

Friday, September 2, 2005

Dear Friends,

On August 6th, we finished what is most likely our last summer of ministry at Northland Camp. It was my sixth summer at Northland. God gave us a wonderful summer of ministry together. Once camp finished I geared up for a two-week trip to Peru.

The trip was book-ended with two difficult situations. When I arrived in Peru, I ended up in a taxi with two guys who, at the very least, wanted to rob me. God helped me get out of that situation without incident, and I was able to help the police catch one of the guys. In addition to this, my flight home was cancelled due to the hurricane. Although it looked like I might not get home for several days, I was only one day late getting home. Check our website in a couple of days to read more details and see some pictures from the trip.

Despite all of this, God gave me a wonderful trip, and I was able to get a great picture of the ministry scene in Peru. Throughout the trip I was touched by the needs of the local churches and pastors there. God increasingly impressed on me that our ministry will be focused on helping the needs of those local churches. In Ephesians 4, Paul states that the gift of the evangelist, like the gift of the pastor, is given for the “perfecting of the saints” and for the “edifying of the body of Christ.” I had the opportunity to attend several pastors’ conferences in Lima. As I talked with Peruvian pastors and church planters, they were unanimously encouraging and excited about our ministry. Many talked with me specifically about coming to help them with their churches once we are full-time in Peru.

One of the main purposes for this trip was to look at possibilities for a home church for us in Peru. I visited six different churches in Peru and talked with numbers of pastors. We haven’t made a decision yet concerning which church we will connect with; however, we feel very good about the possibilities.

I also spent time looking at possible housing for us, and I learned what I need to know to start the process for our permanent residency in Peru. I talked to other missionaries about language school possibilities in Lima. The missionaries were also very helpful in knowing what to bring when we move to Peru.

As we come to the end of our first year of deputation, we are up to 41% of our support and we trust that God will help us to raise all that we need by next year. Thanks to all of you who prayed for my trip to Peru. Pray with us as we look forward to the arrival of our second child at the end of this month.

In Christ,
Tim and Cheryl Chapman