July-September 2020

Dear Pastor and Church Family,

We are *Furloughed, But Not Forever*. Our last letter promised to look more into the lessons and illustrations we can learn from the basic six flight instrument panel.

1. Airspeed indicator - Slowdown and get out of the redline. Perhaps some of us have been going too fast, too busy, and the Lord has given us 2020 to remind us to slow down. July was our first opportunity in years to enjoy the red, white, and blue fireworks celebration. This time make me most grateful for these months back in the states. I believe our children will not soon forget this time back in our native home.



Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Attitude indicator - Maybe this is too obvious, however this artificial horizon puts us halfway between heaven and earth, keeping us balanced between the two. The key is keeping our eyes looking up and leave the rest behind us. August was a month that balanced our attitude. We celebrated our 13th wedding anniversary with a trip to the New Mexico mountains where we stayed in a cabin, enjoyed the quiet, went trout fishing, stargazed, watched the wildlife, and had a lot of family fun. The whole time we were so overwhelmed by the goodness of God even in these trying times. It was a little bit of Heaven.

Luke 21:28 "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

3. Altitude indicator - We must stay above the level of circumstances no matter how much the outside pressure puts upon us. The atmosphere and conditions will try to change us and drag us under. September was our "winter wonderland" on lan's birthday. He had it in his heart that no matter how hot it was, he would have a winter birthday. We had a cardboard snowman, an indoors snowball fight, an igloo shaped cake, and on that very day we had a cold snap which made playing outside a lot more fun. lan's determination turned out to be his measure of faith and the Lord changed the weather on that very day.

Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Back in Peru our people continue to tune in every Sunday to our Live Face Book feed. Pilar and Gael, who own the land we built the new church building on, continue to stay in contact with us. They check on our house regularly and are taking care of our dog. Peru has announced that on October 5 they will open their borders to international travel, but only from other South American countries. There is no word yet about travel to and from the US.

