



March 2009

Pikes' Peeks

Christ's Great Commission:
Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world and make disciples of every nation..." (Matthew 28:19)

Our First Missionary Newsletter from Language School in Costa Rica



“Welcome to Language School – meet your new teachers!”

This is what the new missionaries heard on the first day of classes at CINCEL. Yes, we finally reached budget and made it here to language school, and it still feels like a miracle! We are thrilled to be here and want to thank everyone so very much for making this possible.



On our first day here in Costa Rica there was a 6.2 magnitude earthquake. The epicenter was 20 miles from us. The earth was shaking and things were falling to the floor as we ran from the school building where we were taking our placement examinations. The school was without water for about a week, but we were much better off than those closer to the center of the quake. The death toll was 14 with over 300 injured, and many homes lost and people stranded for days due to landslides. Still more were without food, water, or power. CINCEL sent a team to help distribute blankets and jackets to those affected by the earthquake.

We are still learning about this new country, and about the language school itself. One of the first things I discovered was that the language school – “CINCEL” – shares the same property as the Costa Rica national headquarters for **Latin America ChildCare**. Here in Costa Rica it’s called “Fundacion Piedad”. Of course this got my attention because we are appointed to work with **Latin America ChildCare** after our time here - - this is the whole reason we are here learning Spanish. So I ventured into the headquarters building and began asking around for whom I could speak with to get some more information. The first folks I spoke with didn’t speak English and I’m not speaking Spanish yet so that made it interesting. They eventually directed me to “Don Dutton” – American missionary Bill Dutton who works here in Costa Rica with **LACC**. Brother Dutton let me know that he’d be happy to take me to one of the LACC schools here in Costa Rica during my time here, so this is something we’re very much looking forward to!



LEARNING THE LANGUAGE

The interesting stories about our Spanish language learning experiences are beginning to accumulate. For example, there’s the day that Tim accidentally fed Christina and another little girl a bar of soap in a store here, thinking it was a fruit bar. He couldn’t read, so he didn’t know any better. When the suds began coming out of their mouths and the girl was exclaiming that Tim was a “bad daddy” he realized that it was not a fruit bar after all. Although Tim tried, all the ice cream and soda in the world could not make it better that day...



And as the sign in the photo indicates, “Alto” means “stop” as well as “tall” or “high”. I never knew that...

But the one I like the most so far is the Spanish word for smile: “sonrisa”.



I don’t know how it was originally derived but it makes me think of our word, “sunrise”.

When someone smiles it’s like a beautiful sunrise. ~ And the fact that it begins with “son” makes me

think of God’s Son, and how God ‘smiled upon us’ when he gave us Jesus...

Language study becomes more interesting when you begin to see some of these kinds of connections...



In this photo (to the left), Beth is seen during our walk home from CINCEL. We don’t have a vehicle here, so we must walk or take a taxi whenever we go out. This is actually a good thing because we’re all getting into better shape, and we don’t have the headaches of owning and operating a vehicle in a foreign country, as we did in Vanuatu & Curacao – so it’s all good.



Emily in taxi in San Jose, Costa Rica



Christina drinking from coconut

Most of you know we left behind our oldest daughter this time, along with her husband and their beautiful new baby. This has been difficult, but God provides grace. We are happy to report that they are doing well, and that Billy has been made a deacon in their church in Bridgeton, NJ.

IF YOU’D LIKE TO CONTACT US DIRECTLY: Our email address is Pikes_Peeks@yahoo.com. We have a website: www.PikesPeeks.org
Our mailing address here in Costa Rica is: Tim & Beth Pike, c/o CINCEL, Apartado 614-2010, Zapote, San Jose, COSTA RICA, 22346405
SUPPORT INFORMATION: Please make checks payable to the “General Council of the Assemblies of God ~ AGWM” and send to the same, at 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, MO, 65802-1894. Our account # is 254240-5 **THANK YOU!!!**