

NEWSLETTER

November 2023



Director

Dr. Andrew Counterman

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Our missionaries usually include Latin American holidays in their activities as they try to find ways to involve the local communities in their services—but some also include

American holidays as an opportunity for evangelistic outreach. As an example of this '*tactic*' we share with you how Pastor Jose Churata in Cusco, Peru managed.

In the month of October there is a celebration known as **Halloween**, praying and thinking about what to do that day to evangelize, God guided us in doing a **FREE PIZZA** activity, for which we made invitations to the brothers and the general public.

Thank God we had 60 people in attendance including children, teenagers and adults. We were able to teach them the Word of God regarding Halloween. We had Christian movies, board games and group games, thus teaching them that it is not necessary to go out and do what the world does. We can gather and glorify God that day and pray for the unconverted, thank God everything turned out well. We had the opportunity to learn how to make pizza with the help of Pastor Ruben Qispe, and we thank the sisters who helped in this activity.



Baptist Evangelistic Ministry Endeavors – Latin America

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Jose Vazquez in Mexico

We had a prosperous month in September making and completing plans for the growth of the work at the mission.

We continue with our construction of the classrooms for better conditions during the upcoming winter months with the help of the offerings collected from the congregation.

We held our 3rd annual Mexican independence day event. The sisters of the mission were excited to make their best dishes for everyone to enjoy. Twenty-three families participated in making different dishes for the event and we had well over 100 people visit us that day to enjoy the good food but to be fed by the word of God. We had one baptism and many professions of faith.



Letter from the Director

Dear friends, prayer warriors, and supporters of BEME LA,

First, Happy Thanksgiving. November is always busy and abundantly blessed. This year we see provision, transition, and vision, as we move towards the holiday season.

Provision: Jo and I have been safely traveling through the New England States presenting and reporting on BEME church starts, and will continue in meetings until mid-December. We praise God for two churches taking on full monthly support. They will be totally supporting two of our men! Our faithful church starters are extremely busy preparing and laboring for the upcoming summer season. Our newsletter shows much evangelism, discipling, and building taking place. Of course, the devil is not happy and is working overtime to try to hinder the work, but our God is a strong and constant help in time of need. (Psalm 46:1)

Transition: Recently, our chief office administrator, Christie Esparza, has had to step away at this time to address and pursue other areas in her life. This became a great concern for BEME. She has been a faithful bulwark in the start-up, and sustaining of BEME for 25 years. Recently, she has helped propel the mission into its present growth and expansion. Her expertise in translation work, editing, and tech were stellar. But God is so faithful. He provided a replacement, Gene McAvoy. Gene has been a constant supporter of BEME for decades, and has worked with Christie in the past on projects. He brings a vast knowledge of editing and tech to the mission. We praise God for this smooth transition in the office, and for Christie being available on a limited basis if needed.

Vision: We are enthusiastically in “full throttle ahead” mode as we plan for 2024. The bar for sustainable growth is set high. We presently have 24 church starts going and have more men in the pipeline, but funding is desperately needed. We know that this time of year bombards churches and individuals with needs and desires. BEME simply asks that you prayerfully consider a helpful gift. We believe biblical stewardship plus strategy equals starting churches. We thank you for your faithful prayers, and see God’s hand because of them. Perhaps an end of year tax exempt gift to BEME would be in your consideration, or a commitment to regular financial support. Whatever God would lay on your heart would be appreciated and put to immediate use for these church starters.



Let’s keep going and growing, folks. Weather you’re in provision, transition, or vision mode, please join the journey, not just where we’ve been, but where we’re going. “. . . looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. . .” Hebrews 12:2

Andy and Jo Counterman, BEME-LA

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for *wisdom and strength for BEME's administration*, and for *those who support BEME*.
- For *faithful financial provision for BEME* and the *monthly support of the national pastors*.
- For our *good friend and BEME supporter, still awaiting resolution for his company*. This situation continues to *negatively impact his business and ability to maintain mission support*.
- We desire *that the Lord would allow BEME to grow and expand* into Bolivia, Brazil, and Chile.
- For *Pastor Andy and Jo Ellen's continued travel: safety, good health, and productive meetings*. *Praise the Lord for the churches supporting BEME* and *pray for more support to meet the current needs*.
- For the *approval of legal status for church plants - Cristian Alvarado and Gabriel Macancela* are experiencing delays.



Prayer Calendar Reminder

Be sure to put the attached prayer calendar in a place where it will remind you to **pray regularly for BEME**. Please also consider **designating a monthly offering of \$10 (Level 1), \$25 (Level 2), or \$50 (Level 3)** to our mission.

For a PDF of the prayer calendar, please click here or visit <https://bemela.org/newsletters>.

Thank you for your investment of time, prayer, and financial support for BEME LA.

Central Missionary Clearinghouse supplies our mission with financial administrative services and accountability. At this time, all electronic donations are received through CMC's giving portal, which is accessed from www.myclickandgive.com. First-time donors must set up a secure account. After login, please select **Central Missionary Clearinghouse** as the merchant; **Andrew Counterman** is the account name.

The coupon below is provided to designate mailed-in offerings. Going forward, **please make checks payable to BEME Latin America**, rather than Central Missionary Clearinghouse. This does not affect our partnership with CMC and you will continue to receive receipts for your tax-deductible donations.



I would like to have a part in Latin American ministries with a tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ for:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Mission Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Pray & Give: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church Starter Support | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
(please specify) |

“Join the journey . . . not just where we've been, but where we're going.”

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Pray & Give

Pray for the following requests and designate a monthly offering of \$10 (Level 1), \$25 (Level 2), or \$50 (Level 3) to BEME.

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>Monday</p> <p>Please make checks payable to BEME Latin America.</p> <p>You may designate your offering to a specific mission need by writing on the memo line or a note. Undesignated offerings are added to the general fund and used for prioritized mission and church starter needs.</p> <p>Send by mail to: BEME Latin America, South 14th Street, Burlington, IA 52601</p>					
3 Provision for monthly church starter support	4 José Vazquez (Mexico): Martina (attends church) - her newborn, Isaac, has ongoing respiratory infection/problems	5 Gene McAvoy's continued transition to his role at BEME	6 Annual BEME Board Meeting	7 Pastor Andy: attending Bible College meeting	8 Catholic holiday (honoring the Virgin Mary) is widely-celebrated in LA - pray for opportunities to share the gospel	9 For fruit from Manuel Macancela's evangelistic outreach mission to unreached communities - Ecuador
10 The national pastors - wisdom for godly counseling of new converts, married couples, & families	11 Andrés Ramirez (Uruguay) - discipleship of recently baptized believers	12 For the wives of the national pastors - encouragement & strength	13 Ministry need: Chairs (Hernan Leva, Ernesto Vera, José Churata	14 Gabriel Macancela (Ecuador): godly wisdom in leadership and decision to move current church location	15 Enrique Cadena (Ecuador): many new families, including some Colombian refugees desiring discipleship	16 Provision of many urgently-needed ministry vehicle repairs & purchases
17 BEME's supporting churches - maintain focus & burden to pray and support missions	18 Continued open doors in Peru to preach in schools	19 Approved candidates in line for BEME support (Enoc Quinteros in Bolivia & others)	20 Provision for church land purchases: specifically Ignacio Salazar's church in Mexico	21 Gustavo Mis (Mex.): grandmother (raised him) passed away in Oct.; continue to pray for father's salvation	22 Children's ministry - Hernan Huari in Peru	23 The LA churches: believers commonly hold all-night prayer meetings on Christmas Eve - for the Lord to bless their fellowship
24 Christmas Eve Lord prepare our hearts	25 Christmas Day <i>Joy to the world!</i> - May those who do not know Him, receive His gift of salvation	26 CMC - Dr. Maddox, Shelli, Linda, & others who regularly provide assistance to BEME	27 Provision for church building projects; specifically Rodrigo Valdespino in Mexico	28 Bible Colleges in LA to remain steadfast in Scripture & continue preparing faithful men under good leadership	29 Cristian Alvarado (Colombia): fruit of increased evangelism efforts in public areas: streets, parks, transportation (buses)	30 For a full schedule of meetings to present BEME in the upcoming year
31 Pray for wisdom in 2024						



Latin America

Online offerings are accepted exclusively through the giving portal provided by Central Missionary Clearinghouse at myclickandgive.com. For more information, please visit bemela.org/get-involved/#give or contact missions@bemela.org for assistance.