

Views from the Pulpit and Pew

November 2011

News from the President

We are fast approaching two months since Pastor Angus Lamont and his family arrived. Last week we also met his daughter Chrissy who brought the last of the family together with the arrival of the family dog. Pastor and I have met each week and I have seen his hard work start to blossom.

There is now a more stream lined worship service. A New member's class is organized to start on November 20th that will run for 4 Sundays in the board room at 9:30 AM. Everyone is invited who is interested in knowing more about membership and basic Christian doctrine. Some Baptisms should also be happening soon.

I hope you all are taking time to meet personally with Pastor and getting to see what a dedicated, loving and spirit filled man he is. Thank our Lord again for His sending Angus to us.

I will be in the U. S. for the thanksgiving week visiting family from November 18-29. During that time our vice president, Marty Clark will be filling my position.

Bill Giambona

President
Union Church of Lima

Views from the Pastor's Window

It is true, for many people change is unwelcome. I think we can all understand that in some situations change can make us feel unsettled, uneasy, uncertain, and unhappy. We can be all those things because of a change of a financial nature, or a change in our health etc. But as we live out our lives in today's society we benefit greatly from change. Few, if any of us, would prefer the old Black and White TV's. I remember in the schoolhouse where we lived when I was a child; our TV was black and white and could only receive one channel! Imagine being stuck with only

FOX! Technology has caused huge changes in hospital treatment with laparoscopic procedures just one example, transport, multi-media and communication. We have seen the good from change, and benefitted from it. But that leads me to ask the question, "Why, if change is embraced in nearly all aspects of our lives, and we benefit from such change, do we have such great difficulty embracing change in church?"

Let me state clearly that by change I do not mean altering the precious doctrines of the faith. We hold those doctrines dear and with good reason. No, what I am presenting is the need to adapt, the necessity to embrace improvement. 'The times,' said Dylan, 'they are a-changing' Sometimes we know it is time to mend the nets. At other times we find it is better to buy new nets. The analogy is clear – let's consider ways to improve the experience of church at the Union Church of Lima. It might be that old nets need replacing – with new and better ways designed to help us all benefit more from our part in church.

We, as a family, are delighted to work with you. I think we should expect to always be a congregation willing to embrace change for good – a great Reformation principle for the Church is *Semper Reformanda*; in other words, always reforming, adjusting to new contexts and demands.

Just remember that change is an essential part of the Christian faith – firstly change due to repentance of sin: we are to live lives reflecting the change that Jesus makes in us because our sins are forgiven. Change is also seen in our standing before God: with faith in Jesus we stand free from condemnation. Change is highlighted in mindset: The apostle Peter and some others had to change their mindset about reaching out to the non-Jewish community. Change is seen in the command of Jesus to go out into the world with the good news of salvation. Previously, anyone wishing to join "Israel" or God's people had to come into that people group and adopt all their rites and regulations – then and only then could they be accepted. It is striking how today those examples of change remain applicable. We all need to repent of sin. We all need to show the love of Jesus in our lives. We all need to be open-minded to reach out to those of no real faith. We need to do all we can to bring the good news to others, not expecting them to conform first to our ideas but instead trusting God's grace to bring about necessary changes in the lives of us all.

Views from the Pulpit and Pew

The church car is a Toyota Yaris - an example of modern design and technology – yes, you could argue that an old horse and cart would have served the same purpose because it would get you from A to B, but we all know what's better! Although the end remains the same, the means have changed for good. Maybe we can consider all the useful means available to improve how we communicate the good news of Jesus Christ and our worship of God in church, at home and in community.

With Christian love,

Angus

A Letter to the Congregation from our Friends in London

Dear Friends in the Union Church of Lima

The elders, deacons and members of London City Presbyterian Church send you their warm Christian greetings as you begin a new chapter in your church's witness, with Rev Angus Lamont as pastor. While we are sad to have lost him and his family from our fellowship, we are glad that he will be carrying out his new ministry in a church that has for long been of strategic importance in the work of Christ's kingdom in Peru. And we can assure you that it will not be a single-handed ministry, since you will have the advantage of Team Lamont. From our experience in London we know that Anita, Ani and Angus-Peter will cooperate whole-heartedly in the life of the church, and you will grow to love them all as a family. For our part we shall do our best to have a loving care for Chrissy, as she stays on here to further her education. Thank you for generously arranging for her to pay regular visits to her family in Lima.

We don't know if you're used to having children's talks during your services, but if Angus introduces them, be prepared for the most weird and wonderful visual aids, though always wisely thought out to teach

the children how to trust in and follow the Lord Jesus.

And one final warning, if Angus persuades some of you to begin playing football (the real football, el futbol) and even to form a Seleccion Iglesia Union, give him a wide berth when he comes charging down the pitch! But be thankful that Angus's sporting skills, his musical skills and everything about him have been consecrated to the service of Christ, and are used as a means of encouraging young people and others "to glorify God and to enjoy him for ever", as the Westminster Shorter Catechism, written just along the road from us here in Central London, puts it so well.

Friends, pray for us and we will pray for you.

Que Dios les bendiga ricamente en todos los años que quedan por delante.

John MacPherson, Acting Pastor

Peter Fraser, Session Clerk

On behalf of London City Presbyterian Church.

Prayers and Thanks

- We celebrate with Dane and the Spearman family for his completion of the Eagle Scout Award. This is a huge accomplishment as the program requirements are rigorous. Congratulations Dane for your hard work.
- Pray for all the preparations for the Holiday Fair on December 3rd and for those in the congregation who want to help to contact Marty Clark: pmclark@terra.com.pe
- Pray for all of those who are traveling and have family traveling at Thanksgiving
- Be thankful for all that God has blessed us with.

From The Editor

You are all invited to submit prayer requests and special notices to the editor. Also, community announcements are welcome. This is your voice. Please submit any info by the 10th of each month.

Send all info to Carol at cluf245@gmail.com

Views from the Pulpit and Pew

November and December are Busy Months of the Year Share in the Joy of Giving, Receiving and Celebrating

THE HARVEST!

As a part of the upcoming Harvest Festival Celebration, the missions committee will be sponsoring a food drive to benefit the **Hogar Betania**, a home for elderly indigent Christian men and women. In many countries, the harvest is a time for sharing with others, making this a perfect time for us to share with those less fortunate. We invite you to donate any or all of the following food items in honor of this celebration. You may bring the items to the remaining Sunday church services in November, or bring them by the Church office during the week.

Brown sugar
Jello
Canned tuna (solid)
Semola
Oatmeal
Maicena (cornstarch)
Quinoa
Dried soybeans
Vegetable Oil
Canned, boxed or powered milk
Whole Wheat Flour
Trigo (dried wheat grains)
They also desperately need medium size adult diapers.

Sunday November 20th we will have pies in Chase Hall after the service.

Come join us!

Youth in Action

Community wide fundraising project: Hope for Somalia,

Friday, November 18th, 7pm-10pm

We'll be having a coffeehouse fundraiser in support of the relief efforts for the famine in Somalia.

At the fundraiser there will be music, art, and literature to enjoy, and coffee and treats to purchase.

For more information about Somalia and the needs there, visit

http://resources.razorplanet.com/510879-3447/horn_of_africa_summary1318021742.pdf

For more information about the event visit our facebook event page;

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=149562258473435>

The youth meetings held every other week at Colegio Franklin Delano Roosevelt have begun. Please contact Machele Oropeza for more details: macheleoropeza@live.com

The Youth groups continue to meet Saturdays from 7 – 9 pm. Both Junior and High school students meet with many invited guest speakers. Come and join the fun at UCL and bring a friend. Contact Machele for info. macheleoropeza@live.com



Structured Prayer time during the Lock In Nov 11

Music Concerts to Prepare your hearts for Christmas:

Dec. 4, "A Musical Christmas Card"

religious and secular Christmas music performed by the Lima Women's Chorale in Chase Hall, Union Church, Av. Angamos Oeste 1155

4:30 pm Special Children's Concert,

6:00 pm Concert Tickets available Chorale members or at the door. Donation: Children (S/5) and Adults (S/10)

Dec. 11, "Cantata "And This Shall be a Sign" plus Selections from Handel's Messiah.

Performed by the International Community Choir. 6:00 pm Union Church, Av. Angamos Oeste 1155

Views from the Pulpit and Pew

Holiday Fair 2011 – “Christmas Angels”

It's that time again! Each year, all members and friends of the Union Church of Lima join together in preparing the Holiday Fair which this year is on Saturday, December 3rd from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The **Holiday Fair** “Christmas Angels” is in 2 weeks. Remember to arrange for a family outing that day and stay for lunch. Santa Claus will come to visit with children (and adults) at 11 a.m. and again at 1 p.m.



Santa Comes to Town

This is a good chance to buy your Christmas gifts and ornaments, pies that freeze, peanut brittle, and panetones. Several of the mission groups that we support will have tables at the Fair and whatever you buy from them will help with their outreach as well.



Homemade goodies for sale



Buy your raffle tickets to win this year's beautiful quilt created by hand by the ladies who support UCL. See Bev Cisneros for tickets; buy in the Social Hall after church or during the week in the church office.

Come and enjoy the **ART EXHIBIT** at the end of the playground that Julia Plunkett and Don Martin will have. These art pieces will be available to buy.

Decorating will take place for the Fair in the hall Friday, **November 25th**.

Come and see how you can participate.



Happy Helpers

Views from the Pulpit and Pew

Women's Fellowship on Wednesdays

Wed from 10 – 12

The devotional on Friendship “The Power of Forgiveness” will be brought by Anita Lamont on Wed Nov 16. Lucrecia Walsh and Vicki Wagner are in charge of refreshments and secret sisters will be revealed.



October Birthdays and Fellowship



The Women's Fellowship will end the year on December 7th with a luncheon and celebration of the December birthdays.

At the moment, we are working hard on getting things ready for the Holiday Fair where most of us will be helping in one way or another. We have spent a good year and have been able to meet new people. The date of beginning again in 2012 will be announced later, we trust that not too many of our group leave the country so that we can once again start with a good group of ladies.



October Women's Fellowship

Missions at UCL On going Mission Work at UCL

The Union Church of Lima designates 10% of its total income to support mission work here in Lima and Peru. There are eight organizations that we help with a quarterly monetary donation of \$500.00. In addition to the eight that we donate to, we are also involved with other organizations and offer aid when the need arises, if we are able to. Some of these organizations are:

Dios es Amor, provides basic needs to areas ravaged by earthquakes.

Cadena Es Amor, a women's prison ministry.

RECARE, a refuge for impoverished women and children who are suffering from family and sexual violence.

San Genaro Larco Herrera is a hospital for the mentally ill.

ADESA

www.adesa-peru.org

For more information contact Ada Van der Horst

FOREIGN WOMEN'S PRISON MINISTRY

Contact Mary Pinkston if you would like more information or volunteer for this enriching experience: 980584609 or E-mail: ntmary25@gmail.com

Views from the Pulpit and Pew

Missions News: One of the groups that receives quarterly donations from UCL is the Foreign Women's Prison Ministry in English.

During a recent visit back to the U.S., Mary Pinkston, the person in charge of this Ministry was able to make a valuable contact. Here is an excerpt from her recent newsletter regarding this very special blessing.

Women's Prison Ministry

While home, I was also able to share at my home church, Kitchener Gospel Temple, Spring Bay Camp and the Filipino church that meets at Parkview church. It was thrilling to share what God is doing in Peru. But, my heart was burdened for the Filipino ladies in the Prison. That group alone represents 30% of the ladies in the Bible study group. They all speak English, but most only basic English. They need Bibles and study material in their own language. Helen Rojas pastor of the Filipino congregation invited me to share with the church specifically about the needs of these women. Every week now, the ladies have a written Bible study in their own language written and provided by Pastor Helen. We have also made contact with a Filipino Christian lady and are praying that she will work with us to help these ladies

HOGAR BETANIA

Apme_hogarbetania1@yahoo.com

SEGADORES

segadores @speedy.com.pe
www.segadoresperu.com
348-0935

NEW WORLD MISSION ASSOCIATION (NEWMA)

The NEWMA is an interdenominational mission dedicated to church planting and missionary training. The mission was founded over 30 years ago by national Peruvian Christians who wanted to reach the unreached communities of Peru's jungles, mountains and coast with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Today

NEWMA has over 900 Latin American missionaries working in over 45 countries around the world. The mission's training school, The Latin American School of Missiology (EMLA) gives an accredited B.A. degree in Missions and has several of its graduates who have gone onto Graduate school in the U.S., France and Costa Rica.

EMLA has had over 800 students go through its program and has satellite schools in several province towns in Peru, as well as schools running in London, England, Paris, France and the U.S.

SCRIPTURE UNION

Contact Paul or Marty Clark 497-1401, 98928-5271 (Marty), 98928-5301 (Paul)

HOGAR SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS

Volunteers are always welcome and there is always work to be done. Contact Dr. Lazzara at 358-4684 or visit the web site. www.villalapazfoundation.org

HOPE HOUSE

www.hopehouseperu.com

Check out Bridget and Greg Bonner's newsletter



Donations to UCL

Did you know you can make donations to UCL from your US bank account? Just make the check payable to P.I.C.C. (Patrons of International Churches and Charities). You can have a receipt of your donations for tax purposes. UCL is not affiliated with any outside organization. UCL depends on you.

Views from the Pulpit and Pew

WEEKLY MEETINGS AT UCL

YOUTH GROUP

Saturdays 7 pm – 9 pm

Contact Machel Oropeza on Facebook or Email at machelleoropeza@live.com

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Decorating will take place for the Fair in the hall Friday, November 25th.

The **Good Shepherd Christmas Bazaar** is on Saturday, November 26th. There is a poster on our bulletin board at the church for further information.

Lima Women's Chorale Rehearsals Tuesdays 9 – 12; Concert Sunday, Dec 4th at 4:30 for a special Children's concert and at 6pm for everyone.

International Community Choir, Rehearsals, Saturdays, 4 – 5:45 pm Concert Dec 11th at 6pm

Aerobics 8:00 – 10:00 am
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

Alcoholics Anonymous
6:00 – 8:30 pm Monday thru Friday
Narcotics Anonymous
6:00 – 8:30 pm Monday thru Friday
Al Anon 11 – 1 Saturday

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-12 noon
Chase Hall, Contact Marty Clark at pmclark@terra.com.pe for more information.

SUNDAYS at UCL

9am Choir Practice

Sunday school has begun again
9:30 Machel is in charge of the senior class, David the junior / primary class. Nursery caretakers will be in charge of the youngest members.

9:30 **Adult Bible School**
10:30 **Morning Worship Service** (nursery available)
11:45 **Fellowship Coffee Hour**

MONTHLY at UCL

Communion the first Sunday of the month
Men's Pancake Breakfast 8am
The last Saturday of the month in Chase Hall
American Women's Literary Club
Every First Monday, 1:45 – 5 pm
Every Second Monday, 10 – 1

BIBLE STUDIES

You are invited to attend the following Bible Studies:

- Sunday Evening Bible Study, 6 – 8 pm (open to all people), exploring the book of Matthew, at UCL, in Chase Hall. Child support is available upon request. Contact Dwayne Spearman, email: hdspearman@yahoo.com
- Sunday morning Adult Bible Study, 9.30-10.15am, at UCL Board Room, currently studying Bible Doctrines. Contact Bill Giambona: wgiambona@aol.com.
- Sunday morning Adult Bible Study, 9.30-10.15am, at UCL Library (basement). If you would like to have a more discussion based study on a series based on 'The Purpose Driven Life' - outreach/evangelism (Rick Warren) - Contact Darrell Wagner: DWagner@Barrick.com, or David Massiah: david_massiah@yahoo.co.uk.
- Don and Sharon Bixel home Bible study, at Gert & Ada Van de Horst's home, Surco, Cerros de Camacho, Friday, 6.30 - 8.30 pm, currently following a 'Prayer, An Adventure with God' (David Healey) study - email: dsbixel@yahoo.com.
- Women's Bible study: Friday 10 am-12 noon, 'Voices of the True Woman Movement' by Nancy Leigh DeMoss, a book study, at UCL - contact Machel Oropeza, email: machelleoropeza@live.com.
- Community Bible Study for women, Wednesday, 12:30 - 2 p.m, at UCL, currently studying Paul's letter to the Philippians, a 6 week course - contact Marty Clark: martyspilman@gmail.com.
- Bible Study Fellowship for women, Monday 7-9pm, currently studying the Acts of the Apostles, Iglesia Vida Nueva, Av La Molina Este 142 Rinconada Del Lago - Don and Sharon Bixel: dsbixel@yahoo.com.
- Bible Study Fellowship for men, Tuesday 7-9pm, currently studying the Acts of the Apostles, Iglesia Vida Nueva, Av. Primavera (Angamos Este) 924, Surco - Don and Sharon Bixel: dsbixel@yahoo.com.
- The Spanish Community Bible Study (EstudiosBíblicos en Comunidad), Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m, UCL, Chase Hall, studying 'The Divided Kingdom' - contact Carola Boggio: carolaboggio@hotmail.com.
- ❖ Please send any comment or suggestions about Bible Studies to David Massiah: david_massiah@yahoo.co.uk.