



# *Merry Christmas from the Southern Hemisphere!*

*Sara and Rusty in Lima, Perú*

**2010 was really exciting and challenging for us! Here are some snapshots of our year:**

**January-** The First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, NC sent a medical team to work with Dr Apolos Landa and the St Luke Society in Moyobamba and Calzada in the high jungle of northern Peru. It was our first introduction to this area and the people who enjoy so many connections to the PC(U.S.A.) Thank you Rev. Genie Martin for the introduction to Moyobamba; a Peruvian paradise!



**In February and March we planned for all the summer teams, strengthened PC(USA) ties to partner churches and spent time in the United States.**

**April- We were accompanied on exploratory visits to Cusco and Huaycán**



Marnie Feldman, Martina and Cameron Tooley from Northville, NY traveled on a fact finding trip for the Northville Presbyterian Church. They helped us explore possibilities for work teams in Huaycán. It is a huge, very impoverished suburb of Lima settled by war refugees in the 1980's (A new team is scheduled to work here in Feb. 2011.) They also travelled with us to Cuzco to visit work sites. While we were there, Machu Picchu re-opened after months of closure due to flooding. The clouds cleared at 9:30 on our morning at MaPi (as it is fondly known here) to reveal this sight.

**May-San Gabriel Presbytery Living Waters for the World team went to Ayacucho**

Leaders of the San Gabriel Presbytery traveled to the Andean highlands of the State of Ayacucho. They visited five communities to speak with church and village leaders about installing community water filtration systems. The first PSG projects are planned for two communities in the Andes where hepatitis is rampant as are water borne parasites. We returned a second time with them in **November** to establish covenants and continue building relationships with churches and community leaders.



**June-Winter Park Presbyterian Church, FL conducts an Eye Clinic in Arequipa....**

## ...AND MORE!

Rev. Dr. Larry Cuthill and Sara board the plane as the sun sets behind Mt. Misti. Arequipa, the country's second largest metropolitan area, is located in the Andes Mountains of southern Peru. This team of 40 was hosted by our Arequipa Presbyterian partner church. The host church and a neighboring Baptist Church received work crews while a larger crew assisted Peruvian eye doctors to check eyes and prescribe glasses for over 400 people in need. They also served refreshments at our Peruvian partners General Assembly, and did some construction for a new church in a impoverished neighborhood near Lima.



**July-A Nashville, TN Living Waters team invited students Andy, Cody, and Quentin to travel with them on the Napo River and visit the Puerto Alegria Home. The jungle was HOT!**



This team from Westminster Presbyterian Church has worked in Iquitos for several years. They are forming a stronger partnership with Scripture Union, a well known ministry in Peru. In this area, Scripture Union has two hospital ships, an orphanage and a street children's ministry. The three men on the left are college students from Texas who worked with us in several ministries last summer. They accompanied this team to the Puerto Algeria Home. Westminster Church plans on installing a water purification system there in January 2011. We were also in Iquitos on behalf of this team in **November**.

**July-The youth of Second Presbyterian Church Oil City, PA did construction with the youth of the Iglesia Evangelica Peruana at Km 29 on the Tupac Amaru Highway**

Can a youth group build a church in 3 days? The walls were up when we all left and the community finished putting on the roof. This small village, built on sand 29 kilometers outside Lima, is full of kids. They kept us busy with water balloon fights and soccer games. This team also went on a three day retreat with the youth of the NE Lima IEP Presbytery. They gracefully adapted to a different model of youth ministry. **Muy Bien!**



**August- Members of Sharon Presbyterian Church, NC visited partners in Huanta**

Huanta Presbytery asked their partners for help building benches for impoverished churches and new church developments in three Presbyteries.

Bench counts: In 2008-80. In 2009-150. In 2010 they were challenged to build 200 benches in four days. Could it be done?





YES! With the help of students at the Huanta Bible Institute and members of the church-SUCCESS! Work started Monday and the benches were blessed and transported to their new homes in remote parts of the Andes on Thursday. This year the benches were painted a dark red. Thus, this photo of friends caught red-handed!

The soccer championship cup between Sharon and Huanta was carried away this year by Huanta. Next year????

### **In August, Reidsville Presbyterian Church, NC hosted a dental campaign in Huanta**

This dental team was accompanied by Noe Juarez and his wife Laurie. Noe grew up in Peru, his grandparents live near Huanta. He recently graduated from Duke Seminary. Laurie was a Christian Educator at Reidsville Presbyterian Church. Dental team members did 68 extractions and lots of cleanings. Meanwhile, Noe and Sara Armstrong taught graduate classes at the Huanta Bible Institute. The Institute has met each February and August for 22 years. Over three years, students spend six months in Huanta training to be lay pastors. Graduates return for week long refresher courses. It was a challenge to teach these dedicated students whose first language is Quechua! And Sara forgot the camera. Sorry Reidsville folks!

### **In September/October we enjoyed visiting family and friends in the US and we attended the PC(USA) Peru Mission Network Conference in Charlotte, NC. It was very well done!**

### **October-We accompanied members of First Presbyterian Church Boone, NC to Moyobamba and Nuevo Jerusalem**



We were fortunate to accompany members of the Boone Church to visit their partners, the Asociacion San Lucas, into this high jungle region. We had a great visit with our Presbyterian Church partners in Moyobamba. We also visited the San Lucas medical clinic and the grounds of the projected ag school/seminary near Calzada. Then we hiked/climbed an hour-and-a-half to the pueblo of Nuevo Jerusalem. The project helped 36 families build composting toilets with shower houses in this small town.

We enjoyed hosting Maria and Doug from our national Presbyterian World Mission office, and our new PC(USA) Regional Liaison for the Andes Region, Sarah Henken. She has just moved to La Paz, Bolivia. Maria, Doug and Sarah met with the five PC(USA) Mission Co-workers, the three Young Adult Volunteers, and their Peruvian partners with in Peru. Here Sarah is pictured (in the back) with Maria (mid-row, r) and Doug (also in back) at the seminary in Ayacucho with the leaders of our partner church, the Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana, Reformada en el Peru.

### **December-A visit from Sarah Henken, Maria Arroyo and Doug Welch**



As you can see, it has been a year with lots of travel, new friends and challenges. Thanks to each one of you for your prayers and support. We couldn't do it without you.

WE WISH YOU ALL A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A PEACE FILLED NEW YEAR!

(and come visit us)

*Saludos de Sara y Rusty*

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