

# Serving Christ and the People of Peru

October-December 2023

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20



The second graders and myself dressed up as our favorite animals.

Hello everyone!

I hope you all had a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. It's hard to believe that we have already started another year! I am excited to see what God will do through me in 2024. Please enjoy reading about how He worked in Peru during the last three months of 2023.

In October, we travelled to Cusco during our spring break. We spent a few days touring Machu Picchu and then spent the rest of the week at a seminary in a neighboring city. While there, I was able to spend time with another American missionary that is working there. She doesn't have many other American missionaries working with her anymore. I am glad we were there that week to celebrate her birthday with her and encourage her. She took us out to visit the local attractions. We took tracts to pass out to everyone we met along the way. It was a great way to spend spring break.

My students surprised me on my birthday with lots of birthday wishes, presents, cards, and two huge chocolate birthday cakes! They are such a blessing to me. They excelled so much this year academically. The last quarter they were able to put into practice all they had learned throughout the year. Each week, I required them to give speeches about a given topic. At first, I wondered if the students and parents alike would complain that it was too much, but they did an excellent job on their speeches, homework, and quizzes. They loved talking about and dressing up as their favorite animal, what they want to be when they grow up, and bringing their favorite toy to class. Of course, I love listening to them.



This first grader is teaching us more about dogs.



This doll her favorite toy.



This second grader wants to be a doctor when he grows up.



This pilgrim costume is absolutely perfect.



She LOVES turkey and potatoes.



Someone is ready for Christmas.

During the month of October, our church takes time to focus on missions. Sharing the truth of the gospel is an important commandment for every Christian. I am so glad that our church is actively involved in missions. By God's grace, the church is able to support many missionaries around the world, take mission trips, and have local evangelistic outreaches. The last Sunday of the month, we heard reports from some of those missionaries, one of which is a family from our church that is raising support to go to Mozambique, Africa!

My students got to experience a little taste of an American Thanksgiving. I told them the story behind why we celebrate Thanksgiving, gave them a fun activity to complete, then surprised them with turkey, mashed potatoes, and carrot cake cupcakes. They loved it! Many of them complimented my cooking skills and told me they were so stuffed. On Friday, they dressed up as pilgrims or Native Americans and gave speeches about what they were thankful for. Almost all of them gave glory to God for the blessings that He has given them. I hope for the rest of their lives they continue to have grateful attitudes and recognize God as the source of all good gifts.

Soon after, the school celebrated Christmas. All of the school's staff and most of the junior high and high school students were divided into 4 different groups and went out to 4 different churches in the poor areas of Lima. We brought the children hot chocolate, panettone, and presents. More importantly, we shared the true meaning of Christmas with them and explained to them how they could have the most important gift of all, the gift of eternal life. We pray that those children would come back and learn more about the Bible. It was another great opportunity for our school's students to go out and evangelize to the lost souls around them.

I am so thankful that God allows me to come back to the States every year and spend time with family and friends. Lord willing, I will be here until the end of January. It is spiritually refreshing for me to be here, and at the same time I am ready to go back and start another year of serving Christ in Peru.

Please pray for:

1. wisdom as I visit churches and plan for the 2024 school year.
2. a mission trip that is coming up in February.
3. more English teachers for Pioneer Christian School.

I thank God for your faithful love and support.

For His service,  
Kristin Powell



This 10<sup>th</sup> grader is sharing the gospel with children in one of the poor areas of Lima.