



## *La Luz de Cristo para Perú*

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### Major Praises!

We have several major praises to report since our last newsletter. If you recall, we had a difficult couple of months in June and July and part of August, along with some special prayer requests for the ministry here (see July/August newsletter). Well—THANK YOU! Thank you for your prayers and thank you, God, for answering them!

- \* **Visas...** our visas had been stuck for more than 70 days in their renewal process (normally a 5 day process). Our visa issues were finally resolved (thanks to your prayers and the power of a lawyer) and we are renewed and up-to-date again.
- \* **Phone...** our phone had been stolen. Several people responded to this issue. We were given a phone for temporary use in Peru until we get to the States in December where a new phone awaits us (thanks to a supporter who sent it to Laurie's mother's house for us).
- \* **Credit card...** our credit card number had been stolen and used in Lima to run up a horrendous bill. Thank you, Chase Credit Card services, for removing all unauthorized international charges, for overnighting new cards and new numbers to us, and for being soooooo nice about all of it!
- \* **Computer...** our computer had been stolen. Thanks to so many of you who worked to get that replaced! Thank you for special financial gifts to offset that cost. Thank you to the team from Missouri that brought the computer down to us. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!
- \* **Financial support...** we were having some loss of financial support. HUGE THANK YOU to the outpouring of love and support that you guys sent in response to this issue!
- \* **Julia...** it took Julia more than two years of working with us and listening to Bible stories to decide to become a believer. As of a couple of weeks ago, Julia is going through a discipleship bible study program with our teachers and is a star student!
- \* **Manuel...** Manuel is a 13 year old in our youth program. His parents have been less than enthusiastic about his participation in youth bible study—in fact, his father was ANGRY and didn't want him to attend. After a long con-

versation with Johana and Milagros, Manuel's father asked to start using the Proclaimer machine (a small recorder that plays the New Testament) in his small store that he runs so he can listen during the day and so customers can listen. He also requested that the teachers come and start a family discipleship bible study in their home each week so they can learn what Manuel is learning! HUGE transformation!

- \* **Abandoned elderly...** we asked for special prayers for the abandoned elderly in Patarcocha. We want to start a community garden and a chicken house to help supplement their nutritional needs via fresh veggies and eggs. UPDATE—we were given (by the community) two pieces of land for the gardens. One piece will be planted as a normal outside garden. Because of the temperature here, we can grow greens of various types, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, cabbage, etc. in an outside garden. The other piece of land is now the home of a giant greenhouse (built by Mama Elva and her sons). The greenhouse will be used to grow several things that we cannot normally grow here because of the very cold nights... things that we grow in our "spring/summer gardens" in the USA, like tomatoes, squash, zucchini, etc. Special thanks to a supporter in Texas who sent a special gift to build a chicken house and buy the chickens—to be built soon! We were also just given a female pig by someone in the community!!! She will be a piglet-producer and will help supply meat to the project. Coming soon... 3 goats who will produce meat, milk, and cheese. I think the abandoned elderly of Patarcocha are soon-to-be well-fed!
- \* **House...** we asked for special prayers for us to find a house in the community so we could live among the people we serve. HALLELUJAH! Almost immediately, we were given a home in Patarcocha (see details on page 2)!

**Thank you so much for all of your prayers!!!**

# **REAL** Southern Living... Our fixer-upper house project

We have been living in Huancayo, in the middle of the city, for three years now. Our rent contract on our house expired in July. We really felt that we needed to move out of the city and up the mountain to where the Kuyay Talpu ministry is—in the communities of Iscos, Patarcocha, and Tinyari. This is an important ministry move... living among the people we work with is so important to relationships and trust. We really felt that we needed to be in the community 24/7 in order to go deeper with them. So we asked you to pray for us to find a house in one of the communities that we work in... well, obviously, God still answers prayers!

One of the moms that has been in the Kuyay program in Patarcocha from Day 1 happened to be the “guardian” of a currently-abandoned house. The owner (Justina’s sister) had moved to Huancayo 15 years ago! Justina showed us the house and asked if it would work as a house for us to live in. It is a REALLY rustic, really traditional Peruvian adobe house... we could see potential. After looking at some other options, the “house on the hill” seemed to be the best option for us. Justina and her husband, Julio, went to Huancayo with us to talk to the owner. Esperanza (the owner) and her son run a vegetable stand in Huancayo’s busiest market. Justina and Julio pled our case and vouched for us as being good, upstanding, trustworthy people. The sad story of the house is that Esperanza’s husband was killed by terrorists (Shining Path) 15 years ago. Without her husband to help support the family, and living in a time of terrorism and fear, Esperanza packed up her children and moved to the city where she could find work and her children could help work to support the family, and they felt safer in Huancayo. Today, they have built a new life in Huancayo and they don’t want to return to the house where bad memories of terrorism haunt them. So, rather than have the house continue to go empty, Esperanza happily agreed to let us live in the house. We pay the water bill and the electric bill for our monthly rent, and we make repairs to the house and maintain it. (Fifteen years empty takes its toll!)

As soon as word got out that we were moving to “the house on the hill”, the community became electric about it! We have a constant stream of visitors. We haven’t gone a day without food, as neighbors fight over who will cook and provide our lunch. In the afternoons, the house is FULL of neighborhood children playing dolls or hide-and-go-seek or flying kites, etc. Every day, Justina and Susan (next door neighbors) come and see the repair progress, give their advice, and sit to chat. Elva (across the street neighbor) gave us a pig! When there was a meeting of the moms of the community the other day, we were summoned to come to the park to meet “since we are part of the community now”. The question was asked, “Can we come visit you? Can we study with you in your house now?”

We hope to actually move in by the end of next week. The roof repairs and some floor and kitchen repairs are holding us back a little. And the bathroom construction (there wasn’t one) will occur this weekend. With that, we will become full-time residents of Patarcocha!

The learning curve is HUGE... living in a rustic adobe home is WAY different from living in a modern home in the city! We learn something new every day!!! How to deal with adobe walls, a clay tile roof, dirt floors, “critters” and other primitive surroundings provide for constant learning and cultural exchanges. Did you know that you rake the floor, then sweep the floor, then wet the floor to make it hard and not dusty? Did you know that white mud is the way to cement the roof tiles in place? We will keep you up to date on our new adventure in *REAL* Southern Living... the magazine doesn’t have a clue! In last month’s edition, they showed an outdoor kitchen that made Billy and I laugh... they have no idea what a Peruvian outdoor kitchen looks like!!! And a bathroom remodel?! Really!!! ☺

# PLAYGROUNDS & RELATIONSHIPS BUILT



Several months ago (October 2010), we had a brainstorming/dreaming session with our Kuyay Talpuy teachers... "What dreams do you have for the Kuyay Talpuy programs and communities?" Rosio wished that the children could have swings and a place to play. God put this dream on the hearts of the youth from Christ UMC College Station, Texas. In August, they made those dreams come true! They brought a team of 19 youth and parents to build **TWO** playgrounds—one in Iscos and one in Patarcocha! Building alongside Peruvian community members, they worked for 5 days to build swings, slides, see saws, balance beams, tire climbers, barrel tunnels and a tower. They built benches for parents to sit on. Today, children from these communities have a place to play and parents have a place to congregate and visit. Community meetings have moved from the "town square" to the playground. The only *complaint* (said with a smile) has been,

"There are people on this playground at all hours of the day and night. They come as soon as the sun comes up. They are still here at 10 p.m.!" When asked if she was one of the ones who is there all the time, she laughed sheepishly and said, "Yes...We play volleyball every night!"



**Praises** for all the answers to prayer we have experienced this month!

**Praises** for the Christ UMC team from College Station, Texas! They came and built 2 playgrounds in communities that hadn't ever had swings or slides or anything for children. In the process, they built relationships with the people here and were an awesome example of Christ's love.

**Praises** for the Halltown Baptist medical team! They came and served in Shankivironi—a native Ashaninka community in the jungle in Peru. Next year, they are taking a plunge and going deeper into the jungle with a mobile clinic that will serve Ashaninka villages that are too deep into the jungle to receive adequate medical care.

**Pray** for our sons (Ryan and Miles) in Texas. Miles is currently working in Bryan/College Station and Ryan is in his final year of studies at Texas A&M Kingsville.

**Pray** for our Kuyay Talpuy team (Johana, Rosio, Tania, Milagros), for the Kuyay mission projects, and for the communities of Iscos, Patarcocha and Tinyari.

**Pray** for our Mission Society Peru team (the Ivey family, the McEuen family, the Drum family, the Reeves family) as we work to minister to the people of Peru. **Pray** for Louise Reimer (arriving in October), the Goshorn family, Theresa Anderson, and The Weigert family as they train and prepare to become a part of the Mission Society Peru team.

## The Drums | HOW TO CONTACT US

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**DEAR BILLY AND LAURIE,**

- I will pray for you. Please send me your newsletter by e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 As God provides, I plan to partner with you by giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Per month / quarter / year for \_\_\_\_\_ years.  
 I would like to donate a one-time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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## MEDICAL CAMPAIGN IN SHANKIVIRONI

A team from *Halltown Baptist Church* in Missouri teamed up with doctors from *Ohio* and *Peru* to serve a native Ashaninka community in the jungle of Peru. Sleeping in hammocks, tents, air mattresses, and mosquito nets, they awoke to the sounds of jungle birds and roosters. Under grass-thatched roofs, they spent their days seeing patients who needed medical attention and couldn't afford to receive it in the nearest town. Three near-by native Ashaninka schools walked their children to the clinic for check-ups, minor primary care and to receive toothbrushes and toothpaste (for many, their FIRST toothbrush ever!). We worked with an array of issues... infected wounds, pneumonia cases, nutritional issues, funguses, OB/GYN issues, a child-abuse case, another child with a severely high fever, a bad machete wound that required stitches, a tumor, birth defects and congenital diseases that people hoped the USA doctors could "fix", general aches and pains, stomach issues and parasites. Each patient was given one very important thing... time. Time to talk and be listened to and prayed for. A local pastor visited with every patient. The doctors visited with every patient. The workers in triage and registration and reception and waiting spent time and listened to every patient. It was beautiful! The gift of time and of smiles and of the love of Christ was the most important thing this team brought with them... they shared their lives and Christ with the Ashaninka people. Beautiful!!!

SHARE THE LOVE OF **CHRIST** WITH THE PEOPLE OF PERU.

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