

Hello Everyone!

Greetings from BUSY Huanta, Peru!

As this newsletter's title indicates, we have been blessed with the help of many teams these past several weeks! The church here with which we're working is celebrating its 6th Anniversary this August. Nicolas Ticonas, the founding Pastor (& our Church Planting team partner with SAM), returned to join in the celebration. He is pictured above on the far left and below. We had a great time of fellowship celebrating what God is doing in this church here in Huanta and what He WILL do through us together in Ayacucho.



As the church decorations show, we had several days of vacation Bible School before the anniversary Sunday. A team from Lebanon Bible Baptist Church in Indiana came and helped to put on the VBS -- providing materials, New Testaments, and other goodies for the kids.

Even though it isn't summer here, the kids had two weeks off from school for Peru's Independence Day celebration (July 28th), so we were able to have the VBS during this school break. We had a fun time decorating for the "Submerged in Christ" theme, and we had our first "intense" season of translating for a team! Whew!! THAT'S a challenge!!





During this same weekend, SAM's Lead Church Planter Strategist, Julio Chiang, brought a medical mission team of 15 people from Lancaster, PA to minister to the people of Huanta as well as two local pueblos: Aycus & Huayhuas. This team gave medical care to over 500 people while here. They worked long and hard. They also gave out a lot of vitamins. Further, a dental team from Lima came and served the people of Huanta and Huayhuas two weeks prior to the anniversary weekend.

A photo below shows Rick and Pastor Jesus praying with individuals as they finished their treatment.



Another dear friend, Shelly Dobosy (pictured in the red shirt in our opening photo), and her sister, also visited us on the Anniversary weekend. Shelly is praying about joining our team in a couple of years. They wanted to do some hiking and camping in the Andes mountains, so we joined them on a part of their journey. During this trek, we had more "cultural education." At 13,000 ft. we saw some evidence of pagan worship and "good luck" charms. Mountains hold a sacred place in the minds of many Quechua people. In the photos below you can see "offerings" & gifts given to the mountain gods (called "Apus") -- some still wrapped!



Earlier in July, we traveled to Ica, Peru to visit with Pastor Wilfredo and investigate how we might work together in the effort to increase God's Kingdom in southern Ayacucho. He desires to partner with us in sharing the gospel. It was a quick trip, but a sweet time of fellowship together once again.



And while there, we met some young IMB missionary candidates from Kentucky, whose grandparents know Donna's parents! It's a small world!

Also in July, Rick attended a conference in Lima with guest speaker, Bob Moffet, who addressed the subject of how a church can transform its community. While he was away, Donna attended a concert with several friends in Ayacucho celebrating a famous composer of "wayno" (pronounced "wino") music -- the typical music of the Ayacucho region.



Last week Pastor Wayne Sibrava of Living Water Baptist Church (our NY sending church)

served with us. He brought some wonderful "goodies" from this church family -- namely more JIF peanut butter and Starbucks coffee! Thank you!! (We have become "known" for the GOOD coffee that we have [thank you, Elizabeth, our barista daughter], and have developed a bit of a "coffee ministry" in the hotel!)

Pastor Wayne and his translator, Luis, helped us do 130 interviews of the people of Ayacucho and students of San Cristobal University -- getting their perspective on religion and church. This begins a process of entering into the unique culture of the City of Ayacucho, our city of destination for the church plant.

Pastor Wayne also participated with us in the English class, shared his testimony, and helped in Rick's Religion class at the school.



During this anniversary month the Church held a baptism service. Three teen girls were baptized. One of the girls, Gimena, is a student in Rick's Religion class. Over the previous month

he had noticed an increasing earnestness in her about the things of God.



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We look forward to the arrival of a team in two weeks from our church family in Virginia, Gayton Baptist Church. They're sending a "vision team" to investigate how they might join with us on future ministry projects. We welcome others who may want to come and do the same.

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The next month will see us winding down our ministry focus in Huanta as we prepare for a return trip to the USA in October. We will be taking care of some personal business, speaking in churches, visiting supporters, giving updates, and sharing about our upcoming work to begin in Ayacucho when we return to Peru in January of 2017.

**Please pray for these concerns:**

- Continued growth in Spanish listening comprehension
- A bit of "quietness & rest" after this month of teams
- A smooth "ending" / transition with our Church family & friends here in Huanta
- Good health -- we've battled some "regular sicknesses" lately

**Answered Prayer**

- Our team is growing! A young couple has recently been assigned to our team
- Growth in our Spanish listening comprehension (but we still need MORE!)
- God's grace to "rest" in the midst of the constant changes
- A blessed, celebratory anniversary month for the church

Again, we want to say a big "thank you" to our financial supporters. Your faithful support is vital to our ability to remain here. If you haven't yet contributed financially toward this ministry, would you prayerfully consider doing so.

You can make a donation by going to the SAM Website and clicking on **our** page. Here is the link:

<http://southamericamission.org/about/our-team/rick-donna-martin/>

As always: Please check out our mission Facebook page: "**Martin's Mission Peru**" for more regular updates and bits of news and photos in between these Prayer updates. Here's the link:

<http://www.facebook.com/martinsmissionperu>

And don't forget, you can also check out Donna's Facebook page for more personal perspectives.

We encourage you with this verse:

**"Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for Me (Jeremiah 32:27)?"**

Feeling very, very blessed,  
Rick & Donna Martin