

Meet Our New Missionaries to Peru



Both Jessica and Christopher Rose grew up on the West Coast, experiencing the beauty of tall mountains and cold winters in Oregon and California. They met playing co-ed softball at a university in southern Oregon and dated for just over a year. At that point Christopher moved to Santiago, Chile, where he lived for over two years. Jessica moved to Ecuador for a study abroad program during this time. After developing a stronger friendship over the long distance, they became engaged when Jessica returned from living abroad and Chris was visiting his family. This bond continued to grow as half of their engagement was spent while living on different continents, and the other half while living in different states. They were married in August of 2003 in Ashland, Oregon.

In 2002 Christopher was led to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ by Mateo, a coworker in Chile, who was the son of Navigator missionaries to Brazil. In the months that they lived together he found joy for the first time in studying the Bible. As Mateo disciplined Christopher he could see his life changing. Jessica's conversion came in 1998 at a Christian fellowship church in Oregon, but it wasn't until her time in Ecuador that she began to understand her thirst for God and began feeling God calling her to something deeper.

Upon returning to the US and getting married, both Jessica and Christopher felt a calling to missionary work. It was early on in their active Christian lives, but they felt God was guiding their path. He placed them in a healthy church where they could grow spiritually and be influenced by Christian brothers and sisters. God's work at Tallowood has played a big part in confirming their call to missions. They've had many opportunities to serve in both foreign and domestic locations. Their hearts have been touched by seeing individuals begin their own relationships with Jesus on these trips. This passion has turned into a calling not only to help people know Christ but to also use their gifts to help others. They've felt God calling them to return to Latin America and serve His people there.

A friend at Tallowood learned of Operación San Andrés through Pastor Wells and shared with the Roses. They felt God's providence in the link and sensed their calling had a connection to OSA's work. After a time of prayer and discussion they traveled to Collique with Ruth and Luis Campos. The children of Collique won over their hearts. They felt comfortable being with the people there and being in South America again. Their hearts were moved by the stories of how lives had been changed there through OSA's work. Luis Campos shared how OSA had had visions of potential projects, unsure how they would turn out, but that God had done so much more than what they imagined.

When the disciple Andrew asked Jesus how far the loaves and fish would go among so many, Jesus already had his plans in mind. It's clear that Jesus is changing lives and has plans for the people of Collique as well. Chris and Jess feel privileged to be a part of God's work and what OSA is doing in Collique. They look forward to serving in Peru and sharing in the joy of the growth of God's kingdom. Currently, both Chris and Jess are bilingual schoolteachers in Katy where they play a part in shaping the lives of young Hispanic immigrants. Their first child, Joshua, was born in July. He is more talkative every week and is ready to learn Spanish. They are busy making preparations to move to Collique, Peru, in February, 2008, and join their lives to the community God has called so many of us to serve. Please join us in supporting Chris, Jessica, and Joshua as they begin this next season of life and ministry. We will commission them during the 11 o'clock worship service on January 6.

Kids DAY Out

December 15

A Christmastime tradition of food and festivities to welcome the birth of Jesus. Parents might like a time to shop and wrap. 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., all ages, \$10/child, lunch included. Please reserve your child's spot with Susan Moore, smoore@smbc.org or 713-529-4167, ext. 302, by Wednesday, December 12.

Sharing the Spirit of Christmas



Plans are underway by the Missions and Ministries Committee to share the spirit of Christmas with the homeless again this year. Immediately after the Christmas Eve Service,

South Mainers and their guests – all who want to participate – will leave the Welcome Center in a caravan and make a Christmas Eve visit to Houston's homeless in the downtown area. Blankets, socks, sack lunches, homemade tamales, hot chocolate and other goodies will be given, along with warm handshakes and hugs, as carolers sing under an open sky. Many volunteers and vehicles are needed for this effort. Transportation will be provided for those not wanting to drive.

The following items are needed and donations are being received in the Welcome Center.

- Blankets, socks, sweaters, coats, caps
- Sleeping Bags or Bedrolls
- Miniature toiletries – especially soaps, shampoo and shave cream
- Disposable utensil packets with plastic knives, forks and spoons

This is a wonderful opportunity for outreach. Friends, neighbors, coworkers and out-of-town guests will want to be a part of this effort to share the gospel of the newborn Savior with the vulnerable and abandoned of our community.

For more information, contact any member of the Missions and Ministries Committee, including Greg Funderburk (Chair), Erin Conaway and Keith McFarland (cell: 281-224-2538, bubear1977@aol.com).