

## **Sharing the Gospel**

### Pablo Calderon, Peru

or years, my parents looked for a church to worship. One day they were invited to a medical campaign of LAM. That was twenty-one years ago. That same night, after Bible Class, they heard the invitation to convert to Christianity. The freezing weather was not an impediment for them to be added to the Church of Christ. Today not only do they work in evangelism when there are campaigns, but my family and several members of Callao now share the blessing of bringing more souls when they hear the Gospel.

n the first week of June of this year there was a medical/evangelistic campaign in Chimbote. The Church has greatly benefited, not only because it has been made known in the community but because new souls were added and that motivates existing members and leaders to continue working.

Since the church of Christ is not only in Callao or Chimbote, several preachers from different congregations met after working on the campaign. We made plans for each congregation to visit and support the Church in Chimbote. All this with the purpose of strengthening the congregation in Chimbote with visits to the new converts, offering Bible studies and having fellowship with them on the first day of the Lord. This plan is already underway and will be until December 2019.

t is a joy to see the Sunday Bible class with many children singing the little songs that they learned during the campaign and the Church with more souls praising the Lord.

n the first week of July, we had the first LAM YES II campaign ever in Peru. It took place in Ica. I went with my brother Arturo to work there. On a personal level, this experience brought me closer to him. It was touching to see my brother learning the hymns in English, interacting with other people and helping in the studies that were done at home; it also brings a great benefit to the local church where we congregate, the congregation in Callao, as he returns spiritually renewed and wanting to work more for the Church.

The first Sunday after a medical / evangelistic campaign or YES II, the churches that have benefited are left with great encouragement and the joy of having experienced a week of communion. The hymns we sing with the brothers from the U.S. are sung again, we visit the contacts that have been left with pending Bible studies and enjoy an atmosphere of fellowship and harmony that revitalizes everyone. This reminds me a lot of the verse in Acts 2:47, "praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."

Peru is being blessed and transformed by the power of God. The people, grateful, exalt Las name.













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### **LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS**

### FORREST PARK ELDERS' OVERSIGHT:

Doug Daugherty, Don Garner, Robert McLeod, Barry Robinson, Donnie Swilley

#### WHY WE SERVE:

"I was hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, sick, in prison and you fed me, gave me drink, welcomed me, clothed me, visited me and came to me. Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these, my brother, you did it to me." Matt. 25:36-40

#### HOW WE SERVE:

Evangelistic Campaigns, Mobile Medical Missions, Benevolence, Native Preacher Training/Support, Print Ministry, Construction, Disaster Relief

#### WHERE WE SERVE:

Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Perú, Panamá

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## Building Our Youth for the Future

### Carol Lyn Rhymes Bossier City, Louisiana

t was a Wednesday night, I remember it like it was yesterday. Our oldest son, Ty, came bouncing in after Bible study to announce, "I'm going to Costa Rica on a mission trip!" To which I quickly replied, "I don't think so." Earlier that night, our beloved preacher at the time, John Baker, thought it a great idea to invite my son on a mission trip without first consulting with his parents. I mean, didn't he know me? My kids don't take off and leave the country without me. But John told us all about LAM and YES II. And my sweet husband, in his wisdom, said yes. So he went.

still remember waiting up late every night to hear from Ty while on that trip in 2013. How every time I spoke to him, his voice was filled with emotion and joy. And how he cried when he came home and told us he wanted to be a gospel preacher. And when he said, "Mom, you have to go next year."

uring the year following his first trip, you would often find him on Friday nights having Faetime Bible studies with his YES friends from other states. The bond he had formed with these kids was unlike anything I had ever seen.



he next year, I went. I watched him study with a lady in her dirt floor hut, and he told her about the hope and joy Jesus. found in He baptized her. And, the family of God there The rejoiced. bonds formed with those whom I served and sweated with

was unlike anything I had ever seen.

y did enter preaching school, so the next year I brought our middle son, Jacob. I watched him lead singing and knock doors, and by the end of



the week he was leading a study. Somehow, I was still amazed at the bonds of Christian friendships he formed in just one week which are still strong five years later.

n a short three years, LAM had become a huge part of our lives. Our YES family was a present and powerful blessing to us. So, we talked my reluctant to travel and painfully shy husband into going with us. We made it a family affair bringing our youngest son, Cole, along. I watched their faith grow exponentially in a week. And at the end of that week, I watched both of them stand before an assembly and talk about how their faith was stronger than ever. So, we all five went again the following year. On that trip to Panama, Cole was baptized into Christ.

bonds he of friendship also led to one of our family's greatest blessings ... our daughter-in-love, Heidi. The story about their sweet journey had its beginnings the on steaming streets of Corinto.



The most difficult part of writing this, was limiting to 500 words what LAM and YES II has meant to our family. There aren't enough words to describe it. It is definitely one of our best parenting decisions. We are stronger and better Christians. And we are forever thankful for our LAM family.

# "Uhy do we have to love people so much?"

#### Ashton Lindsey, North Lexington, Kentucky

That's what John Farber asked me as we boarded a plane after completion of one of the best campaigns I've ever been a part of. Our mission efforts during this campaign took place in Chimbote, Peru, specifically in a community known as Villa Atahualpa.

ur team was made up of sixty-eight North Americans and forty-two Peruvians from various congregations of the Lord's Church. Not everyone knew each other, not everyone spoke the same

language; but we all were able to come together and attend to the physical needs of the community in which we were working. More important than that, we were able to aid in the fulfillment of their spiritual needs.

Throughout the week there were over 1,400 people registered at the clinic where they received free medical care from doctors, optometrists, dentists, a physical therapist, and a pharmacist. After each person made their way through the clinic, they were asked if they wanted to spend some time with us studying the Word of God. Some didn't want to study with us, but many did. That's what we were there to do—to bring





people into our clinic and to leave them with something much more important than medicine or eyeglasses.

was part of one of the evangelism teams, and while some of the stories I've heard from Bible study students would break your heart, others give you a glimpse into how loving these people are and how hard they work to provide for their families. Peruvians are the most hospitable and receptive people I've met, and their kindness has made more of an impact in my life than I thought could ever be possible. Over the course of our week there, Bible studies were conducted with more than 350 people, fifteen souls were added to the body of Christ, and one soul was restored in their walk with the Lord.

've always been in awe of the structure of the Lord's Church. God knew what He was doing when He designed each of us as individuals to come together as a collective, unified body for a singular purpose. Planting the seed is the service that we are called to do, and that is exactly what was done in Chimbote, Peru. Continue to pray for these efforts. Continue to pray for the new brothers and sisters that were gained during this campaign. And continue to pray that we all may have compassion and love for those around us, because after all, that is what we are commanded to do.

That is why we love people so much!

### Why Support Latin American Missions?

### Logan Cates, Durant, Oklahoma

Allow me to answer with another question, What is the value of one soul? Imagine walking into a neighborhood where every single person you meet is kind and invites you into their home for a Bible study. And, immediately walks to their neighbor's house to borrow a chair so you can sit down for the Bible study. Imagine a small community where the minister of the Iglesia de Cristo kindly opens his gate and brings the campaign headquarters straight



into his front yard and says, "Let's get busy."

That's exactly what happened in this small community just east of Danli, Honduras. The

population is only about 1,400 but what a blessing to be planted in San Diego for a week. Over 500 individuals out of a population of 1,400 sat in a Bible study, and precious souls were brought to Christ! We hope to hear more of God's increase in the future as the Honduran brethren continue to reach out and visit those we studied with. At the beginning of the campaign, the Mayor of Danli (population 200,000) drove to San Diego to thank

us all for coming and serving this community. Then, he brought his wife at the end of the campaign to show his appreciation for everyone working together.

When we first arrived and saw over a hundred



Hondurans standing in line for the medical clinic at 6 AM, we realized the needs of a country such as this... the need for us to see the value of one



soul...the need for someone to show them an eye chart and give them glasses...the need for someone to provide parasite medication, backache medication, and medication for their suffering children...the need for them to see a physician, and then invite them to a Bible study. The team unified under the blessings of God to bring as much assistance to them physically and spiritually.

ne of the physicians from the U.S. summarized the week by saying, "We are just the bait." The true blessing was the new Christians of which God gave the increase. The new converts class was taught every night, and one night we even brought it to the little church building in town and revealed to them, "This is where your new family of God is!"

We were a diligent group of Christians trying to reach those who were away from God. It seemed to be a more difficult task this time reaching souls, because Satan had been working hard as well. A few town drunks kept interrupting our Bible studies and made it very difficult. One evangelism group was hesitant to return to that area. But, when they did a precious soul was brought to Christ. Praise God for their love for souls! Jesus didn't just call us to preach the gospel in safe places. Brethren, I am so thankful to God for the increase He gave in San Diego!

### **God Gave Me This Opportunity!**

#### Drew Suttles, Antioch, Tennessee



od has blessed us with opportunities and abilities beyond our wildest dreams (Eph. 3:20-21). Today, in the age of social media, we can reach millions of people around the world with the Gospel. In the realm of travel, one can get a passport and swiftly go

around the world. God has given us the resources to "GO," and every Christian has the responsibility to respond in obedience to that command (Mark 16:15). One may not have the ability to go overseas because of financial or health reasons, but he or she can still do great work in the Kingdom. God graciously blessed me with an opportunity to join Latin American Missions in going to Boquete, Panama to preach the Gospel in June of 2019. The experience positively changed my life.

fter a lengthy bus trip of fellowship and getting to know everyone better, we arrived at our destination. On the first day of the week, we had the opportunity and privilege to worship God with our brethren in Panama. The singing was beautiful, the fellowship was sweet, and the joy was real. I was honored to teach the Bible class with a translator. It was my first time working with a translator, but everything went well. He was well prepared and had

a knowledge of the Scriptures. The Gospel is powerful, yet simple. All men can and must understand God's revealed will (Eph. 3:4; 5:17; 2 Pet. 1:3). That afternoon I was privileged to lead a team of great young people on the search for lost souls. The very first door we knocked on was opened with anticipation. The owner of the home invited us in, made us feel very welcome,



and engaged in a Bible study with us. After a few hours, this man, with tears in his eyes, knew the importance and urgency of obeying the Gospel of Christ. That night, I was honored to baptize him into Christ for the remission of his sins. All glory and honor go to God!

The remainder of the week was fruitful and prosperous as many souls were able to hear the pure Gospel. Seeds were planted, and we trust that God will give the increase (1 Cor. 3:6). All in all, we knocked on 175 doors, had 389 contacts, engaged in 203 Bible studies, and joyfully watched seven precious souls be baptized into Christ for the remission of their sins. I am forever indebted to Latin American Missions, Yes II, and the Forest Park congregation for allowing me the awesome



opportunity to join them in taking the Gospel to Panama. Lord willing, I will join this great team of Christians again and again for years to come. May God bless our efforts!

# TAKING LIGHT T







Chimbote, Peru ~ June 7-15, 2019





Apopa, El Salvador







And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and





Perez Zeledon, Costa Rica ~ May 31-June 8, 2019









Boquete, Panama ~ June



# O ADDARK WORLD.





March 9-16, 2019







San Diego, Honduras June 29-July 6, 2019







who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." Isaiah 6:8













Ica, Peru ~ June 29-July 7, 2019





### **Working Side-by-Side for the Kingdom**

### Delanie Sullivan, McMinnville, Tennessee

n July, I participated in my first YES II campaign to Ica, Peru. However, this was not my first mission trip. Over the past six years I have participated in LAM's medical missions to Peru during the summers as a pharmacist. I absolutely love having the opportunity to use my abilities as a pharmacist to



serve others and share the love of Christ. I don't usually stray far from the pharmacy and thus have not participated in many Bible Studies. So I was thrilled when the opportunity arose to attend a YES II campaign with several members of my congregation. I was quite excited about taking a more active role in sharing the gospel by knocking doors, making contacts, and studying the Bible with others.

We arrived in Lima late Saturday evening and traveled to Ica by bus after Sunday morning worship services. Monday through Friday were spent canvassing the neighborhood of Parcona in Ica. Every morning we were greeted by the minister and several members of the congregation. After a devotional at the church building, we divided into teams and began knocking doors, inviting people to the gospel meeting, and holding

Bible studies. A group also went to area schools to talk to the children and teens. The evenings were dedicated to the gospel meeting, teen class, and Bible class for the children.

n just five days there were 752 doors knocked, 1,104 contacts made, and 210 Bible studies held. The VBS team reached 1,135 children and teens. Seven people were baptized into Christ and four were restored. But, this experience is about so much more than the numbers. This is about planting the seed of the gospel while reigniting our own passion for God's word.

hile studying the Bible with others, I realized just how much I did not know. I was in awe of the Bible knowledge of my fellow brothers and

sisters in Christ and their desire to share that knowledge, and I was encouraged to study more myself. I loved getting to know my fellow Christians better, those from home,



elsewhere in the U.S., and those in Peru. I was thrilled to see younger Christians excited about God's word who were always ready to work, learn, teach, and participate in any way asked. But, my favorite part of this (and every) mission trip is seeing how people from so many different places and backgrounds can work side by side for the kingdom, relying on one another, and building one another up.

The work in Peru will continue long after we have returned home. I know the prayers for our new found friends and our new fellow Christians will also continue. I hope and pray that each of us will hold on to the passion for the Gospel that was ignited in us. I can hardly wait for next year, and Lord willing, I will return to Peru!

### Medical Campaign to Apopa, El Salvador ~ March 9-16, 2019

## Heal the Body ... Feed the Soul

### Buddy Pickler, Mt. .Juliet, Tennessee

In the mid to late 1980's Mt. Juliet church of Christ began working with Latin American Missions. Our work was mainly in Panama and our involvement was directed by Bill Staggs. After working in several areas, we requested to find a home base to work in. A 2001 earthquake in El Salvador provided the opportunity for LAM to expand into that country and a base for our work. Since February 2001 we have conducted annual medical mission campaigns in El Salvador. In addition, there have been some evangelistic campaigns. This past March we conducted our third medical campaign in Apopa, San Salvador, El Salvador. Saul Flamenco and his wife, Lillian, coordinate the work there year-round.

ur team number was a little smaller than normal with twenty-seven members from the U.S., consisting of folks from Tennessee, Indiana, Arizona, Arkansas, and Georgia. As most campaigns we had teammates ranging from teen years to those on up in years. Again, we were blessed to have Dr. Jim Citty as our chief medical officer,

Dr. Bill Staggs as our pharmacist, and Mary Lokey as nursing coordinator. We were also blessed by nurses and doctors from the community and several students from a local language school. A physical therapist was kept busy with patients all week.

e can't say thank you enough for the folks in

the States who made Teddy bears, dresses, and

shorts for the little boys. This was another way to share the work and bring joy to the hearts of the children and their parents.

Since this year's team was smaller, we took a different approach in getting the work done. Our primary work site was an outdoor basketball court with a roof over it. We wanted to keep all the team



members at the work site so that we could easily move resources to different tasks. The court was divided into three areas: medical clinic, children's activities, and Bible studies. As the patients exited the clinic they were greeted by Lillian and one of



several ladies from the congregation. They were great encouragers to convert patients to students in a Bible study. Their diligence is directly responsible for the nine baptisms and 311 Bible studies during the week.



### I Stepped Outside my Comfort Zone!

Katie Ferguson, Murfreesboro, Tennessee



n May 31, 2019 I embarked on an adventure I never dreamed I would be a part of ... a mission trip to Perez Zeledon, Costa Rica. My husband and I woke up at two in the morning to meet some of our team at the Nashville airport, and I was a nervous wreck. This was my

first time on a plane, my first time going to another country, and my very first mission trip. I was trying to keep a positive and calm mindset, but panic was setting in quickly as we boarded the plane. Luckily, my husband had spent a majority of his life taking trips like this. So, he assured me that everything was going to be fine. Also, seeing the excitement on everyone's face who had already been on multiple YES II mission trips helped to calm my nervousness.

A fter landing in San Jose, we headed to our hotel rooms and rested before the four hour bus ride to Perez Zeledon on Saturday. I quickly saw the beauty of the country and its people. I also saw how crazy the traffic was!



San Jose was great, but Perez Zeledon will always hold a special place in my heart. This is where I made connections with some wonderful people and saw the diligent work that goes into these mission trips. The majority of my week was spent helping with VBS, and I truly fell in love with the kids and mothers that I worked with every day. The children were very kind and enjoyed everything we taught them. These experiences opened my spiritual eyes. While I was teaching them about the Bible, they were teaching me valuable lessons about humanity.



ur Costa Rica team knocked on 856 doors, made 673 contacts, set up 143 Bible studies, and helped baptize six new brothers and sisters into Christ. I never thought I would see these numbers, especially in a country that speaks a different language, but it just goes to show God's Word can be taught and understood universally. We are commanded to go out and teach all nations in Matt. 28:18-20. I am so thankful for the memories made, and I am looking forward to many more trips to Latin America.

# Ladies of LAM



### "Sharing the Father's Love"

Jocelyn Farber, Lakeside Church of Christ Orange Park, Florida

#### LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS

here to start? My mom first took me on a campaign in the Spring of 1998 when I was a junior in high school enrolled in Spanish 4. I felt more prepared than I really was. We went to the San Blas Islands of Panama with Larry Calendine, and I'd never seen anything like it. From military MREs...to a concrete room over the ocean that served as the "facilities"...to being so unbelievably tired that it didn't matter that my air mattress was flat...to falling in love with the people, the week was amazing. I did not know then how much LAM would change my life.

ast forward a year to when my mom introduced me to John Farber, a nice college guy, she had met on a mission trip. One quick introduction set us up for a longer conversation once I enrolled at Freed-Hardeman. And, we haven't stopped talking.



LAM has blessed our family. John now works with LAM throughout the year, coordinating trips, and raising money. Our son took his third trip to Latin America this past summer. My physical family has made memories during long rewarding trips where we worked as cooks, medical

assistants, in the pharmacy, evangelism, and working with children... all to bring glory to God. I'm so grateful that my family has the love of this work in common.

Dut, it's not just my physical family. LAM has blessed our spiritual family. I've bonded with



members of my local congregation over long flight delays and sleeping overnight on the floor of the Miami airport. My son has seen men and women from our congregation work hard and step out of their comfort zones to bring the Good News to Latin America. We've had the opportunity to work with members of congregations from across the U.S. and Latin America. My son is seeing that our spiritual family doesn't end in our city, state, or country. He sees the bond of Church family and the value of working together for the Lord. And, we've had the extreme blessing of being connected to our brothers and sisters in Latin America. It is incredibly humbling to see such hardworking men and women of faith live with such joy and contentment, whatever their circumstances.

AM works because the body of Christ is a family. If you've been on a trip with John or Jack, you've sung about being brothers and sisters, part of God's family, while holding hands and looking into faces you may or may not see again this side of Heaven. I'm so grateful for the spiritual family that we have and for the opportunities LAM provides to plant the seeds of God's love in hearts across Latin America.

"Rehold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God". 1 Peter 3:1

### **Honors & Memorials**

### April - June 2019

### In Honor of...

**Jack Farber** 

Jeffrey Ehrie

**Dan Cooper** 

M/M John Ashton

### In Memory of...

Willie Parker

Lawanna Batten

**Ronald Bryant** 

Lawanna Batten

JoAnn Leonard

Lawanna Batten

Andy Register

M/M Bill Ward

M/M Paul Swanson

### **Oleta Phillips**

M/M Bill Ward

M/M Paul Swanson

Lawanna Batten

#### **Author Lee Williams**

Lawanna Batten

M/M Paul Swanson

### Joseph Michael Schmidt, Jr.

M/M Bill Ward

M/M Paul Swanson

#### William Kenneth Lewis

Vada Scott

#### **Kenneth Lewis**

**Brent & Johnnie Lewis** 

Violet Perry

Loren & Margarete Walker

### Riley Greer, Sr.

Lawanna Batten

M/M Paul Swanson

#### **Katherine Mullins**

M/M Paul Swanson

### **Connie Ogawa**

Lawanna Batten

M/M Paul Swanson

### Ronnie Harrell, Sr.

Nancy Hobby

### **Elbert Jean Bill**

M/M Paul Swanson

### **About HONORS & MEMORIALS**

You may "HONOR" a special person or group of people by making a donation of any amount to LAM. You may make a "MEMORIAL" donation to LAM in memory of a loved one who is deceased.

Please use the printed form on the back page of this newsletter when sending your donation to the LAM office.



Jack Farber Director, BSAM and CHAM



John Farber



Spencer Broome YES II Campaigns

### **Latin American Missions' Staff**



Robert McLeod, Elder @ Forrest Park

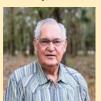
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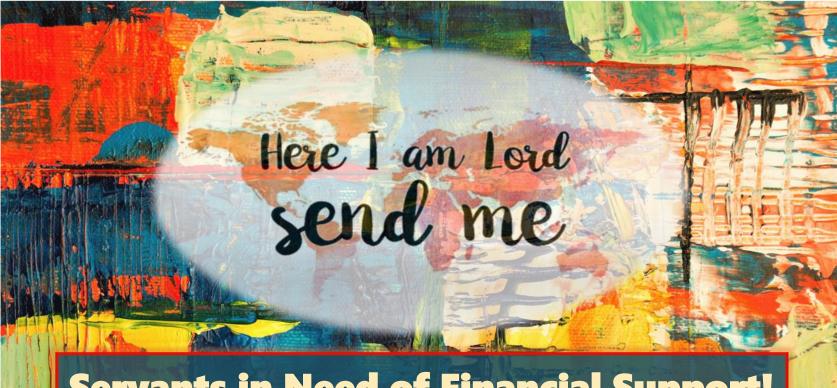
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Students & Graduates

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Please consider supporting one or more of these Godly men and their families. Your support of \$25, \$50, \$100, or more per month has a tremendous impact on the lives of these faithful ministers.

Supporting one of these servants is a Gospel Opportunity for YOU to help carry the Gospel Story of Jesus into one of these Latin American countries. Contact LAM today!



**LATIN AMERICAN MISSIONS** 

Forrest Park Church of Christ 4263 Inner Perimeter Rd. P.O. Box 2330 Valdosta, GA 31604-2330 Change Service Requested

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