



Operación
SAN ANDRÉS

...five barley loaves and two fishes,
but what are they among so many?
John 6:9

HEARTBEAT

Collique

News and Happenings at Operación San Andrés – Collique, Lima, Peru

February, 2013

Summer of a Lifetime

In August, when the days in Lima are cloudy and cold, the people look forward to the summer. Most of the Limeneans don't have central heating even more so the people living in Collique.

These people live in houses with no insulation; the temperature outside equals the temperature inside the house, which is the same for the humidity. In summer temperatures get as high as 90°F, and in winter as low as 55°F. So with temperatures in the fifties and humidity up to 100% it's not hard to realize that they can't wait for summer, even though the summer months are hot... also inside the house.

What the OSA teenagers never imagined, was that this was not going to be a regular summer, but a summer of a lifetime, so far. We planned for them to go on a youth camp. The first week of February, they spent a week at a camp with other youth from different parts of Lima.

During the week the teens were challenged to think about their connections; the theme was "Online—with whom are you connected?", first of all, the connection with God, but also their connection with their parents, friends and their future.

Some of these teens accepted Jesus during this camp. Two of them went back to work in the maintenance team for one week, an opportunity to serve God.

A mother told us that for her daughter it was the most wonderful event in her life so far.



After the great success of last year, we planned a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for children of the community again.

The children were excited to come and listen to Bible stories and participate in crafts and sports. Some of these children have asked us for months when the next VBS was going to take place.

It shows the reality of life in Collique, where the children haven't much to fill their time. We are thankful for the opportunity to spend time with these children and share the Good News of the Gospel. We look forward to other occasions to reconnect.

The picture above was taken on the last day of VBS, after all children received a gift bag.

During these months the children have summer holidays, which make it easy to take the children on field trips. In January, we took the teenagers, together with some former students of OSA's after school program, to the planetarium of Lima in Chorrillos. It was an interesting visit, during which the teenagers learned some more about the universe and stars.

The planetarium is located on top of the hill Morro Solar from where they enjoyed a panoramic view of the bay of Lima. (See picture to the right).

In the week the teenagers were at camp, the children of the 3rd grade spent half a day at the recreational area "Sinchi Roca" and the mothers made a visit to downtown Lima,

where they went to the Metropolitan Museum of Lima.

Besides all these fun and different extracurricular activities and events, the regular after school program—which sounds a kind of funny during summer break—started the second week of January.

During these summer months the middle school students are all together at OSA during the afternoon. In the first week of March, when the school year starts, we will have a morning and afternoon group again, because of the different schools they attend.

There was also a special program for 3rd grade children who needed tutoring. Fany, teacher of our 3rd grade children, tutored a small group of children in the mornings. At the end of each session they were served a nutritious lunch.

We truly believe that this has been a summer of a lifetime for all the children in the OSA program.



Vacation Bible School

This year, the theme of the VBS was "¡Sólo Tú!" ("Only You!"). This theme was divided in five sub themes for the five days of VBS. God the Creator, Helper, Almighty, Provider, and Keeper. Bible stories songs and crafts helped the forty children understand more about God. Each day, they received a nutritious lunch cooked by the OSA mothers.

At the end of the VBS, each child received a picture with a Bible verse they learned the first day of VBS. The photo on the right is the remembrance picture of the youngest child who attended the VBS at OSA.

All the days, the children sang the theme song "¡Sólo Tú!" A video can be found on our YouTube channel, <http://www.youtube.com/user/videososaperu>

"For you created my inmost being." Psalm 139:13 (NIV).



Teenagers and home owner after they painted her house



A group of mothers in front of the museum

New Psychologist

On February 12, we said good-bye to Carmen Regalado, who has worked with us as psychologist for eight months.

We are thankful for her service to the people of Collique and are glad that she found a new job close to her home, so she can better take care of her mother.

We are happy to present Sonia León as our new psychologist. Sonia brings a diverse experience to OSA. Her previous work includes: a sexual abuse prevention program in Huaycan, a campaign for children with cleft lips in which she prepared the families for the surgery, and evaluating 2nd grade children for the Ministry of Education.

Sonia already is teaching both groups in our after school program and she is getting ready to soon start with the diagnosis and counseling of the children and families.

We look forward to her service with her God given gifts and talents in improving the life of the people in our program and community.

Upcoming courses

After the positive experience of working with the "Foundation for Families" last year with the Marriage Course, we have scheduled two other courses for the coming three months.

One course is "The Father's Blessing" and the other is "Sexual Integrity." The first one is a course for fathers and the second is one for teenagers. The two courses will take place simultaneously, because there will be some activities in which father and son/daughter will work together.

The first one will teach the father the importance of his role in the family. The second one will teach the teenagers the emotional, spiritual, physical, and social benefits of saving sex for marriage.

At the end of the three session course there will be a special ceremony during which the teenagers, in the presence of their parents, will promise God to save sex for marriage and the father will promise to take up his father role, as the Bible teaches.

Upcoming Events

March 2

- Outing to the Government Palace for all students

March 4

- Start of new school year

March 16

- Worship Service

March 24

- Course "The Father's Blessing" and "Sexual Integrity"

April 12-20

- Spring Mission Trip

Bible verse of the month

"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

1 John 4:8

Please, PRAY with us for

- The children as they are starting a new school year
- Our new psychologist
- Upcoming events
- Teenagers who accepted Christ during the camp

Visit our Facebook page for more pictures of the activities.

<https://www.facebook.com/operacionosanandres>



3rd graders, Carmen, and Fany during their visit to the park

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