



Dear Estación Esperanza friends

The September newsletter was written in Switzerland, which is quite special. This motivates me to start just with this topic.

Home Time

Our two-year-old Mael and I arrived in Switzerland at the beginning of August. The airlines require pregnant women to fly no later than their seventh month of pregnancy. I'm so glad that I have been able to make good use of the time so far, even before Carlos arrived in Switzerland shortly before the Estacion Esperanza event (10th of September) - and even more so since then: lots of meetings with people who support us from home (Switzerland), whether through messages of affection and prayer, or financially. It is important to us to get to know as many donors as possible personally, to know their names not only through their donations to our ministry.

There were also many private highlights that I was able to enjoy: My sister Linda had her wedding, I met my ten-month-old niece, my father celebrated his 70th birthday, etc. A very special surprise in these weeks was the development of Mael. We are discovering many things about him, of which he had no idea until now. Switzerland seems to us, with all its opportunities for leisure activities, like an enormous paradise for children. Much of it is free



Time with my siblings and niece



Switzerland: Water, Nature, etc.



Swiss school kids bake and sell and collect money for the Peru kids

and without much effort: Playgrounds outside and inside, mothers-child center with free counseling for parents, community centers, swimming opportunities, farms, rivers, forests, mountains, farms where Mael can touch cows and horses and rabbits etc. When I am with friends and their children or with my sister Linda and her little daughter, I have to be careful not to get too carried away. There are hardly any opportunities like that in Peru. Some of the team have small children, but they spend their days off differently than I do. In addition, in Peru - unfortunately - it is more important than here that I am and remain their supervisor. Since we have been in Switzerland, Mael often sleeps in his own room, he is now without diapers, accepts care from other people, etc. He is also making tremendous progress with Swiss German.

Our three girls in Peru are doing well. We are in regular contact with them. Nancy, the oldest, is now 21 years old. She takes care of the two sisters helping them become as independent as possible and taking on personal responsibilities. She says, "When I was six years old, I sometimes had to take care of Angie, who was less than one year old, for days

because our biological mother disappeared. It can't be that Angie, now 15, is too comfortable to prepare breakfast for herself and Flor before school." It is helpful that they can always have lunch at our project house and that there are people we trust there.

Construction project

I, **Carlos**, stayed in Lima as reported. Before leaving, I gave a power of attorney to our co-worker Rodolfo (project deputy) as well as to the vice representative of the association EsEs Peru. We started with the elaborate paperwork for the application to get the permission to run a kindergarten and later a school. Now these two people are also authorized to sign. Before I left, I had another meeting with the mayor of Mi Peru district. After all that has happened (see last two newsletters) he knows that we completely renounce corruption and therefore he cannot find any financial advantages with us. But since he is enthusiastic about the idea of the kindergarten/school with low prices for people in the slums, he told me the following: "If you come back to Lima in November and you still haven't received the approval from the school department, I will introduce you to the appropriate direc-



Wedding from my sister Linda & Ramon



Carlos -newly also Swiss- gets to know his hometown - that appears now in his passport (Lützelflüh Bern)

tor. So you don't have to worry about the permit, although the whole thing usually comes with a lot of obstacles and challenges." We can only marvel. As recently as May, we had received a construction stop from the political municipality, had no way to meet the mayor personally, and saw no way to continue building. But once more, God opened closed doors and surprised us in a way that we can only give thanks.

Here's link to the new video about the construction.

<https://estacion-esperanza.com/wp-content/uploads/Videos/Video%20Ingles%202%20EE2.mp4>

The next steps involve the purchase and installation of windows, doors, flooring, playground, etc. The chances actually look good that we can start with three kindergarten classes (3, 4 and 5 year olds) in March 2024 when the new school year begins. But we know we cannot make it all happen ourselves, but look trustingly to God to see how everything develops. Our wishes and ideas are never the last word in wisdom! In the meantime, we pray and trust God.

Team Leadership

Making team meetings constructive has proven to be a challenge. Every Sunday afternoon, the team meeting is taking place and a protocol is written. The temperament of the Latin Americans means that it is always very lively. Many of them have an enormous need to communicate and accordingly the meetings drag on. Our two new Swiss team members (Tahani and Nicola), who will probably be with us for two years, have good ideas for solutions. They will try to implement them during our absence. We are very excited to see what will be different when we return in mid-November. Not surprisingly, problems sometimes arise in our team as well, which can

FOR THIS WE ARE GRATEFUL

- the beneficial and blessed time in Switzerland
- our 2 healthy sons and wonderful 3 daughters
- the trustworthy Estación Esperanza team and their great work

OUR PRAYER REQUESTS

- finances for the completed construction of the kindergarten
- further open doors in Peru and valuable contacts, e.g. with the mayor and that EsEs can be an encouraging example by renouncing corruption.
- all the kids, mothers, families in the slums from Lima

Women handicraft group



Outreach with youth

Parents' evening (September)

Intervention: Team with Tahani



lead to discord. Estación Esperanza is anything but pure harmony. Recognizing such situations early enough and dealing with them in a good way is a great challenge. We are glad when we are given the necessary strategy and sufficient empathy.

Our baby-boy is born

This part should not have been part of the September newsletter. But since God gave us our son earlier than expected, we could not send on the newsletter. We are full of joy to tell you, that our second boy was born on the 3rd of October. Everything went well and he and being attended to in a Swiss hospital is a privilege because the quality of the hospital is excellent. So, we are happy to present you our Swiss-Peruvian son Yosias Mateo. He and also his mother, me, are healthy and recovering well.

Love from Switzerland, Miriam und Carlos Bernales-Kühni



SUPPORT

Checks to "Modern Day Missions" - TAX DEDUCTIBLE:

Modern Day Missions - P.O. Box 535578 - Grand Prairie, TX 75053

Include note inside the envelope of the check: „Donation for Estacion Esperanza, Family Bernales Pinedo“

Link from Modern Day, where Estacion Esperanza has their account.

<https://www.modernday.org/profile/estacionesperanza/>

CONTACT

Familie Bernales
 Santa Liberata 186
 3era Etapa de Pando, Cercado Lima,
 Peru

ONLINE

bernales-kuehni@estacion-esperanza.com
 Facebook: Estación Esperanza
 Homepage:
<https://estacion-esperanza.com/en/>