

"Meeting the unique spiritual, emotional, and family needs of emergency response personnel internationally"



Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me." . . . John 14:6



2nd Quarter CMI Ministry Update

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we write this update we are in Iquitos, Peru ministering with our CMI Chaplain Jairo Torres to the Iquitos firefighters. It's been an extremely busy time here with activities happening in Iquitos itself as well as in a village down the Amazon River. We are blessed by the addition of two women that came with us from our home church. Sue Humble and Jenny Steward have been a great help and wonderful missionaries for Christ. Please keep praying for us as we attempt to reach as many Peruvians as possible with the gospel of Christ.

CHAPLAIN TRAINING

The week of June 12th we were privileged to train 9 new fire chaplains for the Iquitos fire stations. Taking the training were 6 men and 3 women. Chaplain Jairo Torres is overseeing the CMI/Peru organization and has assigned each chaplain to one of four Iquitos fire stations. Pastor Gibran— San Juan station, Carlos & chaplain Jairo— Puchana station, Pastor Julio— Belen station, Jamison and wife— new Delphines station.



Praising & Praying

- Praising for the new Iquitos chaplains
- Praying for the wives of the Iquitos firefighters
- Praying for new Barrios Florido church plant
- Praising for continued healing after Mark's gall bladder surgery
- Praising God's faithfulness in all things.

NEW DELPHINES FIRE STATION

We met with firefighters in the village of Delphines outside of the city of Iquitos. They are reopening a long defunct fire station for the village. Regional Commander Edgar Cardenas has been a long time supporter of Chaplain Ministries involvement within the fire department. We have discussed plans with him regarding a chaplain for Delphines and possible community ministry involvement. There is a possibility of a CMI/multi-church mission team performing some construction ministry at the new station in July of 2019.



FIREFIGHTER RECOGNITION BANQUET

On June 17th a special dinner honoring the firefighters was held at the Baptist Institute in Iquitos. Fire department officials were in attendance as well as 40 firefighters. Chaplain Antoni Vilca the southern Peru CMI/Peru representative gave the keynote address to the group. Mark provided a message of greeting and encouragement. CMI provided a small gift of appreciation to each member of the fire

department. Each firefighter was given a CMI logo lapel pin. They immediately placed the pin on their uniform.

The new fire department chaplains were introduced and they served each firefighter their dinner personally. The highlight of the evening was the donation by CMI of fire equipment. Two sets of CPR manikins were given and four sets of firefighting air-packs with extra bottles donated. They were so appreciative of the donation because the department has no operational air-packs as far as we know. It was an evening of friendship, relationship building and demonstration of our love for the men and women that risk their lives to save others.



FIREFIGHTER WIVES DISCUSSION



Chris had the privilege of addressing a small group of firefighter wives. Her talk centered around “Being Content being the wife of a Emergency Responder”. Below is Chris’ synopsis of her talk.

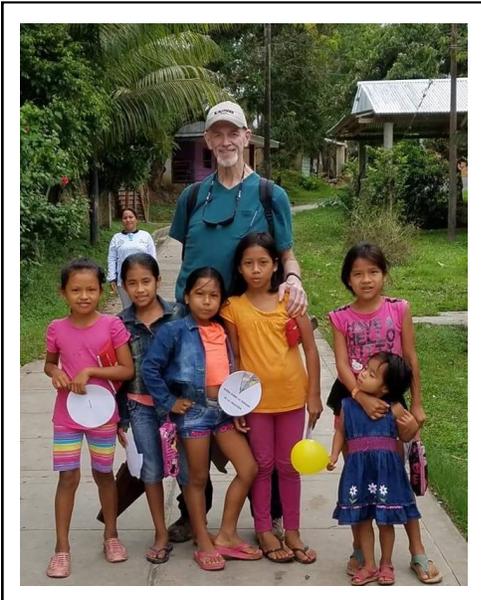
“Being the wife of an emergency responder can be a challenge! Mark worked 30 years as a paramedic in the Twin Cities of Minnesota. When Mark told me years ago that I could minister to the wives or mothers of emergency responders, I said what do I know? Well, the answer was, “you lived that lifestyle for over 30 years”. Yep, I know the

challenges of long days not seeing or knowing if Mark was alright. Helping the children understand why dad can't be at their special activities at school or church because he is working, or can't come to a ballgame, or holiday. It can be a lonely life and can be filled with disappointment. We discussed issues of anger, obsessive behavior brought on by taking care of the needs of others in tragic circumstances. How to look for signs of Post Traumatic Stress Injury. More importantly how to understand these reaction.

We were able to introduce them to some of the chaplain wives. This is so they can go to them to talk if issues arise in the family. Emergency responder families often feel they cannot talk to anyone without it becoming a gossip situation at the local station. We have found this to be common in many countries.

BARRIO FLORIDO

We were involved in village ministry down the Amazon River. During this time we evangelized in pairs to individual homes and businesses, inviting the adults to come to the new church plant to learn about the importance of a church family. That afternoon 8 adults and several children were in attendance as we all shared our experiences of being a part of a church family and what it means to each of us. We returned to Barrio Florida the next day to help with the childrens ministry event. We had about 65 young children who came to sing songs, learn about God's creation and do a creation craft.



FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

Mark will be doing more training with the firefighters as well. On Tuesday evening Mark went back to teach the basics of splinting and back-boarding. The next night he covered the use of an Automatic External Defibrillator.



DELPHINES MINISTRY

We again participated in evangelization in the village of Delphines. Village kids were invited to participate in a kids ministry followed by a time of adults sharing about being a church family.



INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

UKRAINE FIRE DONATION

An agreement has been worked out with the Kherson, Ukraine fire authorities regarding the fire equipment donation we've been working with the International Fire Relief Mission for several years. A oversight committee has been setup to oversee and assure any equipment donation will not be split up and sold or does not show up to its intended destination. Tavriski Christian Institute and CMI have become members of that committee. In essence, when Mark goes to conduct chaplaincy classes at TCI twice per year, he will also inspect and verify the equipment continues to be used and at its intended location.

DELTA BAG WAIVER

We were fortunate that Delta airlines granted us a baggage waiver to bring the four air packs with us. They grant a waiver on a case by case basis and only once per year for non-profit organizations. We weren't so fortunate when we had to fly LATAM airlines to Iquitos. LATAM charged us \$210 for the four extra bags containing the air packs.

*God Bless!
Mark & Chris
Allen*