

Grace, peace, and the blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ to you! We pray that this letter finds you well.

Ministry News

Prison Vocational School

While in Ecuador last month I talked to Sely Escobar, the pastor of the church in Sacha Runa as well as several other small churches in the Pastaza region. We talked about our prison ministry in Macas. One of the things we are working on is a vocational training program for the inmates to help them find honest work when they get out, as well as being able to raise money for their families while incarcerated. We had group project money available, so I was able to donate around \$1200.00 for the purchase of some nice power tools to be used to train inmates in carpentry. Pastor Sely is an excellent carpenter and wanted to share his gifting in that area among the brothers in prison. This photo was taken in the church "building" within the prison. It's not much bigger than what you see in the picture.



Bible Translation Work

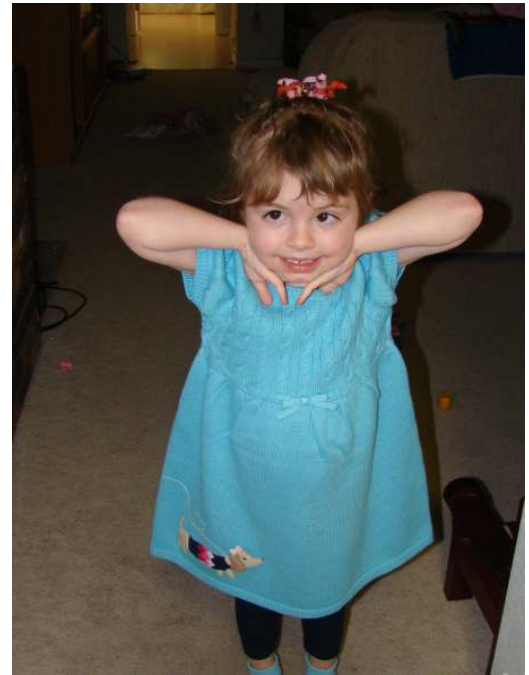
You may also remember that we have been working on an audio translation of the New Testament into Quechua of the Pastaza. This project has been slow going. Because of our desire to get the message of God's Love out to people now, we have Maria working on a Quechua translation of an evangelical children's book. She expects to finish the translation work within the next few months. At that time, we hope to do recordings that will be put to photos for a DVD that can be watched in several Quechua communities. We also hope to purchase MP3 players to share the audio message. The people who only know the Quechua language (and not Spanish) are unable to read. This makes audio translation and DVDs in indigenous languages a valuable tool in ministry.



Family update and MVI partnership

Back in the US for a few months

We are currently back in the U.S because Valerie's last MRI showed that her brain tumor (probably as a result of radiation treatment) has spawned a cluster of new cysts, some of which show signs of bleeding. Although this isn't necessarily bad news as it may be a sign that the tumor itself is degenerating some, but the doctors at St. Jude thought that it would be wise to stay close to where we could get emergency surgery done if the need arises. That said, we will be staying here until, most likely,



February. The timing on this is actually pretty good as we are looking to expand a lot of our ministry

when we return and this gives us a good opportunity to work on planning that can't be done easily in Ecuador. We all miss being in Ecuador, but are also enjoying spending time with friends and family. For more details you can go to our website or follow us on Facebook.

Our new affiliation

One of the other reasons for returning to the US was to undergo our training with Missionary Ventures International. We were very impressed with this organization and feel like our ministry is a perfect match with their mission philosophy. So, as you can see by the logo on the previous page, we are now official Field Coordinators with MVI. They will be able to help with a lot of the organizational details that were becoming cumbersome for our home church. They also will help organize focused groups that want to come down and help. You can read more about them at www.missionaryventures.org.



The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17

Prayer Requests and Praises

- Praise for how well Valerie Grace is doing and prayer that the cysts and tumor in her brain will shrink
- Prayer that our time in the US will be focused on Christ and fruitful in seeking God's will for future plans in Ecuador
- Praise that our marriage is experiencing a wonderful time of refreshing and renewal after a very strenuous year of trial
- Pray for the people of Sacha Runa to hunger for the Lord and for them to realize that His love is a free gift
- Pray for the prison ministry in Macas, that the Christian inmates would be encouraged to walk in the Spirit
- Pray that water and electricity would be restored to those without it in Ecuador



Update on Land Disputes

There continue to be issues with land disputes in Sacha Runa. The situation is quite tense now. Please pray for tribal relations to be peaceful. Pray that the Lord can break down tribal barriers and that the people will humble themselves, and ask for forgiveness where necessary. We are praying for the salvation of all of those who do not know the love of our Lord and Savior.

We're Available....

We have enjoyed sharing with our brothers and sisters here in the US about our work in Ecuador. We would love to share about what the Lord is doing in Ecuador with your church or small group. Please contact us if you are interested in having us come for a visit.

We would love to hear from you!

Current Mailing Address Email: craigwelch71@yahoo.com
The Welch Family http://www.thewelchfamily.org
15438 SW CR 346 Skype: candcwelch
Archer, FL 32618 Home phone : (352) 495-4115

Make a Contribution

For charitable donation tax receipt, make checks payable to:

Missionary Ventures International

Mail to:

MVI

PO Box 593550

Orlando, FL 32859-3550

Make sure to write "Welch family"

In the memo line or enclose a note

Credit card donation and ACH payments can also be set up online at:

<https://www.mvi.org/donations>

Notwithstanding any other statements in this communication, please remember that any contributions to MVI are under MVI's full discretion and control as required by IRS regulations

