

[Test] 2020 May-June - Peru Missions Newsletter

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From : info@lamaministry.org

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To : agthorn@gmail.com

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1 July 2020 - Greetings to all our friends and supporters!

This is our 3rd letter of this year. We will cover **May & June** of this year. We last wrote taking you through March & April which included the first 6 weeks of the pandemic here in Peru (as well as many other activities (baptism, wedding, trip to USA, etc). (Past issues available at [this link](#).) Hope this



newsletter finds you well. Any and all feedback appreciated. Please share this newsletters with others, and encourage them to '[join our mailing list](#)!'

Some Peru pandemic milestones in the timeframe of this newsletter:

- **16 March** - The pandemic started when Peru closed its borders, restricted all international and domestic travel. (this one was covered in prior newsletter)
- **3 May**, Peru stipulates the gradual re-opening of the economy in four stages. The first stage of the recovery, which will start in May, will enable certain restaurants to offer on-site pick-up and home delivery services. In addition, limited hotel and tourist transportation services will be allowed.
- **8 May**, President Vizcarra announced the decision to extend the State of Emergency until Sunday May 24. There will be 150,000 troops on the streets, enforcing the measures ordered.
- **11 May**, the immobilization mandatory social will be from 8 at night. This will allow attention in banks and markets is extended, which will reduce concentrations of people.
- **22 May** - (Quarantine Extension): Peru's state of emergency & quarantine measures to remain in effect through **June 30**.
- **26 May** - 85% of ICU beds with ventilators occupied, despite strict measures like curfews and border closings. Medical experts have commented that the severity in Peru can be explained in part by economic circumstances. Many residents travel daily to markets out of habit and many don't have refrigeration. Banks have experienced crowding as relief recipients without bank accounts had to go in person to get their stimulus money. Peru has no real postal system.
- **30 June** - Peru enters "Phase 3" of its economic recovery in most of the country. Stores open up to 50% of capacity. Restaurants (excluding bars) open up to 40% of capacity. Hotels and travel agencies authorized to reopen. Passengers using public transportation are not allowed to travel standing up and

MAY - was SUPPOSED to be a very busy month, where we were to have almost 30 people from Oregon and northern California visiting us, but all that got cancelled



with the pandemic so we adjusted. Although the pandemic is affecting us in Peru as much as it is the rest of the world, we are still staying busy and safe. We have definitely increased our bible study and prayer time to twice a day, probably 3-4 hours per day as a team, 6 days per week. We strive to daily gather for intercessory prayer as there are so many needs today. We are praying for the turmoil and struggles going on in the USA especially. Our morning time, after breakfast we spend in bible study and after much time in Ecclesiastes, Romans, Corinthians 1 & 2, John, we are now in the Book of

Revelations. Loving it.



2 May - Doing many chores still within the mission, always work to do. We are also getting out a few times, to meet with some of our children so that we can report back to their sponsors. This young boy, Valentino, is sponsored by a wonderful person in northern California. Alejañdro, the 2nd boy, has a sponsor in southern California. If you would like to sponsor child, we would love to talk to you.

5 May - Construction that was started in March was stopped due to the pandemic. It remains idle as of this day. Our goal is to add one last floor for 5 private staff bedrooms with 2 new bathrooms. We don't have the staff yet, but we are moving forward in faith. Construction should have been far along but at this rate, this project won't finish until sometime early next year.



8 May - Construction starts to resume, crew finally moves the brick that's been sitting 6 weeks in the empty field next door into the job.

9 May - Local government is doing a regular spraying down of the village buildings, once or twice a week, with some sort of bleaching water.



10 May - Late last month in our last newsletter we told you about the Mayor giving out chickens. Well ours was really getting accustomed to 'life at the mission' but other than that first egg she gave us (when we insulted her thinking she was perhaps a rooster), we have not seen another ... she's got personality, tells us when we are late with the feed, comes in at night to be tucked in.

Outreach Geographies

- [Altura \(2019\)](#)
- [Cabildo \(2019\)](#)
- [Cellular Bible Studies \(2019\)](#)
- [El Carmen \(2019\)](#)
- [El Olivo \(2019\)](#)
- [La Misión \(2019\)](#)
- [Quilloay](#)
- [San Juan Bautista \(2019\)](#)
- [San Pedro \(2019\)](#)

Projects / Events

- [Homes of Hope Project \(2020 plans\). \(2019 Altura\)](#)
- [Mission Construction \(2020\)](#)
- [YWAM DTS School](#)
- [Avocado Run \(12-14 May\)](#)
- [Jovenes de La Mision](#)
- [Pandemic grocery assist](#)



We got this truck full, which was about a half tonne, 500kg. After loading up, we were given the good news that there are a lot more if we wanted to come back tomorrow. This was great news. We had no idea how long it would take to give out a truck full of Avocados so we didn't commit but commenced to unload this tasty load at the mission .. We ended up with a lot of helpers from the village to assist with the unloading .. and word traveled fast and before the day was out, in this one village alone, we had pretty much dispersed all our goodies ([lots of photos](#) to prove it! ;-).

13 May - So of course, we made plans for another pickup the next day. This time we took some wood sidings to be able to make the truck bed hold a bit more. And Sosimo decided to make the trip with us, since I guess he figured we had so much fun loading the truck yesterday ;-) But with the siding, we were able this time to get 700kg, almost 3/4 of a tonne.

We made multiple stops, before leaving for our next village of Altura where we made two stops. After that, we went to El Olivos and made a few stops. We still had a good amount left and were making plans for a few more stops but Abel had to get back to the construction job we hired him for, so we returned to the mission and unloaded our balance. We had a few more days of locals coming by and getting free produce.

14-15 May - But we weren't done! Over the past few days, Angie has been in contact with a few of the local churches we work with and made them aware of the supply. 2 of the 3 pastors I believe were able to get a truck and pick up a load for distribution in the city of Ica. At the same time, our own Yannirett and Alba, always in touch with the Venezuelan refugees of the area, were able to arrange for a truck to take a complete tonne (1000kg) to two distribution points, Ica and Santiago (just south of Ica) for Venezuelan refugee assistance. This effort got on the local news apparently, where these two photos are from. All three days of effort resulted in a [lot of](#)



[photos](#) of many happy villagers. We hope that God blesses us again with more produce from the local farm distributors. Might need our own truck as well.

14-16 May - Construction resumed and the exterior and bathroom walls



were pretty much completed. After the walls are completed, the next step is to put up the roof. The rest of the internal walls will be done later with drywall.

Problem though ... We pretty much used up all the building materials we had, and our next challenge was to get more supplies. We couldn't continue construction on the roof without more supply, and no one was open

because of the pandemic.

But before we could quit, while we had the labor, Lily got them to make her a sidewalk of sorts to the baptismal font area. Might as well. May be another long wait before we see the crew again.

So, with construction on a pause again, we continued our daily routine of bible study, chores, prayers and time with God.

We also maintained a good schedule of Zoom calls weekly with many different missionary teams, mostly with Youth With A Mission (Buenos Aires, San Diego, Mazatlan, Lima) as well as other educational opportunities aimed at missionary work, service, and useful training.



We have been maintaining communication with the "**Maxwell family**", a missionary family that were coming down in August and by then we were praying that all will be back to normal. They are excited about this being a family trip, and they have a lot to offer in the area of **puppets**, making them, bringing a few, teaching, constructing portable stages, etc. This ties in nicely to training we had earlier this year (see Jan/Feb newsletter). One of their sons is big on **aquaponics** farming as well, which is a great item to introduce to the local village families

Bad news is that their airline decided to cancel their flights for that month, moving them out till end of year. Based on that, we suggested next year so we can be here with them. This pandemic and closed airport continues to raise havoc with our mission and those that want to come serve. I love this family, partly because in talking to them by video calls, they are already planning to make future annual trips, and they haven't even been here yet!! We will be staying in regular touch with them, and look forward to seeing them here some time next March 2021.



29 May - Sosimo visits Victor and his wife Alicia in neighboring village of Invacion, and brings them a bag of groceries. Victor was one of our baptisms last year as well as his brother Pepe.



Womens Ministry - Also during the entire pandemic, Yannirett has been most passionate about a daily prayer group she runs on social media tool WhatsApp called "Kingdom Multipliers", it is made up of 12 Women, ages from 17 to 65. There they share Biblical texts, prayer requests, share photos of daily devotional 7 days a week (they all maintain devotional notebooks). They accompany their sharing often with audio because sometimes what is written in the notebook is not understood.

Yannirett connects them all by phone calls 4 days per week, Tuesdays through Fridays, from 7 to 9pm. During the call each one has their turn to talk about what God taught them during the morning devotional. They ask questions, clarify doubts, have a time of intercession for each other, and also have a space to share.. Some people vent and tell their experiences, and sometimes even talk funny things and laugh. The idea is that during the call they are closer to the Lord Jesus Christ, and that they feel that it is a place where they can disconnect from the routine and stress of the day.



JUNE - Finally starting to find access to building materials, so with a fresh supply of a ton of rebar and a load of ceiling block, we are now again underway to get the construction moving forward. That has been two major interruptions since we got here due to the pandemic, loosing almost 10 weeks of work for us. This project should be done by now; instead we are looking at actually completing it (internal walls, windows, fixtures, doors, etc.) sometime early next year when we return. Oh well, but we are progressing again. Lots of [pictures online](#) of the construction.

We continue with some grocery buys here and there for the needy. We thank those of you that find it in your hearts to [send us funds](#) to do so. Peru has been having a very hard time with this



virus down here and continues to keep the quarantine on, which in many ways causes more problems due to work stoppages, people making daily trips to produce market due to lack of refrigeration, etc. We pray that Peru will come through this well and get its economy going again soon.

Cory has also been very active with teaching English weekly to our interested Venezuelan and Peruvian volunteers seeking to learn the language. 9 year old Daniel Samuel is passing them all in his English skills and is kind of helping Cory actually with the teaching!! Language skills definitely peak at a younger age!! ;)

Other great ministries going on here at the mission:

- **Jovenes de La Mision** is a facebook group that Cory, Angie & Alba have initiated and attracted membership of 70+ individuals, focused on the teenagers in the villages. We hope to get them together as soon as the pandemic lets up but in the mean time, many posts, discussions, videos, and sharing is going on in this group. They had their first Zoom gathering this past week, and are continuing to schedule more. This is exciting. If any teen members of folks on our mailing list are interested in joining and sharing in language, culture, Jesus and friendship, please consider joining. Our focus at the mission is youth, and we only wish to expand on it.



- **Sunday Service** - We have been doing 'facebook live' every Sunday morning, broadcasting a Sunday worship and teaching all through the pandemic. Sosimo, as our resident pastor does two services per month and Cory and William share with two other weeks. Lily actually did one Sunday. All of these broadcasts are visible on the Facebook [LaMision Page](#)

- **Homes of Hope** - We did a great home project last year for a local needy widow. We were hoping to do another this year. We have a very large family, with a older



daughter that just delivered a new child, and the overall family is so very crowded, they have a sewer but no real bathroom facilities other than a hole in the ground, the home needs some major assistance. We are starting to draw up plans but the funding is out of our reach without assistance. Please consider donating to help this family with their housing. We are building a [dedicated 2020 Homes of Hope project web page](#) around this particular need. We will gladly send you the particulars and would love to engage you our your group if you would like to help. It would be a great church trip project. We hope to expand this ministry. Here is our general [webpage on Homes of Hope](#) that discusses past projects and future plans.

As the pandemic lets up, construction continues at the mission, [lots of pictures](#) as we hope to get as much done as possible on this trip.

Come on down!!! The pandemic is supposed to be on its last legs. As of this day (July 1) Most of the country is now out of quarantine, national transportation is active again. We are all



prayerful that the international transportation will open up in August. If your church or group would like to make a mission trip to our area, please let us know. Our needs are many, teaching, construction, evangelism, mentoring, sports, mercy ministries, dental, medical and more. If you are able and willing to support someone who wants to come, please let us know that as well since we have many inquiries from people that are looking for financial assist to come to the field. To help with a construction project, to sponsor a child, food, clothing, to attend or help someone else attend a Discipleship Training school, We can't do this without support from others. God bless you. We return to the USA August 29, but the mission continues with

- planned visits from missionaries, USA, Brazil, Nigeria and Columbia so far in the plans.
- Continual **construction** at the mission and (when possible) at homes (always need assist)
- Quarantine ceased June 30th, with a hopeful resumption of children's ministry before year end
- **Our 2nd DTS / EDE in June 2021!**
- returning [dental hygienist visit](#) in 2021, **missionary dentists welcome** as well!!
- a hopeful [medical mission trip](#) in 2021 (please, let us know if you know of any medical personnel (doctors or nurses) who might like to join), we have a very receptive clinic we are working with.

Your prayers are most appreciative for support for

- our volunteer [staff](#) (now 6 strong) in need of support and sponsoring;
- for our acquiring ground transportation, sorely needed for all that we do; We are almost fully funded on this immediate purchase need! Will need help with the operating cost!!
- For the needs of the orphan children, the elderly, the hungry, those without proper housing to live in,
- for our gaining an additional missionary couple, and/or other long term resident support. There is so much to do. We are blessed with the infrastructure to do far more than we can with the staff we currently have.



Growing our resident staff continues as our biggest area of need. 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. We can assure them that it is most rewarding.

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

Thank you so much for your support in prayers and finances. Our needs here are great; Gods plans are

even greater. We pray that you share our information with others, 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.

In Jesus Name,
William & Lily Silverthorn & Ica
Staff
858-270-2345 USA
858-203-1120 USA#@Mission in Peru
+1-310-849-4015 WhatsApp & USA cell
+51-989.957.358 WhatsApp & Peru cell#
info@LAMAmistry.org
info@YWAMica.org



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Our mailing address is:
Latin American Missions Association
3952-D Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #135
San Diego, CA 92117

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