

Mailchimp Template Test - "LAMA La Misión trip 2019 (letter 4)"

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La Misión, Ica, Perú

31 July 2019 - Greetings to all our friends and supporters! We last wrote our 3rd letter of this trip in late June but only took you through our activities for April and up to the 20th of May. (Past issues available at [this link](#).) This will be our final newsletter for this 8 month journey. It was intended to be about 2 months per newsletter but not exactly. The stopping point of May 20th was a significant change in that we ended 3 months of 'at mission' training, and shifted to being in travel mode, as we entered 2 months of 'outreach'. Hope this newsletter finds you well. Any and all feedback appreciated.

May was a very busy month, mostly reported on in our last newsletter. As of the 19th of May we start our 8 week outreach phase of our YWAM Discipleship training school (DTS). This DTS school is new to us, as we became a YWAM base just last year and we surprised many in YWAM by launching our first class the very next year. As previously mentioned our purpose in doing so is to make our site more known by the young missionaries coming out of High School and College as well as people later in life. We would love to recruit from this pool of missionaries to build up staff at the mission to service the community. The young adults, just prior to entering the work force and/or starting families, have a wonderful 'mentor' relationship for the young children, and we want to encourage it and 'tap it' as much as possible. YWAM is designed to help people at this age put God as their center, regardless of what life choices

they make going forward. One can be a missionary in spirit and heart while also being a surgeon in New York, or lawyer in Montreal.



The YWAM program, and the mission here, is designed for receiving such age groups, to help them foster a spirit of putting God first and serving others to those younger than themselves. We will continue to strive to move it in the direction of younger missionaries who have the energy, rapport and mentorship of the young children and teenagers we seek to reach. We also advertise for older missionaries who can lead the mission, develop relationships with the local families, and more.

Our daily focus continues to be to service the family and children of the villages we serve, as we also now undertake 8 weeks of serving elsewhere. Although we will have to 'pause' our local activities when we are gone, we have a few volunteers who will be doing some light duty for us while we are gone. At the conclusion of both the teaching (12 weeks, now behind us) and outreach (8 weeks we are entering) phases, we will have 4 qualified YWAM staff personal and whoever else may join us as a result. We are already making plans to have our 2nd class beginning January 6, 2020, to continue to work on bolstering up the resident staff who are working at the mission. A large number of photos taken during the classroom portion of this training can be observed at [this link](#) on our facebook page. There is a text box down further in this email that contain this and other links to what we are doing here at the mission and in the communities we serve.

YWAM DTS Outreach (phase 1) - With much discussion, and prior commitments, we broke our coming 8 weeks of outreach into 3 primary parts. South, Ica return and North. Our southern travels will take us the farthest, first to La Paz Bolivia, then to Arequipa in south Peru. We will then return to Ica to work with an incoming church from Illinois, USA. Our third phase will take us to Lima and prayerfully Pisco.



Our route to La Paz, being our southern most destination, took us through Arequipa for a bus change. We had one red-eye bus getting there and we were looking forward to another red-eye bus taking us to the Bolivian border. In between those two red-eye buses, we got a day to see a little of beautiful Arequipa downtown mostly.



Before doing a little touristing, we had an early meal at a local eatery that was owned and operated by a Venezuelan family. We seem to have a magnet to Venezuelan people, who are everywhere down here in light of what is going on in their homeland. Also, since our resident missionary family is from that country as well, perhaps that adds to the attraction but I think its just that they are many. They are hard working people, to the point often of raising the objections of many peruvians who don't want to compete with them for jobs. Also if there is one bad Venezuelan, it reflects bad on all of them. Life as a refugee from your home country is not something that anyone wants or desires. We will be encountering many more, beautiful people all, but down on their luck so to speak.

Please continue to keep Venezuela in your prayers. We had a short day exploring some of the city but intentionally did not do a lot since we knew we would be back here for ministry.

BOLIVIA - Our late night bus got us into the 'frontier village of Desaguadero where we basically walk across the border, with someone taking our luggage from the bus terminal. We 'emigrated' via the Peruvian side, and 'immigrated' on the Bolivian side. One problem, we believed the internet. Americans (one among us, me) have to get a formal visa from the Bolivian embassy (and pay \$160) which the Bolivian website stated could also be done at the border. For some interesting reason, the Bolivian country wanted some sort of prove that I was scheduled to go home to USA and would not let me in without a lot of paperwork and a printed copy of my airline ticket



for late July. It doesn't matter to them that I am a resident in Peru. Since I am a USA citizen, their process says I must have a date of departure from Peru for USA. Buraucrats know no borders.



After this lengthy delay at the border, we got through. Caught a shuttle into La Paz which took about 90 minutes. La Paz is a beautiful city, 3,640 meters in elevation (approximately 12,000 feet), the 3rd largest city in Bolivia but whose metropolitan area makes it the largest at 2.3 million people. The city literally has it's highs and lows having a central valley and houses all up and down the surrounding hillsides. The temperature variations from life in the valley to living in the highlands can be

quite different. Our three addresses we shared here let us experience it directly. We first stayed with Juancito a family friend of the Barriga's. He opened up his home for us which was very kind.

He also gave us a tour of the city by cable car that first day. La Paz has a very unique terrain being a valley surrounded by mountains but with roads and buildings everywhere. To get from one side of town to the other by bus takes an extremely long time so the solution? Cable cars!! A very extensive network of them. The system works extremely well! [Here's an [album of city view by cable car photos](#) taken on our first and last day in La Paz]



Sosimo wasted no time to start witnessing, going right to it on the cable-cars. Legislation was started in this country to make any sort of religious witnessing illegal but it was stopped a year ago. People in Bolivia are a bit concerned that they may be the 'next Venezuela' not feeling that the upcoming elections in

September will necesarily be fair and open, but rather fixed for the current president to keep contriol.

On our 2nd day in La Paz, our Bolivian host, _____, who set up our original 3 church visit was to come and fetch us and take us south to our first church. We arrived at [Iglesia Bíblica De Mallasilla](#) (IBM) which was located to the south in the suburbs. I had to smile at the initials being that I spent 20 of my 35 years in the tech industry working for a company with those initials! Our church host was Osvi & Ali Grundy, with their two children. They operated the church. The church is in relationship with a school that teaches all grades ONLY in English. This is rather unique in a Spanish speaking country but they have excellent enrollment, but have a lot to contend with the government.



We were very welcome at this church and were setup to stay there for 3 nights. We had a warm welcome dinner at the pastor's home, getting to know many of the teachers, co-pastors, and visiting staff. A Venezuelan co-pastor from La Paz who asked us to visit his baptist church in the main city. Other than the wonderful welcoming dinner, we had a few other meetings. Our primary event there was a large cell site bible study at a parishioner's house. With Lily's assistance, we gave a

message on the Great Commission and had some good dialog and worship. We got to celebrate a birthday for our own missionary Daniel Samuel there as well!! we made some great friends, have some great ideas and contacts for schools, welcomed our local hosts to come visit us in Ica. We hope to build on this relationship for a future visit to La Paz.

Our third hosts in La Paz were back in the main city of La Paz, an interesting church called [El Refugio](#) ('the shelter' in Spanish). The pastor and pastora, Renan & Vicki, run a fascinating direct to the people type of ministry. It is a smaller church than Mallasilla, but dealing with the downtown street people more, the poor, down on their luck, substance abusers, urban folks and a lot of normal folks that love on them. We were quite blessed to be there for their [Sunday service](#) as well as the night before at one of their monthly street ministries where they had some guest pastors from Lima who focused on the street folks as well. The street ministry was primarily a performance of competitive rap's, clean Christian topics, with some very gifted rappers. Before that got underway, we were called on to open up and do some work with the children in dance and drama and clown outfits so right up our alley ... we did it. The high elevation made it quite challenging but we gave a good performance.





were many.

While the rappers were getting under way on different topics we interfaced with the people a bit for el refugio. One late night rap had Raquel get on stage and two supposed suiters were doing a 'rap-off' to court her, appealing to her father. It was an enjoyable evening, even for me the least spanish speaking of them all. The evening ended with a [rap based altar call that I found a recording](#) of that I want to translate as the number of hands that went up at the end, to accept Jesus as their savior,

[Facebook Photo Albums of 2019 Ministry](#)

- [Altura](#)
- [Cabildo](#)
- [El Carmen](#)
- [El Olivo](#)
- [Invacion](#),
- [La Misión](#)
- [San Juan Bautista](#)
- [San Pedro](#)

[Projects / Events](#)

- [Construction Project \(Altura\)](#)
- [YWAM Discipleship School](#)
- [Mazatlan visit to mission](#)
- [2019 Baptisms \(March & May\)](#)

[Outreach](#)

- [Bolivia](#)
- [La Paz tourism](#)
- [Arequipa - Casa Hogars](#)
- [Arequipa - Daniel Christian](#)
- [Ica \(Williamsville church\)](#)
- [Lima \(Brazos Abiertos\)](#)

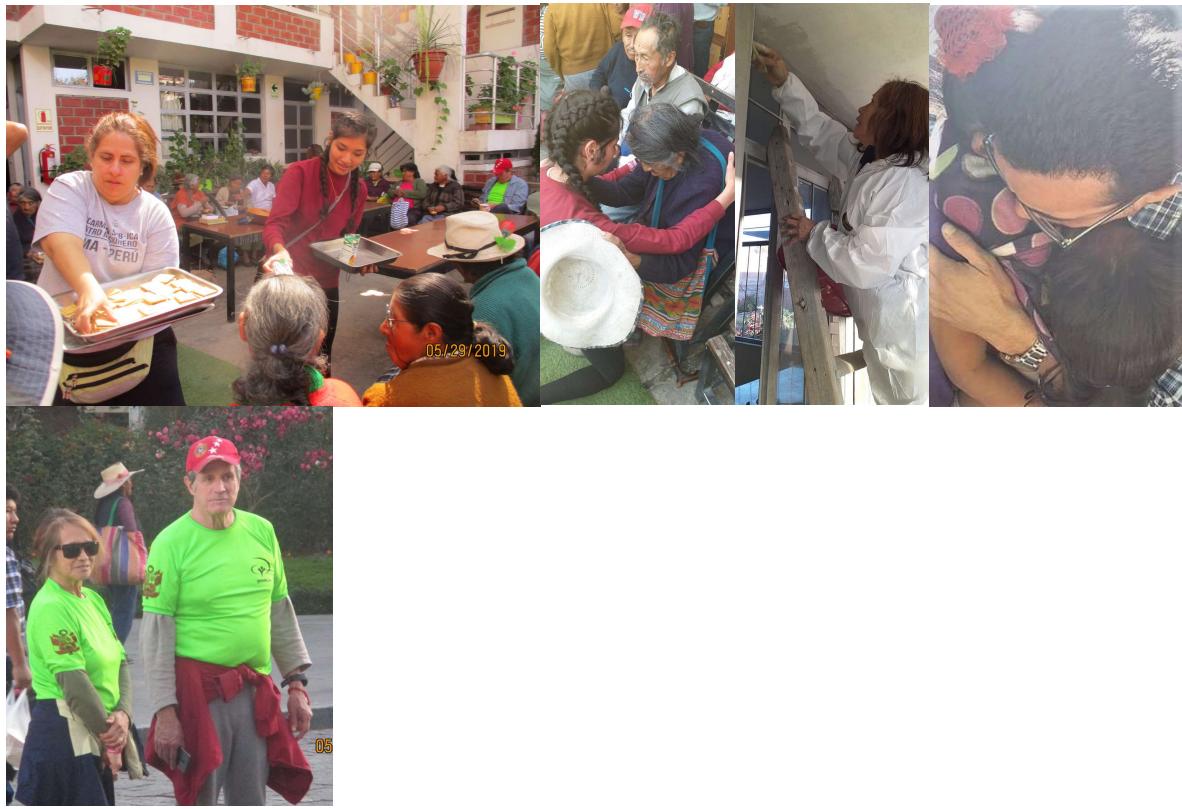
The next day we did their regular Sunday service at their church. Renan is a veterinarian during the day but his heart is with the ministry and saving souls. We were really blessed by this church. They celebrated my birthday at the Sunday services after Lily and I delivered a [message on the Great Commission](#). We met some great people here, that were locals to La Paz, that were visiting pastors from Lima, all of which we hope to work with in the near future, perhaps bring such a ministry to Ica. What a blessing this church was.

To conclude our time in La Paz, we spent one more day back with our original host, Juancito, before we left Bolivia. That one more day was perhaps worth the whole trip, in that Juancito accepted the Lord as his savior..

AREQUIPA - We left very early the next morning to catch a shuttle to the border as they run at no other times. From there we re-immigrated into Peru and then took a bus to Arequipa. We had two primary engagements here, first with a YWAM friend, Jose Ingales who did his DTSchool 25 years ago. He is an accountant by trade, but a missionary in heart. He, with his wonderful wife Gloria, have built up 3 different Casa Hoga's, homes for children, caring and supporting about 58 children. He has plans to convert one of them to a home for children suffering from cancer. He has a good number of beautiful children, of all ages, that are eligible for adoption. We cannot show pictures here, since many children are still 'in process' but would love to put you in touch with him if you are interested.

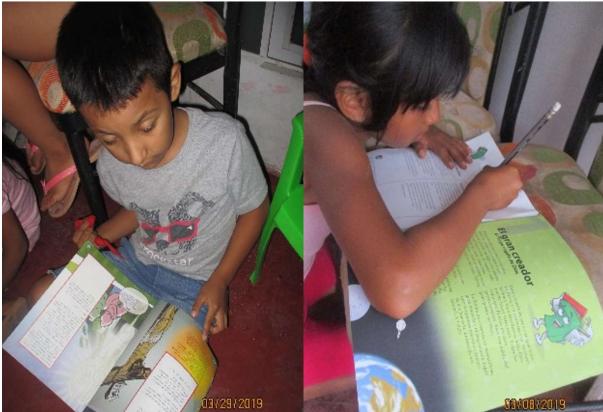


We spent a lot of "service time" with Jose & Gloria's ministry, witnessing and working with the elderly on two separate Wednesdays, doing painting renovation at one of the houses, teaching and praying with the children, participating with other Casa Hogars in a march in the city to inform the need of these children. We were very touched by these children and their hearts. So much to speak too. God bless this ministry and the hearts of its founders, the children it services, and the safety and financial support for both.



AREQUIPA - Daniel Christian School - Our 2nd week in Arequipa took us to our good YWAM friends, Silvia Diaz and Juan Quispe, and their school operation.

This brings us up to May 20th, the last 2 weeks of May, all of June and first two weeks of July are all part of the Outreach phase. There is so much to tell on that portion of our travels, I will save it for the next newsletter. I can say that we were and are (still doing the outreach) most impressed with so many selfless service examples we have run into, and so much need. The mission field has some great servants and many areas more that are in need of service.



Why we are here, the children and their families

It is important to know that during all of these class weeks, we have also been serving the communities around our mission, teaching, training, entertaining, educating, listening, assisting. We continue to work with Samaritans Purse Gran Adventure program. We have opened the mission to many missionaries and groups and continue to seek more. Our biggest area of need is to grow the staff. We are most interested in longer term staff members adopting this area with us.

Please encourage others that may be thinking of missionary work to please check us out. We can never get enough resident help here and we would really love to hear of people that would like to serve in the field. I can assure them that it is most rewarding.

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

God bless you. In light of the delay in getting this report off, we will write again soon about the next 2+ months (May 20-July 31). 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, send or support someone who would like to come work here at the mission, possibly help some that already are, visit or just ask for any more information you would like to know.

*“The **harvest** is plentiful, but the **laborers are few.**” (Luke 10:2)*

In Jesus Name,



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