

July 13, 2015



Dearest friends and family:

We have been in Ecuador for several weeks now. We have almost gotten used to the traffic noise. We have spent the past few weeks getting to know Quito, and folks from the Mennonite churches. The Pope came by our apartment the other day, which was kind of neat.

We spent time with a Youth Venture group that only just left. We traveled with them to the eastern lowland jungles and also back up to the highlands south of Quito. We also spent some time with them here in the city.

We are finally getting our apartment set up. We have table and chairs, and a few nice house plants. Aliyah is enjoying puzzles and her books. Since we still have a lot of space in the living/dining room, she gets to run around a lot. We took her to a park the other day and also started her in swimming classes on Saturday. She loves it.

We have started working some with the children's program in Jardines del Inca neighborhood, and we have also been participating in church services. I've been playing my mandolin, but I think I need to buy a charango, an Andean cross between a ukulele and a mandolin, so it could go along better.

I've taken the mission vehicle out a few times. It is stick shift which takes some getting used to. Fortunately Quito traffic isn't as bad as many other large cities where we've been. Bit all of the hills and up and down do take offer a challenge.

I hope to start Quichua classes soon. I still need to pick out a school and a schedule.

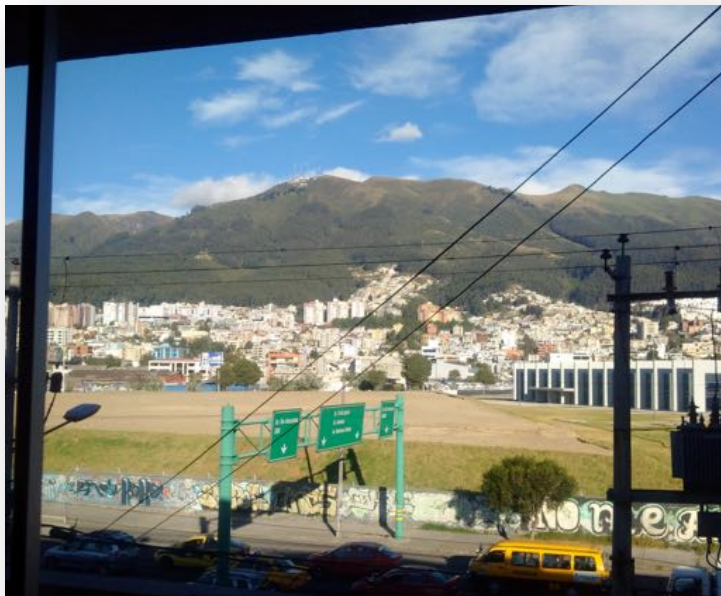
We've also found a lot of organic produce and fruits and veggies and things, along with farm raised chickens and eggs.

We would appreciate prayers for the team that has just left so they can process their experience and re-adjust in the US/Canada. We would also appreciate prayers for safe

travels for folks from Ecuador who will be heading to the conference in July and also for MMN workers, David Shenk and his family and Caleb Yoder, who will be leaving Ecuador this month. We would love to have continued prayers and we continue to organize our apartment and our work.

Peter, Delicia and Aliyah

View from our apartment



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Quito at night.



Aliyah with her new friend Kaleth, watching the Ecuador soccer game.

Basilica in Quito



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With David (the interim partnership coordinator) and his family and the Youth Venture team in 5 de Junio where we helped paint the church.



Aliyah and Delicia playing games with school children in Nuevo Paraiso, a community in the Amazon near the Napo river.