

The Tarma Times

News from the Crouse family in Tarma, Peru
June 2009



Reliable Men and Women

“The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who also will be qualified to teach others.” 2 Timothy 2:2 Much of our time this past month was spent in training sessions for reliable men and women who will also be passing on their training to others.

Training children

Classes for children began in April in the rural community of Huaricolca. Church people from the Tarma Buen Pastor church go every other Saturday morning to teach the children about the Bible. The alternate Saturday afternoon we continue to assist with the children in Ayas. Both groups really enjoy the activities and special attention, as their parents are often away in the fields all day.



Training teachers

May 23, I organized a one-day workshop for teachers from area Sunday schools. Eleven teachers, who represent five area children's programs, learned about preparing Bible lessons for different age groups. Three young people attended from Yanamayo and Huaricolca. Currently people from outside churches are directing the children's programs in these locations. These teens feel God's calling to work with children. It was a joy to help prepare them for future leadership roles in their own communities.

Training health workers

J.R. attended a three-day seminar in Lima in May on Community Health Evangelism (CHE). CHE is designed to teach basic health principles hand in hand with evangelism. Fellow missionaries Pat and Garry Cruce helped host the seminar, and Pastor Miguel and two other pastors participated. Please pray for God's direction and timing on how to train local health workers and implement this program through the Free Methodist Church in Peru.



Photo credit: Garry & Pat Cruce

Training entrepreneurs

J.R.'s co-worker Anibal began teaching a three part series this month on Christian stewardship. This is the first step towards beginning a local small-loan program through the Lydia NGO. A local successful Christian businessman is assisting Anibal in the training. We'll give a further update next month.

J.R. is marketing locally some coffee grown by our church people in Pichinaki. He hopes local church members can resell the coffee at a profit to bring in some extra revenue.

In May J.R. visited our church plant in Tingo Maria in a tropical area of Peru. He was able to offer some advice on guinea pig production to church leaders who are trying to offer viable economic alternatives to growing coca leaves, the vast majority of which are dedicated to the production of base cocaine.

Thank you for your partnership with us, which helps support all these training initiatives. We pray their effects will be passed on to others who will also train others.

Your partners in Peru, Becky, J.R., Marissa, and Alena Crouse

Mailing address:
AP 202
Tarma, PERU
South America

Email address:
jr_crouse@fastmail.us

On the web:
<http://www.fmwm.org/missionary/index/crouse.php>



Peru handcraft contact information:
International SEED Ministries
www.fmworldmarket.org
1-800-342-5531 ext. 260
seed@fmcna.org

Support address:
Free Methodist World Missions
P.O. Box 535002
Indianapolis, IN 46253-5002
(For Crouses or Peru Country Shares)

You can also send your gifts electronically at:
<http://www.fmwm.org/missionary/index/crouse.php>

Praises

- Successful seminars for teachers and in CHE
- New children's classes
- Wedding between Oscar and Karina (see below)
- Marvin DeVisser and Matt & Keri Innes from Spring Arbor, MI spent 10 days with us assisting with various projects, including the solar coffee dryer shown at the bottom of the page.
- Great ladies' conference this past weekend! (More in next month's newsletter.)

Prayer requests

- Safety in travel for J.R.
- Tarma friends battling alcoholism and difficulties in their marriages
- Preparations for the coffee harvest in Agua de Nieve and our upcoming home assignment



J.R. & Becky were "padrinos" for Oscar & Karina's wedding. Oscar and Karina are both teachers and help with Sunday schools at Ayas and Huaricolca.



Alena got to take another turn at being a flower girl. She throws petals with gusto!



Marissa helped carry the train of Karina's dress and then danced with Daddy.

Country Shares and Good Coffee...a Connection? By J.R.

As I've mentioned before, I frequently travel to Agua de Nieve, where we have a small Free Methodist church in the coffee producing "eyebrow" of the Amazon basin. Because of the high altitude (5700') and cool, cloudy weather during harvest, it is often hard to adequately dry the washed coffee beans. Coffee which is not dried well and in a timely manner develops molds and fungi which result in terrible off-flavors in your roasted coffee. One of the neat things that happened recently in Agua de Nieve was the completion of a "tent" for drying coffee. Several of the church members who produce coffee worked together to clear some land and put up the framework for the special plastic tarp that traps the sun's heat. With a better way to dry coffee, the church members now have the ability to preserve the great flavors inherent in their high altitude coffee.



Funds for the development work in Agua de Nieve come from what is called Peru Country Shares, or the annual budget which supports the national ministry in Peru. The national ministry funds for Peru and many other countries are seriously underfunded. In Peru's case, one of the imminent consequences will be that we'll be less and less able to support training events (like the ones described above) or help connect people with information and resources to accomplish their development projects (like in Agua de Nieve). If 30 friends who read this would take on the challenge of supporting Peru Country Shares with \$25 per month, we could rest easy in the knowledge that pastors and missionaries will be able to get to where they need to go and have some resources to teach and offer assistance. If you'd like to know more, click on: http://www.fmwm.org/give/country_support_accounts_status.php