

Volume 21 Number 3

STRIVING TO SERVE GOD'S SERVANTS

**MAY/JUNE 2017** 



With a seeming crisis around every corner, looming financial disaster as a nation, North Korean threats, challenges with Russia, division in our nation as never before, personal challenges, health issues and more, are you increasingly feeling that you'd just like to quit, to become a hermit, find a deserted tropical island and forget everything else?



I've told the Lord that I'd like a break, maybe a short visit to Heaven to get recharged. Wouldn't that be great? The challenge with that is that a "short visit" wouldn't be enough, beside the fact that it's impossible. God has us here on planet earth for a purpose. When His purpose for us is accomplished, we will be with Him. I have to remind myself often that I am not here for ME. We are here to serve others and to communicate the truth of God's word to a world whose senses are stimulated by things that really don't matter. How do we get a distracted world interested in what lies ahead, eternity?

One way we can gain the heart and mind of a dying and distracted world is to be faithful in the midst of life's most difficult challenges, **TO REFUSE TO QUIT.** I am convinced that times of personal pain and difficulty are our most fruitful opportunities for eternity. When others ask us how we were able to endure the trials set before us, how will we answer? That question is an open door to share the difference a relationship with God through His Son, Jesus, makes, both in this life and the life to come. Our Goddirected answer may encourage a discouraged believer, or be just the seed intended to bring eternal life to one who has never known Christ personally. Our "HOPE" (confident expectation) is not in this world, but in the world to come. We need to be reminded of this truth often.

Paul told both the Thessalonian and Galatian believers not to grow weary in doing what is right. In times of great challenge, we must be determined more than ever to do what we know God wants us to do, no matter the consequences. Join me in renewing this commitment to be faithful, no matter what Satan throws in our path to attempt to defeat and discourage. "Be ready always to give and answer to those who ask you of the HOPE that lies within you." 1 Peter 3:15





Our team of eight has been in the planning stages for this mission trip for months. While in preparation, we learned that Peru has been devastated with extreme flooding in most of the country. Areas that normally get 4-6 inches of rain annually, received 40 inches in a few weeks. Even some areas of Lima were destroyed. Five major cities were cut off by road. Where we were at Machu Pichu in 2013, helicopters had to evacuate tourists. 70,000 were left homeless. Lima was without drinkable water for a week. The Frerichs told us that for a time, a personal size bottle of water was selling for the equivalent of \$10. One positive during the water crisis was that the Frerichs have a cistern that held a large water supply. They were able to share with others as well. This is the same water system that on our last trip, we were able to help supply a special pump needed to make the system useable. They also shared that it will take weeks if not months for things to get back to normal. We are praying that God will open hearts to respond to the Gospel message in this challenging time.

We are going, not knowing exactly what to expect. At Steve's suggestion, we want to take water filters and insect repellant as gifts. Steve shared that now the problem is insect borne disease. The church we will be working through in Lima raised the equivalent of about \$7,000 for food and Bibles for those affected. We are praying that we will be able to take extra funds with us as well to help in needy areas.

It is only through your prayer and financial support that we can go and make a difference. Do what you can financially. Hang this newsletter in a prominent place to remember to pray for our safety, health and effectiveness. Any funds received before June 14th over and above our expenses will be used specifically to ALMOST THERE.

assist those in need.

ALWOST THERE. THANK YOU!



ESM GOAL FOR PERU AT LEAST \$2,000

PRAY OFTEN.

GIVE AS GOD

ENABLES AND

IMPRESSES YOU.

YOU ARE PART OF

ALL THAT GOD

WILL DO AS WE

SERVE.

"Sirviendo Siervos de Dios"

### Thoughts from Diane . . .







I've seen enough videos of volcanoes erupting to know what leads up to the explosion. First, you might see steam and debris venting from the cone. It seems to take a lot of time and lot of false starts before the big one hits. When it does hit, it's much more that steam and debris, there's a lot of very hot lava that shoots out and destroys everything in its path. It's scary and it's deadly.

What comes to my mind, happened when I was a young teenager. I didn't like what my brother Bobby was watching on television. So, while he was sitting in his

chair, I proceeded to walk over and turn the channel to my preference. He got up and turned it back. I again walked over and turned it to what I wanted to watch. I don't know how many times that went on before he stood up in a rage and threw a metal stool at me. I put my arm up over my head before I was hit. I had a bruise the length of my whole arm. As I look back, there was a lot of rage there that had nothing to do with that explosive situation. I was too young to understand all that was behind that.

Moving forward to my adult life I recall a time when I was having a conversation with my Mother. I don't remember what it was about specifically but I do remember that she was being stubborn about something and I was at my wits end. That's when I should have stopped talking and prayed, but instead I let my evil heart dictate my actions. I erupted with anger and the lava flowed creating a path of destruction. Oh, I got the response (later) that I wanted. She called me and told me she was sorry. I was ashamed before God and my Mother for my actions. I know He and my Mom forgave me but I still remember it to this day. I would love to tell you that I learned that lesson well, but I can't. How many times I've groaned after I've opened my mouth and had to ask forgiveness.

Something interesting happened to me this morning. My time in God's Word took me to one of the Psalm's that David, under God's guidance, penned just for me. Psalm 141:3 "Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips." It seems that even though David was a King, there were things in his own life that brought him to the place of writing this verse down. He had many lessons to learn from God. His heart was broken before God often during his life, but he knew God still loved him. David knew that someday he would dwell with God forever.

When the enemy strikes and I fail, God is there for me as He was for David. I will walk through life's challenges and joys and when life as I know it here ends, I will stand forgiven in God's presence. Where will you be? I



know that Jesus died for my sins. I believe Jesus is who He said He was, the very Son of God. I've accepted His Word. I've known the joy of God's discipline and forgiveness for a lifetime. I understand the "peace that passes all understanding." He died for the sinfulness of all mankind out of a love that surpasses anything I could imagine. He died for you. My deepest desire is to see you there too.

II Corinthians 15:58 Standing firm in HOPE, Diane

#### PRAYER . . . STILL THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL & RELIABLE WIRELESS CONNECTION

Pray that plans and finances fall into place as we prepare for our mission trip to Peru.

Diane's Health Update: Diane is frustrated with her lack of energy. She has just finished another round of antibiotics. She sees the pulmonologist next week to go over the results of a recent lung scan.

Pray for new churches to consider ESM partnership.

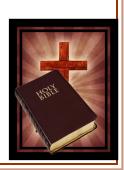
Pray for ongoing strength and effectiveness in ministry.

Pray with us regarding ESM financial growth and God's direction for the future.

Our Continuing Mission Focuses On . . .

# "Serving God's Servants"





Eagle Summit Ministry 10817 E. 16th Avenue Spokane Valley, WA 99206

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There is an evil one who wants to keep us discouraged, to keep us focused solely on the here and now. He wants to silence us from communicating the reality of salvation through Christ and a personal relationship with the Creator of the universe. Remember Who bought and paid for us with His own blood and the difference our relationship with God makes.

BE STRONG. BE ENCOURAGED.

## Where We've Been, What We've Been Up to & Where We're Headed Next . . .

March 7—AWANA Club, New Hope Bible Church, Spokane Valley, WA
April 10—AWANA CLUB, Cedonia Community Church, Cedonia, WA
APRIL 16 — MENDING FENCES FELLOWSHIP, SPOKANE, WA / OUTREACH
June 14-28—Peru Crew 3.0 (Mission trip to Peru serving with the Frerichs)
July 16-20—11/12 Camp, Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp, Cocolalla, ID
July 24 - 29—Camp ALACCA, 4-6th boys, Harpster, ID



We Are Available for Pulpit Supply, Even on Short Notice.

Need a speaker for a creative outreach program, AWANA or Kid's Clubs, Sunday School, Family Camp, Teen or Kid's camps or other special events? Contact us. We are here to serve.

Executive Director: Rev. George Hippe

10817 E. 16TH AVENUE, SPOKANE VALLEY, WA 99206

Office/Cell: 509.995.6777 \* Home: 509.927.1305 \* E-ddress: qhippe@integrity.com / www.eaglesummitministry.org