



CROSS
COLLABORATION
MTW MISSIONARIES TO PERU

MARCH 2018

MISSIONS NEWSLETTER

**PLANTING CHURCHES
IN AREQUIPA, PERU**

**WILL YOU PARTNER
WITH US?**

ONLINE:
WWW.MTW.ORG

MAIL:
MISSION TO THE WORLD
PO BOX 744165
ATLANTA, GA 30374-4165

MEMO:
BONHAM FAMILY - 10788
GUTIERREZ FAMILY - 12762

**READ THIS LETTER
AND PRAY!**



January proved to be a very busy and full month for our team. We started the year with our first ever Team Retreat. We have been intending to take an actual team retreat for some time now, but with busy ministry schedules, we have never had the opportunity. But when we realized that we were coming up on 5 years as a team, knew it was finally time to set aside a week for us to encourage one another, rest a bit, bond as teammates, and talk through ministry plans for the upcoming year. We thoroughly enjoyed our time in a small town called Montañita, and all 10 of us came back a bit more refreshed afterwards. We are thankful for the opportunity to continue serving together, and we covet your prayers that our love and encouragement for each others' families would continue to be strong in the coming year.

The day that we arrived back in Arequipa after our team retreat, we began a new phase of ministry as we welcomed our first National Partner to our ministry team. Our friend Rodny Chirinos from Venezuela has officially moved to Arequipa and has begun working with our team as we prepare to launch Seminario Biblico Reformado (SBR) in March. He will live on site at the seminary, teach classes, and help us run the day-to-day functions of the seminary. Rodny attended seminary in Colombia and worked with a church plant outside of Lima, Peru, so he already has valuable experience that will help us as we launch SBR here in Arequipa. Please pray for Nate, Nathaniel, and Rodny as they find a good rhythm for working together, and for Rodny in particular as he adjusts to Arequipa.



Only one week after Rodny's arrival, we also welcomed a short-term team from Ripon, California. 10 members of First Christian Reformed Church graciously volunteered to spend a week in Arequipa in order to help us attempt a major construction project for the seminary. We rent the top floor of a 3-story building, and we have been busy turning it into classroom and meeting space before classes begin in a few weeks. They spent the week not only helping us paint, organize and prepare the seminary space, but also building a couple of small apartments on the roof for Rodny to live in (as well as other future professors/partners if the need arises). In only



5 days, this team transformed an empty concrete rooftop into an apartment. They worked tirelessly and left exhausted, and we can't even begin to express how thankful we are for their generous gifts of time, physical labor, and finances. Please pray for Seminario Biblico Reformado as we get closer and closer to our projected launch date in March!

As we jump into 2018, please join us in praying for growth in ministry in two specific areas -- First, please pray that the Lord would bring diligent and dedicated students to the seminary who are passionate about serving the church in Peru. We long to see the growth of the church in Peru, and raising up godly, wise, humble pastors is a huge part of that.

We pray that the Lord would bring students to SBR and that we would be his instruments in teaching and training them well. Secondly, please pray that the Lord would raise up a Peruvian pastor for Iglesia La Roca (The Rock Church), where we have been serving the past 3 years. Nate and Nathaniel's intention was always to serve as pastors in the interim until a faithful and godly Peruvian pastor could be found, and we are continuing to pray that God would answer this prayer. Please join us in praying for La Roca, for its members, its growth in holiness, and its future.



To-The-Point Prayer Requests:

- The Gutierrez kids finished up their school year in December, and they are preparing to start their new school year in March. Please pray for Jeremiah as he starts 3rd grade and for Gabriella as she begins 1st grade at their small local private school.
- Please continue to pray for Nikki's sister, Lacey Madden, who is battling brain cancer. Pray for the Bonhams as they struggle with being far away from family during such a difficult time.
- Please continue to pray for Alicia as she moves forward with counseling classes through Westminster Theological Seminary.
- Pray for Nikki as she continues homeschooling the Bonham boys, and specifically for Luis as they try to figure out resources and methods for accommodating his various special needs while on the field.
- Pray for Seminario Bíblico Reformado as they begin classes and discipleship in March.