

Bridge Over Troubled Waters



November 2016

Amazon Update

Rain of Blessing Ministry

*He who dwells in the shelter
of the Most High will abide
in the shadow of the Almighty.*

*I will say to the LORD,
'My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.'*

Psalm 91:1-2 ESV

Dearest Family & Friends,

Some of you remember this
Beatles title from the sixties.
The grayish whitecaps on a river
far from home, reflect the threat
to people's lives where we live.

An Argentinian Company received
the contract for the oil spill cleanup.

Hugo is an engineer from there.
He is not a Christian but he has a heart
for the people and a yearning for rapid,
thorough cleanup of the land and river.

*Let no one seek his own good, but the good
of his neighbor. 1 Corinthians 10:24 ESV*

José says he is tall like Goliath.
When standing he looks up into his eyes,
he being 5'5" and the engineer near 7'.

When he first met José, he expected
the same hostility his team experienced
when staying in the village where natives
falsely claimed the land where a pipeline leak
was found and where we live. Nueva Unión
has the legal title. He said those people
have no respect for the engineers.

When they first talked face to face, a strong
shield protected his wounded feelings

from arrows he expected from the chief.
He couldn't understand why José wasn't
mean to him. He tried to appear tough
himself, but the longer they talked,
his false protection gradually ceased to exist!
José told him the words he spoke
were not his own but from God.

Now they have an open honest relationship
like caring brothers. Hugo expressed
his desire for the chief to stay with him,
but José told him he had to work.

Hugo said the people of the other village
accept money and food when they
stop ships and boats on the river.
They shared nothing with those who came
to investigate the oil spill and to clean it up.
Hugo couldn't believe it when he first met
José and he offered him a drink.

Originally, a hole was discovered in a pipe.
Now numerous leaks have been found
in joining pipes and in other villages.
The area pipeline valve has been turned off.

We've been told to no longer catch
fish to eat from our river because oil
contamination has been discovered.

This flows downriver. We can eat
the fish from upriver where
there is no known contamination.

In our village 33 men and 7 women between 18 to 35, were hired to clean up the oil spill here and other locations down river for 6 months.

The money was appealing because most have no steady income or steady cash.

Health and future offspring are at risk.

One engineer's sole responsibility is to walk among the workers making sure each person follows detailed instructions for self protection while working.

Pray for their health and safety.

Pray for Hugo as he has been sent by God to demonstrate loving our neighbors as ourselves, and that he will have an encounter with God and will love Him with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength!

Hugo feels pressure to do the job thoroughly and as quick as possible. He says for him, it is not about his salary. It is about the health of the people. He's concerned there will be much sickness.

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' Hebrews 13:5

Pray for those hired, to have divine encounters and realize they can cry out to the Lord in whatever circumstance.

Pipelines in this area are to be replaced, taking up to 18 months to complete. But, full extent of damage is yet unknown.

The strike on our river has intensified. About 47 villages sent people to participate.

The blockade was strengthened by increasing the number of small boats to stop ships and fast boats to demand money.

Protestors attempted to stop a rapid boat with passengers. The motorist tried to get through the barricade. The security guard on board fired his shotgun at a boat coming after them.

Two people were shot in the chest and were sent to the hospital. A Peruvian naval ship arrived to attempt to bring order to this volatile situation. National police came to investigate the shooting.

There is an ongoing investigation to identify the ringleaders. The people are demanding Peru's president or a representative come for a face to face encounter.

This update is being sent from Lima where we came to renew our passports in the American embassy.

When finding our room in a mission house, we curiously read the last name of a family on the door across from ours.

Could they be our beloved spiritual children?

Our hostess confirmed it was true.

Some of you know Nelton and Bethany. He was the leader of our first team in Peru. She met him on a mission trip. They were engaged in the jungle and married in the city of Iquitos where they live and minister.

They invited us to their 5-year church anniversary in March 2017.

Love and Blessings,

Willie & Paulette Strickland
Missionaries, Amazon Peru

Donations:

Make check out to: New Life Currituck
In memo write: Willie & Paulette Strickland

mail to:

New Life Christian Fellowship of Currituck
4134 Caratoke Highway
Barco, NC 27917
Church phone: 252-453-2773