

# April 2024

Dear friends,

The beginning of the year has flown by. We cannot believe it is already April. Here's a look into our world in Cusco.

### **Ministry News**

We are two months into our time with 13 new students in what Casa del Maestro (CdM) calls the Academy. CdM provides a year-long discipleship program, focusing on a strong biblical foundation and vocational orientation to launch youth into adulthood. In "exchange" for their time and efforts, the ministry provides housing. Once they finish the many requirements, students can then apply for the residency program, which is for the duration of their post-secondary studies (typically 3-5 years). In this residency program, we currently have 14 industrious students, all of whom are studying full-time and working part-time. Not to mention they cook and clean, attend weekly Bible studies, and monthly CdM workshops.

As we arranged beds to accommodate the Academy students, one of the girls asked me, "Sister, what are we going to do next year? There is no more room. We cannot accept more." I replied, "I know. Praise God we have room now. Pray for more money to pay for rent in another apartment. Have faith!"

It has been wonderful to see the intentional living community grow as we dreamed of for many years.









#### Meet...

Lizeth. Lizeth comes from a jungle village, a 20+ hour trip, including a six hour canoe (with an outboard motor) up the river and then an hour motorcycle ride. She faces the homesickness, cold showers, and thin mountain air with a smile. She is a force to be reckoned with in soccer, preferring to play barefoot. Her current goal is to study nursing, but her dislike of blood is causing her doubts.

## **Family News**

Our kids are enrolled in a Peruvian homeschool program that started this March, but we continue to be year-round homeschoolers in both English and Spanish. Our "foreign" language is Quechua. We have seventh, fifth, and third graders!

## **Praise and Prayer Requests**

- \*Praise for all 13 Academy students. They arrived well from the corners of Cusco and Apurimac states.
- \*Praise God we have an amazing group of volunteers that teach Academy classes. It is wonderful to have other mentors and voices in the students' lives.
- \*Pray for financial stability for students' families. They can often provide produce from the fields to sustain the family, but it is difficult to send cash for purchases in the city.
- \*Pray for the Cusco missionary community. Just this year families have experienced deaths of parents and serious medical issues; one was even medically evacuated back to the U.S.

In Christ, Albino and Sandy Rodriguez and the kids



