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Prayer Letter July 2009

Dear friends

Greeting from Peru and many thanks for the support that you give to us. We have all sorts of exciting news to share with you and much to praise God for regarding our first three months living here in Cusco.

Language classes continue – it was a big adjustment leaving daily language school to having a private language teacher in our house but thankfully now we are used to each other and continue to make progress with our Spanish (Jess and Sam are of course speaking excellent Spanish!)



The student Christian group is up and running and they have given themselves the name “Nueva Esperanza” (New Hope). We are renting a small room in Ucchullo Grande behind the central university and have been meeting



together since the beginning of May. We are running Bible studies, worship services, chess club, film club a children’s club and possibly a weekly football game or maybe even English classes in the future. The possibilities are endless and we look forward to



the radicals (four Peruvian young people from the Peruvian Baptist Convention) working alongside us for three months in August. Attendance of many in the group is erratic and usually an hour or so late! Quite a difference from UK ministry when Scott would be cross if people were five minutes late for meetings!

Anjanette is working two mornings a week in La Fuente clinic with some American missionary doctors. She is enjoying this tremendously and her medical Spanish is improving. She will continue to work there whilst investigating the possibility of gaining her medical accreditation which seems very hard for European doctors.



We had a great visit from Stuart and Georgie Christine recently, Stuart is the BMS Regional Secretary for Latin America. He helped us put together an exciting plan for our work here. Next year we will move house to a middle class area in Peru where we soon hope to plant a church (with the existing student group) on the high street café church/community centre style. In a few years we then hope to use resources from this new middle class church plant to plant another church with some social outreach projects in a poorer area of Cusco, looking at the possibility of buying some land enabling us to work with the poor in a few years. The reason for doing things in this order is

hoping that the poor church will be financially sustainable by support from the middle class church. We are getting to know more middle class Peruvians as Anjanette volunteers twice a week at the English after-school club at Jess and Sam's school as well as spending time with some of their school friends and teachers.

Jess and Sam are very happy and settled at Ausungate school and apart from Jessica's recently broken arm (which she is actually very proud of), they have settled brilliantly.

June and July are the coldest months in Cusco. Whilst sunny in the day it is bitterly cold at night, and many children in the mountain communities have died recently due to inadequate housing and the extreme cold. We half jokingly complain that we miss central heating and double glazing but we have so much more than many in these poor communities!

One recent highlight was a training visit where we visited the Butchers family who work in Guyaquil, Ecuador. It was great to visit their church in Los Vergeles, the PEPE project as well as another Baptist church that runs a clinic. We so enjoyed spending time with like minded people, we enjoyed warming our bones and the children all had a lot of fun together too.

You may remember our last prayer letter asked for prayer for Goya's son Michael who sustained a critical head injury. He was fortunate to have medical insurance through his work, so received good hospital care and has made a full recovery. Thank you for your prayers – the doctors likened his recovery to the raising of Lazarus from the dead, claiming that it was a miracle!

Please join us in praising God

- ◆ For Michael's recovery
- ◆ For the good start we have made with the student ministry
- ◆ For our very enjoyable trip to Guyaquil, and for the encouragement we received from brief visits from our link churches.

Please join us in praying

- ◆ For continued progress with Spanish
- ◆ For the plans for the middle class Peruvian café church
- ◆ For the poor mountain communities struggling to survive these cold months
- ◆ For the recent political unrest in the Amazon region of Peru

Thank you for your prayers and your interest and support in our work here.

God bless you

Love from Scott, Anjanette, Jess and Sam

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