

ISALAH PROJECTS

NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2024



MERRY CHRISTMAS

A note from the Director:

It's hard to believe that another month has gone by so quickly! First, let me take this opportunity to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year. Here in Lima, this is the time of year where we visit various communities distributing food, clothing and small gifts for the children. It is always a blessing to be able to share a little of what we have with those who have much less. As I travel to each of these communities, I am reminded that the greatest gift we can give to anyone is to introduce them to Jesus and to share his message of love and acceptance. Christmas is a time when we have the opportunity to demonstrate Christ's love through simple acts of service and by sharing what we have with others.

The end of the year is also a time for reflection and I am so grateful for all that Isaiah Projects has been able to accomplish this year. Obviously none of that would have been possible without the generous donations of people like you. In 2024 we completed the construction project at the church in Tahuantinsyo, we continued to support eighteen feeding programs, and we helped five students with their tuition. In addition, we were able to continue to support pastors and missionaries around Peru. In November, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of Sewing Hope, a ministry that has had a huge impact on the lives of women around Peru. But 2024 was also not without its challenges. In August I launched an urgent appeal for funds in order to be able to meet our financial obligations, an appeal that ultimately led to Isaiah Projects being able to make its budget. Thank you for this... God is good.

We enter 2025 in a similar position to that we faced in August. Our board of directors will meet in January to prioritize spending for 2025 and make the necessary adjustments to ensure a workable budget. Budgetary pressures will be relieved if our year end appeal is successful, but we have a long way to go. As a reminder, donations for the 2024 tax year can be made up until Dec 31st, 2024. We will continue to be good stewards of the donations we receive and to pass on all of the funds to help those in need.

In closing, I want to thank each of you for the support that you continue to offer to Isaiah Projects. I have committed to stay in Lima until the beginning of May and will continue to share the good news of what we are doing through a monthly newsletter and my social media feeds. Should you wish more timely updates, you can follow me on Instagram at @alanisaiahprojects

Blessings,
Alan

Christmas Catalogue Appeal Update:



13

DONATIONS RECEIVED



3

NEW DONORS



1

NEW MONTHLY DONOR



\$8,900

DONATIONS TO DATE



YOUR CAN STILL DONATE BY GOING TO OUR WEBSITE AT
www.isaiahprojects.com



Thank you!

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Christmas Outreach in Lima, Ica and Comos - December 13-14-15,

With the Christmas season upon us, it is a busy time here in Peru. Throughout December, two teams, one lead by Alex and the other by Jorge (the Cotrina brothers), are traveling around Lima and the surrounding towns sharing the love of Jesus and celebrating his birth. Jorge's team is focused mainly in the Lima area, while Alex' team will travel further afield. Jorge's team is mainly made up of teens who have been a part of a three-month program, learning how to express themselves through music and drama; it is a wonderful program that Isaiah Projects has been able to help fund.

I am traveling with Alex' team and this week we visited Comos (a suburb of Lima) and Ica, a town four hours south of Lima. Through singing and dancing, puppets and clowning, our audiences were highly entertained as they heard about Jesus' birth. We were able to provide food and drinks for everyone in attendance and the children got a Christmas present to take home. It was such a blessing to see firsthand how lives are being impacted in these very poor communities. While the people may suffer financial hardship, they are filled with the spirit of Christmas.



Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 2:11



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Construction Update:

I am pleased to announce that work has started on the church in Carabayllo. The parging work on the bottom third of the church has been completed and a garden area has been added to deter people from putting graffiti on the wall. Work has also started on the first floor with the addition of bedrooms for the apartment, and walls to complete a classroom. Juan is working very hard!

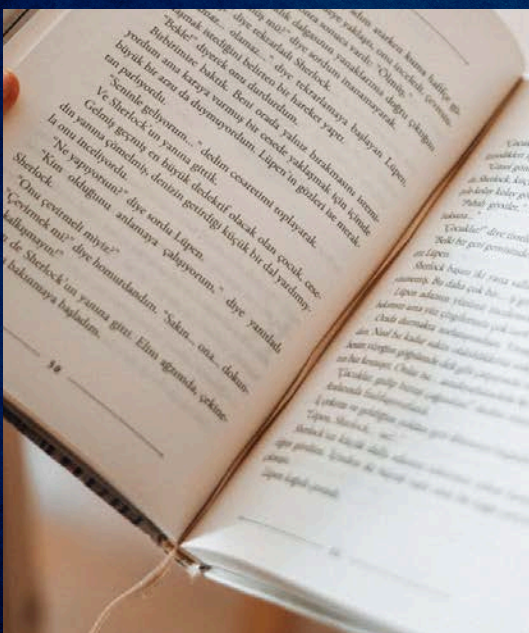


Exterior Work



Interior Work

The Purpose Driven Life Update:



Church leaders have been working diligently to complete their study of The Purpose Drive Life. The forty-two days of reading ended lost week and while we lost a few on the way, most are continuing to read to reach completion. Overall the book has been very well received and the leaders are excited to be introducing the materials to their congregations starting in January. To celebrate the work they have done, I will be hosting a dinner at the church in San Martin De Porres before the end of the month. It is always important to celebrate the wins!

Christmas Outreach in Lima, Santa Rosa and Raquia Dec 20-21-22

Over the last few days I have been on a road trip to Santa Rosa and Raquia, as a continuation of our Christmas outreach. The church in Santa Rosa (near Huacho) hosts one of our feeding programs and is run by Pastor Joel. I have written about Pastor Joel in the past and I love to visit him because he reminds me of all that is good in the world.

The church was full, and the kids had an amazing time watching “Chippy” play the clown. We were blessed to have Luis and Esther Gonzales with us and they entertained and educated the children with their puppet show. In addition, there was a drama and lots of choreographed dancing and singing. At the end of the presentation the children were given a chocolate drink, a slice of Paneton



Pastor Joel praying with the children.

(think fruitcake), and a gift to take home. It was exciting to see my good friend again, and even better to see the difference that he and his wife are making in the lives of so many children.



Muppet ministry!

who came, had travelled for hours just to be there.

One of the things that I love about Peru is the diversity of the topography, the climate and the people. Life in the mountains is radically different than life in Lima, or the jungle for that matter. Many of the people who came were dressed in the traditional attire of the area. It is a very formal style of dress that is highly colourful. The program was very much the same as the one we presented in Santa Rosa, but because the children in this community had never seen anything like this presentation before, the level of excitement was off the charts!

After our time in Santa Rosa, we headed two and a half hours further north to the mountain community of Raquia. This is the first time that Alex’ team have been to this community and it was wonderful to see so many families in attendance. A lot of those



A crowded house!



Traditional mountain dress!



One young man, who was dressed to the hilt, was particularly excited, so much so that at one point I thought he would explode! The joy on the faces of the children was priceless, and it is moments like these that



make the work we do here so rewarding. Despite having been to Peru so many times (78 times, but who's counting), I continue to find so much joy in the work Isaiah Projects is doing here. My constant prayer is that we will be able to do so much more, but I know we are limited by what we can afford. We will continue to work in communities like this as best we can, so that we can make a difference in the lives of the people we encounter along the way. The scriptures tell us "God is Love" and I am blessed to be able to share that love here in Peru every day.



Ways to give:

One time or monthly donations can be made in the following ways:

- By credit card at <https://give-can.keela.co/Christmas-Catalogue>
- By etransfer to alan@isaiahprojects.com (Please use Christmas2024 as your password)
- By cheque made payable to Isaiah Projects and mailed to: #311 - 19, Woodlawn Rd East, Guelph, ON, N1H7B1

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