Mission Update: Sharing Christ's Love in Lima, Peru

"We are going to land in Lima—the most beautiful city in South America!" That was the pilot's announcement as we approached Lima during my recent visit, October 15–19, 2026. Having visited Lima since 2013, I can certainly appreciate its beauty. That year marked the beginning of the North Wisconsin District's support for mission work in Lima. It has been a privilege to see how God has continued to work through this ministry over the years.

It was a great weekend! For the first time, I met Pastor Tiago, a Lutheran pastor from Brazil who has recently joined the ministry team. He serves alongside Pastor Rafael, also a pastor from Brazil, and Pastor Gerald Paul, an LCMS pastor who began serving in Lima this spring. It is encouraging to see these pastors working together to share the Gospel and serve the people of Peru.

We were all in Lima for the **FORO**, a gathering of mission staff and ministry partners from throughout the LCMS who meet twice a year to share updates, encourage one another, and discuss the work God is doing in Peru.

A New Ministry in Comas: Meeting Needs and Sharing Jesus

When we visited Lima in May, we toured a potential new ministry site in Comas, a poor neighborhood of Lima. At that time, the team was considering the possibility of beginning a ministry in this community. Since then, our mission staff has been reaching out to the people there and exploring ways to serve local children and families.

As Pastor Gerald Paul shared, "Currently, we are feeding 27 children lunch every weekday. The meals are prepared in a private home and distributed to the children. Some of these children do not have a home."

Think about that for a moment. **Twenty-seven children receive a meal every weekday because someone cares enough to help.** For children facing difficult circumstances, a meal is more than food. It is a tangible expression of love and care that can open doors to relationships and opportunities to share the love of Jesus.

The plan is for Pastor Rafael and Yepci, who leads *Castillo Fuerte* ("Mighty Fortress"), to oversee the ministry in Comas. Castillo Fuerte is a mercy ministry that reaches out to children with Christ's love and care.

The hope is to renovate the existing building so that meals can be prepared on-site and the restroom facilities can be improved. These improvements would provide a more suitable place to serve the children and create opportunities for the ministry to grow.

This is where your mission offerings make a difference. Through the support of the North Wisconsin District and its congregations, the Lord is providing opportunities to bring practical help and the hope of the Gospel to people who need both. Your gifts become part of this work, helping the mission team serve children and families in Lima in the name of Jesus.

There is still work to be done, and we ask you to join us in supporting this ministry in three important ways:

- **Pray** for the pastors, Yepci, and all those serving the children and families of Comas. Ask God to strengthen them and bless their witness to Christ.
- **Give** through your congregation's mission offerings to help sustain and develop the work God is doing in Lima.
- **Encourage** others by sharing what you learn about this ministry and the difference it is making in the lives of children.

The ministry in Comas is just one example of how God is working in Lima. Thank you for being part of this mission through your prayers and generosity. May the Lord continue to bless this work, provide for its needs, and use it to bring the love of Christ to many more children and families.

If you have questions about the mission work in Lima or would like to learn more about how you can support it, please feel free to ask me. I would be happy to share more about what God is doing there!

In Christ,

Dwayne Lueck