

THE

McKendree FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO THE
Peru, South America

NOVEMBER 1ST



January-February 2021

Dear Pastor, Church Family, Supporters, Friends, and Co-Laborers,

As you know, we left Peru in May of 2020 due to the extreme restrictions on worship service. The restrictions were even to the extent that we were not allowed to leave our house for over one hour, and then only for either medical, groceries, or emergency reasons. A list of those restrictions is attached to this letter. Also, the President had stopped ALL flights in or out of Peru. It took us over two months, and help from our Mission office, to obtain permission to fly to the United States on a government-controlled flight. The US Embassy had to purchase tickets with the written agreement that we would repay them the cost of the tickets.

Leaving Peru was a difficult decision, both because of the above and also because our hearts were, and are, with the people of Peru. Since leaving Peru we have been waiting and longing for the day that we can return. After our return the States, we continued to minister to our people in Iquitos, which is on the border of the Amazon Jungle, by Facebook, Zoom, or other means on the Internet. Our people have faithfully responded and continue to grow. Amen!

We rejoiced when we got word that flights would begin to reopen from the United States to Peru in November of 2020. We began to look forward to returning to Peru. However, almost immediately the COVID virus began to spread again and the "restrictions" on worship and being out of your house again prohibited the work of church-planting. Therefore, we have continued to minister to our people by the Internet.

At this time, and due to many uncertainties in Peru, our future plans are "up in the air." We desire to be good stewards of the funds given by you, our supporters. Therefore, at this time, we believe it unwise to return to Peru—only to learn that there can be no "church services, meeting in homes, or going house to house" for Bible studies, which is being restricted at this writing.

Therefore, I am putting plans in place for me to return to Peru alone, leaving my wife and family in the States, while I attempt to determine, 1) if and when our family can safely return to Peru, and 2) when the restrictions will be lifted and we can visit door to door, share the Gospel, have services, and continue building the church.



CHURCH PEOPLE FROM OUR
CHURCH

PLEASE pray that God will guide and direct me, and keep me safe as I make this trip, and that He will guide me in making the decisions we are still facing. If it had been left up to us, we would still be in Peru reaching and teaching the deaf. However, looking back we see how that was God's plan, and that it would have been a bad choice since we would still have been "locked" in our house since May 2020, except for "one hour a day" to buy groceries, buy medicine, or in case of an emergency. (Also, you might have noticed in the "restrictions" that "private vehicles," other than those on governmental services are not allowed on the streets.)



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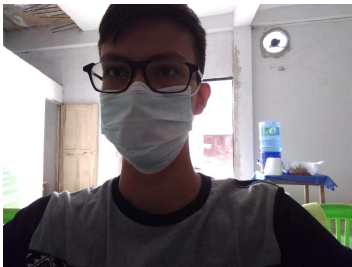


Meanwhile, we are still getting the work done. As we are continuing to live stream our service. Hermana Pilar and her son, Gael, who were both saved and baptized through our ministry in Peru. You will remember that it was Hermana Pilar who gave us a place to have a church building. She contacted me recently to let us know that they have planned to open the building weekly to set up a monitor for the preaching service to be viewed. There is also a sister in Christ who has been working with the Deaf for many years, and she is volunteering her time to help out each week.



PILAR & HER SON GAEL

While I am waiting for my new Passport to arrive, I will also be traveling state side for a few more months, reporting to supporting churches, taking new meetings, participating in missions conferences, and if you are interested in my coming please contact me by phone at 575-408-0544 or 405-443-9802. You can also reach me at perudeafmissions@gmail.com or on Facebook at [Facebook.com/PeruDeafMissions](https://www.facebook.com/PeruDeafMissions).



GAEL IN A MASK

Thank each of you for your support, patience, love, and prayers during this difficult time in our life and ministry. I will "update" you as soon as plans are made for my trip to Peru. I will then update you when I return to the States and have at least some type of plan put together. If anyone has any questions, please contact my pastor, Dr. Marty Wynn at 706-332-9966 or our Mission Director, Dr. Ernest Gambrell at 901-493-7844. I have discussed these plans and gotten the approval of both of these men.

Trying to Faithfully Serve Christ,
Matt McKendree
Missionary to the Deaf 1st & to Whosoever Will

Peruvian Government Restrictions

[Source: <https://pe.usembassy.gov/health-alert-government-of-peru-extends-covid-regulations-and-curfews-peru-february-11-2021/>]

PERU: Major provisions of the Extreme level include:

24-hour curfew: individuals must remain at home but can leave the house for one hour by foot daily from 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Private vehicles are prohibited all days of the week except for those vehicles conducting essential services with an official permit issued by the Government of Peru

Only one family member at a time may go to the grocery store, bank, or pharmacy. These businesses operate at 40% capacity.

Restaurants are closed to the public, but may operate for delivery orders until 6 P.M.

Public places, including shopping centers, cinemas, tourist areas, places of worship, casinos, gyms, and clubs are closed to the public.

Delivery is allowed until 6 P.M.

Interprovincial air and land travel is prohibited, with exceptions for connecting flights for international departure.