

Kris & Rose Marie Blumer Acts 11:22-23 "Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church..." THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT AND PRAYERS. WHY? You might ask, did you title this Mid-year Maelstrom?? Since returning in July, the days and weeks have flown by. We cannot remember a year of ministry that has been so complicated. What has made it worse is that my wallet and laptop were stolen. The wallet did not have any money in it, but all of my plastic cards were. It takes up to five weeks to issue and receive the replacements. Rose Marie's laptop is working double duty. If it can hold-up with both of us, we'll be fine. Most of my work was backed up and is accessible. Praise God!

**Thank God for His Provisions:** While LMCS provides for the airfare, we took a longer furlough and ground transportation and accommodations are huge undertakings to visit the churches and supporters each time we return to the States. Thank you all for the generous offerings and welcome fellowships we shared with you! It is good for us to not only visit with you but work along side you in the ministry which you have been called to. We are very grateful to the family in Greenville SC who gave us the unlimited use of a Hyundai Accord. They are also the ones who donated the money for our vehicle in 2016. During the 24 weeks, we had the privilege to present the work to a dozen churches, report to thirteen supporting churches and participated in several missions conferences. We traveled over eighteen thousand miles problem-free and under God's staying hand. Several churches have added us to their foreign missions family. The increased support will open greater opportunities for establishing a church in Antioquia and providing for ministry expenses as we grow. We are praying for many upcoming annual business meetings and asking the Lord for the remainder of the new support level we need.

The first week back I was informed by our bank that one of our stateside cards was compromised. This wasn't the first time, and since Rose Marie was not back yet, I didn't worry too much about getting a replacement card from the States. The same day my wallet was stolen, the school secretary stopped me in a hallway to ask if I had received her email. I explained what had transpired and she invited me to pick up an envelope of 150 PEN Soles that the interim missionary left for us three months earlier. I wasn't going to let a lesson like this escape without giving praise to God for His sovereignty and grace. You can imagine the expression of the students who were watching God move first-hand. "*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights…*" We would like to express our gratitude to missionary, Mr. Rick Anderson for getting the cards down to us.

Preparing for transition and ministry challenges was like going through our first year again, only this time was taking more time. Every day dragged and conflicts or interruptions bogged me down. Rose Marie is gifted in all the areas that I find daunting and I missed having my Helpmeet greatly. Classes began a week after my loving wife returned and mopped-up my mess. (smile)! As schedules got underfoot, we realized that this year definitely started out different. I had expected to be back ministering up in the villages within the first week, but the Holy Spirit prevented me. I didn't argue with God, It was obvious He knew best. My prayers for people far away held the same potency we ask of you as you pray for them from a distance. By the third week of not making it to the district, my automatic transmission began to get sluggish. Short trips to church were not as risky as going up the mountain roads. I made an appointment with a mechanic to diagnose if it was a sensor, or something more serious. At the end of the day, I committed to have him rebuild the transmission for \$770.00. Lord willing, I'll have the vehicle back in use by Wednesday, Sept. 18th. You can see how it would have been a bad decision to travel the long distance in and consequently be left stranded in the Andes. The Lord is encouraging us all the time!



We can't help but think and pray for you, who we spent time with while on our extended furlough. We had a special time with our family. "Mom and Dad" don't have a place to call home without moving in with children. While we spend our down-time getting to know our grandchildren, we packup and travel, still not able to make it for all the birthday celebrations or school activities. We are always so very grateful for the special events like seeing our granddaughter, Scarlett ride a bike for the first time, or helping plan and attend Audrey and Esther's parties and watch them interact with their friends. As you can tell by the picture,

We've added another grandchild. bringing our count to eight! The exciting part was waiting for our daughter-in-law to deliver. God indeed blessed us, for just a



few hours before my plane departed back to Peru, Eliza Wren Blumer was born. I held her for ten minutes and then kissed her good-bye. Rose Marie remained for ten more days, fulfilling her desire to do some more grand-mothering before returning home.

Since May 2016, Iglesia Gracia Bautista church plant continues to grow from seeds others have planted and watered. Almost half of the attendees who are coming located the church through the internet. An intern student from UCLA Monterrey, Mexico is working with the music and college class, which has recently grown to outnumber the teens. Due to limited space, the teen Sunday school we were teaching is now meeting with the adults. We will stay with this church plant as God permits and take one Sunday a month for services in • Personal family prayer Antioquia as God opens doors and blesses!

This past week the LMCS eighth-grade Bible class began studying the New Testament. The Lord impressed upon me to conclude the introduction to the Gospels with an invitation to receive Christ. After class, Jonathan asked if we could talk through some issues he had questions about. When we met during lunch, he surprised me. I was ready to lead him to the Lord, but he gave me a clear testimony that he is saved. His deep concern was for others! That someone who hasn't heard about Jesus would end up in hell! This is pretty deep thinking for eighth-graders; but oh, what a love for the lost! My prayer is that Ionathan and other students at our school would heed God's call to evangelize, make disciples and plant churches in parts of Peru still without a gospel witness. Please make that a matter of urgent prayer. As I take the class through the book of Acts, we will put feet in gospel shoes.

Victor, who was saved in Antioquia last vear, understands he needs to follow the Lord in Believers Baptism. I will be meeting with him each week next month. Please pray that two others (who have been saved longer) will attend the meetings with Victor and that they will be obedient in this area also. It is a cultural convolution they face, which needs straightened-out to be biblically. The Holy Spirit will convince them. It would be wrong and dangerous for me to do the convincing.

Praise and Prayer Requests:

- Iglesia Bautista de Gracia services.
- Antioquia district.
- Praise!! Baptism classes.
  - requests. Ie: medical
- Vehicle repairs.
- Praise!! New support.
- Wisdom in Counseling and discipleship.
- LMCS high school retreat in November.