some of the things where we've seen God in & through our lives:

- **Passports forgotten**, but received **just in the nick of time** to visit **kids and grandkids** in **Winnipeg.** Thanks **Kari, and Melissa!**

- **Early one Sunday evening**, church had just finished in **José Olaya**, when **Ruth saw** a police car **chasing a vehicle** down the somewhat **narrow, quiet side street** by our church. **Ruth screamed** and **one little girl**, going home from **Sunday School**, moved out of the way **just in time!**

- **Sharing** so many faith stories with **Gabi!** **Our good friend in Christ**, from **Venezuela**, for months **stuck in Peru**, while her husband, **Eliel**, is in **Santiago, Chile**, **because of paperwork** she needed to do here! And now she is in



Venezuela, waiting for an appointment with the **Chilean embassy** there. **Please pray with us that they may soon be reunited!**

- **Visiting friends down on the coast...** In November we went to visit **Carlos and Maruja**, good friends **for years!** Carlos, the husband, **had been sick with cancer.** During that visit, **Dennis asked him** if he had ever given his life to **Christ.** He quietly said he never had, so Dennis talked further with him, and **Carlos prayed** to receive Christ. A couple of weeks ago, (February) **we had a phone call** from Maruja, letting us know that **Carlos had passed away.** The next day we travelled to **Mollendo** on the coast, to be **at the wake** in their house, and then **proceed** over to the cemetery. Dennis had been asked to **officiate** the service. As he shared, he gave Maruja **Psalm 116:15** - “**Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.**”. He also shared from **1 John 5:11-12** and **2 Corinthians 5:8** - Carlos is **absent from his body**, and **present forever** with our **Lord!**

- **People we continue to connect with in special events** like our **yearly Second Hand Sale & Summer Kids Club**, as well as regular activities such as **individual & group Discipleships, Seniors group**, and **one-on-one opportunities.**

- Seeing baby Tobias Jacobo here, **healthy**, with his family, **growing and responding!** And his family **overflowing with thankfulness!** He was born to **pastor Pedro and Chichi's daughter**, and **didn't breathe** for around four minutes. He had **other complications** as well in the first weeks of his life. **But the Lord answered international prayer!**



- **Ruth** also spent a few weeks in **Canada** from December to January. She arrived hours before **on Christmas Day**, when **Leilani**, (she's our 6th grandchild!) was **born** to (our daughter) **Becky & Kyle!** **We are thankful** that all are **healthy!**

- **I (Ruth)** have been **spoiled** this past year. In **October**, before coming back to Peru, we drove **through snow**. And **the colors were just awesome** as the autumn yellow leaves had not finished falling yet. And now, in **Arequipa**, we are grateful for **the blessing of rain** (typically our summer weather). The **brown hills** have turned **green** and, so far, the rain **hasn't caused** too much damage! **Flash floods** often are an issue here!



In our second church, in **José Olaya**, we had a **record crowd for Christmas!** **Over 80** people came out for the special occasion! But our regular **church attendance** has also **grown!** Especially in the number of **adults and young people** attending on Sundays!

Our leaders group for **José Olaya** has also **grown!** We are now **9** people in leadership!

Five foreigners and 4 Peruvians... but all one in Christ! We grow & sometimes groan with the **changes & decisions** that we need to make, but I (Dennis) am excited how the **team works together**, and **works out issues when needed!**

Stan & Ruth Schrock, with their youngest son **Denver**, came to **Arequipa** early last year to **learn Spanish.**



And they rented above us. Months later, **before we went to Canada**, I (**Dennis**) heard that they were not going back to the jungle. Days

later, I had **3 thoughts** come in to my mind, in **quick succession.** Minutes later, I was upstairs **talking with Stan**, and asking **if they might consider staying in Arequipa** & working with us. Stan then confided that just the week before, **they had been praying** for direction as a family, and Stan had told his wife and son that it would be **real hard to say no** if Dennis asked him to stay! Around two months later, they made the final decision to stay and work here with us! **Stan & Ruth** are the **last 2 members** to join José Olaya leadership, and **Denver** is involved in **Worship and Youth in both churches.**

How is our God working through you and your church? **His presence and guidance is so important in our lives!**

Thank you for supporting our ministry here in Arequipa through prayer & financial support!

Bye for now!

With love,

In Christ,

Dennis & Ruth

If you would like to support our ministry financially, in Canada gifts may be sent to: Christians In Action Canada, Box 344, Chilliwack, B.C. V2P 6J4 (**NOTE: Please mark 'for Peru Outreach')

OR in the US (new address):
Christians In Action
1322 E. Shaw Ave., Suite 150, Fresno, CA 93710
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