

Hey Friends,

Semester break is here and we've got a break from the regular routine, so let me share with you what's been happening the last couple months!

If I had to sum it up in one word I would say "**visitors**"

As you all in the U.S. are busy with summertime activities, while school's out for summer; in Peru, we are full-swing in our school year! As a result, June and July is the time we often receive visitors from the U.S. This year we have been blessed by many!



**2 training workshops** - In May and July we had visits from retired school principal, Gary Minnick and later on Math teacher Dawn Cabrera. They shared their experiences and practical tips with us and encouraged our team to continue growing professionally and as a team, in doing so God is honored and we can reach our students more effectively.





**2 mission teams** - filled the month of June. Shades Mountain Community Church from Birmingham, AL came the first week of June. They helped teach Bible classes and worked with small groups to practice English conversation in the mornings and did evangelistic outreach in the community in the afternoons.





Providence Church from Raleigh, NC came mid-June and did much of the same thing. They taught a Bible study on the book of Nehemiah, helped lead small groups in all the English classes and did outreach in the community in the afternoons. We wrapped up the week with a musical presentation by the children's choir, which Micah, Joella, and Ethan all got to participate in.

These weeks provide great opportunities for our students to interact and practice their English with native-English speakers, working in small-groups allows much closer interaction than is available in the regular classroom setting. Though these weeks require extra preparation and organization, they also bring about great benefit as the small group leaders provide extra eyes, ears and hands to our regular English teaching team! The more advanced students were given translating opportunities during the morning Bible classes and in the afternoons both current and former students helped with translating for the outreach activities in the neighborhoods.



**2 summer interns** - The end of May we had two summer interns arrive! Brooks and Anna not only jumped into helping in the English classrooms but they also took on our library project that had pretty much been at a stand still since last year when Katie was here from the States. Brooks and Anna helped in so many ways during their six weeks here. They were an answer to prayer as they joined with our English teachers to help carry the load and therefore made it lighter.

**Library Project** - I'm not sure if you remember this from previous updates but the Library project is something that has been on my plate for **years** now as we have received book donations from teams that have come from the U.S. as well as donations from two English schools here in Lima, with the majority of the materials being in English. Years back we started logging books into a catalogue system but in relation to the other responsibilities on my plate working in the Library was usually one of the first things to get pushed aside on my list of priorities. Last year, a mom from Texas came down with her family, as her daughters studied and her husband worked remotely, she spent a little over a month helping me establish organizational processes and a system for setting up the Library. Additionally, she helped weed out unnecessary items to prepare the materials for relocation to the new library room on the 3rd floor of the school building which we inaugurated last August. Since the move, the majority of the books have sat in stacks on the floor waiting ... With the need for thousands of books to be logged, ticketed and shelved in order to get the new library space up and running, it seemed to be an unattainable task... *until* Brooks and Anna arrived and took the task head on. Not only did they spend hours-on-end working there, they also guided others to help when I was wrapped up with my daily responsibilities and unable to lead. I was able to trust these ladies with the details to get the job done right!

**God-sighting** - let me share with you a quick snapshot of God reminding me that his ways are best and he is sovereign over the details. The week the group from Providence Church was here the schedule had been set up for them to teach Bible class each morning and then work in the English classrooms all throughout the school day moving from grade to grade. The English teachers had all prepared special small group activities to maximize the time. Then unexpectedly on Tuesday night, the Peruvian government announced that the next day classes should be held remotely due to a public transportation strike, and just like that we sent out the notice that we would have classes virtually the next day. I stewed about in frustration as we coordinated the details with the teachers for the next day. While this is something that our staff has become accustomed to, being the third occurrence this year, it is quite frustrating as the teachers have to completely adjust their lesson plans, prepare virtual materials, and we would no longer be able to work with the team for English classes. I wondered, "Why, this week when the team from the U.S. is here?" ... The next day God showed me "why" as the team dedicated the day to library set-up, building needed bookshelves, logging and labeling hundreds of books. One-day set aside exclusively to library set-up with many extra hands and leaders to guide the process, allowed us to make exponential progress! Something that never would have happened according to "my" schedule for the week. What a blessing in disguise and a reminder that God's way is better! Attached are a couple videos from that day's work and showing the progress Brooks and Anna made during their time here.



Last but not least, Sally, an elementary teacher from Georgia, came to visit for two weeks of her summer vacation and help out at the school. While we loved all the help, we are sad to see them go. On Monday, we will start second semester and their absence is sure to be noted. We continue to pray that God will send longer-term help as we look for more teachers to join our English team!

Blessed to know you are there and praying!

Hannah (& fam)