



EASTER ... WHAT A GLORIOUS TIME AS WE CELEBRATE *THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD!*

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. According to His great mercy, He has given us a new birth into a living hope through **THE RESURRECTION** of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, uncorrupted, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.”*
I Peter 1:3-4

Dear CERT Family,

Our jungle missions are a vivid reminder that Jesus was on a difficult Mission too. It was very hard, demanding, and it cost Him His life. Tortured beyond belief, He died a cruel agonizing death... He gave His life in order that we might have LIFE. Were it not for the **RESURRECTION**, we would be without hope.

Our first trip into the Amazon Jungle was in June 1996, a tough mission. It was around 1999 that the Peruvian government allowed CERT, to go into the Manu Reserve led by missionary Don Cooper, and guide, Octavio.

For many years our teams were forbidden to take in any Christian literature, Bibles, talk about God, religion or share their faith in any way. **The only thing allowed was the touch of LOVE, given freely by the CERT medical teams.**

Have all these trips over the years been worth it? Do the Indians understand what Easter is all about ... do they know the agony Jesus suffered on the cross ... do they know *He AROSE* from the grave?



Once strictly forbidden, CERT team members now pray for/ with Manu Park Indians, as we do in most all CERT clinics.

We are shouting “Hallelujah.” Jim Mersereau reports that a church building is being built in Yomibato, the furthestmost point that the government has allowed us to GO. This is the restricted area where we were forbidden to take Bibles, Christian literature, share our faith, even talk about God. YES, IT’S BEEN WORTH IT ALL!!!

Eight years ago CERT purchased a solid wood structure in the jungle village of Boca Manu to begin a church. This is outside the restricted area, but a very strategic location on the upper Madre De Dios River.

Tomas and Norma Deza had been praying for three years that the Lord would open a door for them to minister in the jungle. Tomas had a good job in Cusco, a comfortable life. They left it all to become the pastor (“suffering servants”) of what came to be known as the Boca Manu Community Church.

The dear people in Boca Manu will celebrate EASTER, the **RESURRECTION** of our Lord, this year as they have over the past eight years under the leadership of pastor Tomas and Norma.

Tomas and Norma originally pledged to minister in Boca Manu for 5 years. They have been there eight years. They gave up the modern conveniences they had in Cusco. The heat, humidity, bugs, and rainy seasons with the flooding of the Madre De Dios River, demand ones all. It is a difficult life.

The church and their meager living quarters had to be dismantled board by board to keep them from falling into the raging river. Did they give up? No, there is still a message to be shared ... the life, love, sacrifice of our Lord, and His glorious **RESURRECTION**. Every Sunday should be a celebration of our Lord’s **RESURRECTION**.



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Thanks to your prayers and financial support ... we were able to purchase another piece of property. With the help of the church members and hired laborers they have built the new church pictured. ***They will indeed worship and celebrate the RESURRECTION of our Lord this Easter.***

Folks, I have a real concern for Tomas and Norma. They are living in the most primitive conditions in the jungle...living in tiny quarters...no running water...a make-shift kitchen... cooking outside...toilet and shower some yards from the building with sheets of plastic as walls providing absolutely minimum privacy.

It is difficult for men to live in such conditions, but for most women to live day after day in such circumstances, it is very hard if not totally intolerable. Norma is a tough dedicated servant. She is not complaining, but the jungle elements and living have caused her some serious health issues as well as emotional trauma. Can you imagine?

Jesus came to this earth and gave His all for the Father, and for us ... thus we celebrate Easter in memory of His life, service, death, and **RESURRECTION. HE GAVE HIS ALL!** Tomas and Norma have given much. I feel in my heart we must provide adequate housing for them. Now is the time as the rainy season comes to a close. Now is the best time to build.

Lumber has been cut and stored. Foundation pillars are prepared. ***We need to provide the finances for the work to be finished, providing living quarters and necessary amenities to help make LIFE more tolerable in this extreme ministry location.***



The new church in Boca Manu and foundation for the new parish home. ALL ... THANKS to your prayers and support!

As we call to our remembrance the sacrificial death of our Lord and celebrate His victory over death and the grave, we praise God for His **RESURRECTION.** Let us thank God for calling Tomas and Norma to a very difficult field of ministry and reward them in a small way. They are faithful warriors, committed for the long term.

The Lord has used them to do a work that I have not witnessed anywhere in the multiple mission trips I have made into the Amazon. Help us provide decent living quarters for them? Your gift in whatever amount will help make it possible.

Make your most generous gift today so we can move forward immediately with the construction.

May God bless you richly as you celebrate the **RESURRECTION** of our Lord. May He forever be praised for the hope that we have only in Him.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Ken Daugherty
President



PS ... With your continued support we are steadfast to “take the Gospel to the ends of the earth.” Prayerfully, when Jim Mersereau (pictured) returns from next year’s trip ... they will have started a church in Tayacome too.

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