



The Surretts

Lima, Peru

August, 2011



Amy with Jessica (friend in Maine)



Julia with Katie (friend in Maine)



JD on hike during men's retreat



Jeff (aka "bug bait") - over 100 noseum bites



Debbie with Jeff's mom's cousin in Tulsa

Ministry in Maine

In June, JD and I participated in a men's fishing retreat while Debbie, Amy and Julia were able to spend a fun week visiting with some friends that we have made from a previous visit to Maine. During the fishing retreat, I taught on the Lessons Learned in the Wilderness using the stories of Abraham (God's way is best), the wilderness wandering of Israel (bitterness), David (pride vs. humbleness), Jesus (temptations), and Peter (forgiveness). We were also able to participate in the church picnic on a Saturday and the Sunday services at one of our supporting churches.

Ministry in Oklahoma

After returning from Maine for a couple days, we then traveled to Tulsa, Oklahoma. We took six duffel bags of our items so that my parents could take some of our stuff down to Peru for us when they went in July. They took three of the bags down this summer. My sister, Candy, and her daughter will take the remaining three over Christmas while my parents will pick up three more to take down at Christmas when they come up for our commissioning service. We had a great time in Tulsa visiting with family and were able to meet some new people and reacquaint with some others at the reception that Candy held for us for friends and family to be introduced to our ministry.

Ministry in North and South Carolina

We then headed out to North Carolina. On July 10th, I preached in the Spanish morning service in the church out of which our mission board operates in South Carolina and then sang in the choir and gave an update in the English evening service of a supporting church in North Carolina. We enjoyed being able to stay with my aunt and uncle while we were here as well as being able to visit with Debbie's aunt, uncle and cousin who came up to see us on Sunday evening.

Ministry in New Jersey

On July 17th, we held our last deputation service, presenting our ministry in Columbia, New Jersey. We enjoyed getting to know the pastor and his family and were able to talk about his calling to go to New York City as a church planting missionary.

Contact Information

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Sending Church

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Mission Agency

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Tons of small decisions

The last few weeks have been very busy cleaning, sorting, packing, trashing, giving things away, etc. Since we are not taking a container due to cost of shipping and taxes, we are having to divide our belongings into:

- things that we need to take with us now
- things that can come at Christmas time with my parents
- things that can come next summer when groups come down on missions trips (hint, hint)
- things that we would like to have eventually
- things that get stored here for the kids
- things to trash
- things to give away
- "where did this thing come from"
- etc.

It is amazing the things that we accumulate as time passes. We are reaching the end of the process but still have some more to do. The problem now is that I already have packed 7 of the 10 checked bags we are allowed to take with us and it seems like I have more than 3 bags worth of stuff left to pack. It seems like more decisions will need to be made.

Commissioning Service

On Sunday evening, August 7th, at 6:00pm, our sending church, Emmanuel Baptist Church in Mechanicsburg, PA, will be having a commissioning service (a sending-off service) for us with a reception following the service. If you are able, you are invited to join us. The church's address can be found at the bottom of the email.

Prayer Requests

- for JD and Amy as they are at the WILDS for camp this week, that they will have a fun time with friends and that they would be sensitive to the work of the Lord in their lives
- for all of us as we adjust to new schedules, new culture, new language, new everything
- that we will be able to fit everything we need in the space we have left



Jeff & Debbie with the Burnettes (director of ODBM)



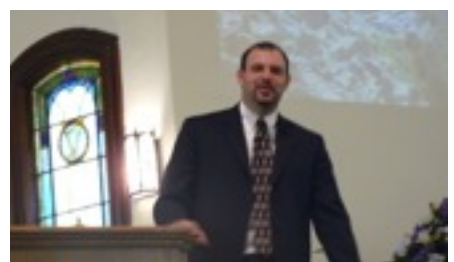
Jeff singing in the choir in North Carolina



JD talking to some friends in North Carolina



Jeff and Julia setting up our display



Jeff preaching in New Jersey

In His care, Jeff & Debbie Surretts