



I Dig Peru News

'The King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40 NIV

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Dennis Karpinski's Story

Sunday morning, late 2003, I went to a men's breakfast at church that morning. I don't really know why, I just did. I wasn't a member of the men's club or anything like that. I don't think that I knew who was speaking or what he or she would be speaking about.

Breakfast was great and as everyone was finishing their meal, the speaker took the podium and introduced himself. Steve Hendrix was the speaker and he had recently been on a mission trip to Peru.

Steve explained a little bit about what a Street Boy is, who they are, how they live and what a typical day may be like for them. Finally, he played a video that he had compiled from his trip. While Steve was speaking and showing his video, I remember thinking to myself; I'm happy for him that he has the desire to do these mission trips. It's great that he feels called to leave the safety and comfort of the United States and travel to a third world country and do volunteer work. But that's not for me. I have no desire to leave the U.S., travel to the Amazon jungle, live out of a mosquito tent, and do volunteer work. I love my bed. I love air conditioning. I have a wife and son who need me at home. I don't want to leave them for anything. I have never heard

any great voice from the heavens telling me to go. But I am happy for him!

So, as I'm sitting there listening and watching the video, I find myself captivated with the video. I don't mean like I'm just interested. It's like I'm there. The pictures of Peru, the Amazon jungle, the Street Boys and the volunteer work being done, it's all swirling around in my head. Steve finishes his presentation and the next thing I know, I'm standing up front telling Steve that if he ever does something like this at our church, count me in. What? Did I just say that? I must be going crazy.

Somewhere between 8 and 9 months later, I found myself approximately 1 and a half hours outside of Iquitos, Peru, living out of a mosquito tent, at a Union Biblica del Peru center for Street Boys located in Puerto Alegria, Peru. In the time span of 20 to 30 minutes, God changed my heart. I didn't ask Him to. I wasn't looking to go anywhere or do anything. It's

not like I was sitting there thinking, "Hey God, how about working it out so that I can go on a trip to Peru". What else can I say? God called and I went. God changed my heart, forever. The Street Boys of Peru will forever have a special place in my heart.



Useless Information to Brighten your day

We have had 7 mother-daughter teams and one mother-son team.

5 sets of sisters are a part of our teams

3 couples are part of our team (one married)

No father son teams as yet.

Calendar of Events

Individual Fundraising

Deadline	April 30
Team meeting	May 8
Spaghetti Supper	May 9
Golf Tournament	May 20
Send Off Service	June 3
Team Meeting	June 12
Prayer and Communion Service	July 20
Trip	July 21-30
Rev William Makali Visit	September Tentative
Billy Clark Visit	November 11 Tentative

In **Bold** means a change or date set

Do you want the I Dig Peru Newsletter via email? If so please go to the website to sign up for email version at www.idigperu.hendrix-engineers.com

Fundraising Update

Fundraising has gone great this year. The team has raised the overall funds needed for the trip. However there are several who have not completed their individual fundraising and so we cannot fill in the rest of the graphic yet. If you have not raised any of your individual funds or are not done, please contact Stephen Dunlap about correcting this situation.

We still have two fundraisers left and will be discussing them both at our next meeting on May 9th. We are still planning on helping the Methodist Men with the golf tournament and need to get gifts/sponsorships. If you need information for these, please see Matt Richardson.

If you need additional cards for the Palmetto Car Wash, please see Steve Hendrix.



Send Off Service to be Mission Sunday

This year we have changed the Peru Send Off Service to include all missionaries. This is the reason the date was changed to June 3 so it would be before all but one Salkehatchie camp. The service will include folks from all mission activities including church members who participate in school or other church mission trips. The idea is to celebrate and commission all who are participating in mission work.

In addition there will be a combined Sunday School hour to provide information on all the mission activities

of Mauldin United Methodist Church.

Here is what you can do to help:

- Notify Julie Sellars or Steve Hendrix of any folks participating in missions outside of our church such as the Shannon Forrest annual mission work.
- Get your Sunday School to participate in the combined hour on June 3rd.
- If you don't have a Sunday School come to the Gym at 10 anyway.

The Clarks

Last month we featured two updates from Billy Clark of Scripture Union. We unfortunately did not have enough room for the full update on his family.

Billy and his wife, Yashmin, are full time missionaries with Latin American Missions assigned to Scripture Union of Peru. They have three beautiful daughters, Grace, Faith and Hope. From Billy's update here are some bits about the three girls:

Grace: Grace is a blessing. She's our happy girl. Every day is a "goody goody" day

Faith: Faith is fun. She's our unpredictable, cutesy one. What Faith Marian

lacks in height she more than makes up for in personality.

Hope: Hope is pure gold. Her broad smile relaxes us and makes us happy. She embodies that perfect babysitting assignment.

Please pray for Billy, Yashmin, Grace, Faith and Hope when you pray for Scripture Union and the Boys.

Billy and Yashmin also have to raise their own funds each year for their work with Latin American Missions. If you would like to find out more about this group or make a donation to Billy and Yashmin's account please visit: www.lam.org.

National Day of Prayer
Mauldin City Hall
Thursday, May 3, 2007
Noon

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