



# Hayes Happenings

August 2016

Dear Friends and Family,

It is hard to believe we have spent the last three years in Ecuador as missionaries. Wow! What an opportunity and privilege to serve so many people; children, indigenous people deep in the jungle, communities in the high Andes, our church, work-team members and fellow missionaries...such an honor and joy.

Recently, we decided that it was time for our family to conclude our service in Ecuador. We are not sure what all this means but know God is redirecting us and has new plans. We have resigned our positions with Reach Beyond, finalized things in Shell and returned to the US. We are staying with Matt's parents in California and have really appreciated this time to rest and wait upon the Lord. It has become even more evident that this is what God wants for us.

We remain missionaries with CornerStone International, waiting for God's next assignment. CornerStone will continue to receive funds for us and we will receive salary for three months or so until we get established and will be reimbursed for moving expenses as funds allow. If God is calling you to assist us in our transition costs, we would be honored and blessed to receive. (See "Support" in sidebar and box on pg2)

After much consideration and prayer we have found and rented a house in Idaho. We will move in time for the children to start school. The kids are very excited but also nervous. We do not yet have employment but God will provide in His time and His way. Please pray for His guidance and direction in these big decisions and transitions. We want to serve the Lord and love people. We know we will have opportunity for this in the US as well, but in a different way.

Thank you for the many ways you have supported us, personally and our ministries in Ecuador. We appreciate each sacrifice you made to help us follow Christ and share His love. Our time in Ecuador has been one full of personal growth and lessons, as well as to witness God in His power, presence and providence. Our greatest take away is that our God is sovereign, good and trustworthy! Hallelujah!

We pray for God's blessings for you and look forward to hearing from you.

*Matt, Christy, Libby and Loren Hayes*



2013



2014



2015



2016



### To bring you up to date...

In the last few months the Community Development Department of Reach Beyond started a Water Project in the Shuar community of Mashient. This community was very warm and welcoming to Matt and the other team members.

There is a strong Christian group of people there. They are very open to the Gospel and ask many questions about Christ and living as a Christian. The president of the community even sought Matt out when he traveled to Shell. Relationships are developing and deepening and, as they do, the opportunities to share and disciple grow as well.

This community is also in great need of a water system. Many people have been ill while spending time there. Please pray for the safety and health of the people traveling to work with this community.

A small US church has asked to walk alongside Mashient in a spiritual way. We are not sure what this will look like but they sent a small team down to do some water system work in April. They want to pray for the community, exhort, encourage and write often. They also want to bi-annually send a team to show Christ's love. Please pray for this church, this community and this budding relationship.

We have had some moments of deep sorrow in the last few months. The earthquake on April 16<sup>th</sup> was devastating to the country and the Ecuadorian people. Photo after photo and story after story were heartbreaking. Due to the location of Shell, our friends and community were not harmed.

Aftershocks were overwhelming in number and many large earthquakes continued for many weeks. We were very proud of the missionary community and Reach Beyond, specifically, as they responded quickly with medical teams, medicine and even power generators and an engineer to help get water systems functioning in large cities. The stories of how God works and the evidence of His great love through the journals of the missionary doctors are very powerful and moving. Our God is so good! How odd to say about a horrifying natural event, yet there is great proof of His divine hand. Please let us know if you would like to read some of these journal writings and we will pass some of them on to you.

April 16<sup>th</sup> was personally sad for us due to the passing of a dear friend. He had just joined his wife, daughter and her fiancé in Ecuador. His daughter's wedding was planned for the following week in Shell. Matt was to officiate and we'd been meeting with the couple for premarital counseling. There was much sorrow, questioning of the timing, uncertainty about going on with the wedding and many types of logistics to manage. We were so glad to be able to love our friends and support them in prayer. Though it did not go as originally planned, we were blessed to witness the civil wedding and participate in a celebration of this marriage. Please pray for our friends as they grieve and live their daily lives without their loved one.

### Praise for ...

- God's work for in Ecuador, during and after the earthquake
- Three years in Ecuador!
- A house in Idaho
- Serving with you!

### Prayer for...

- The people of Mashient and the workers traveling there
- The relationship with a US church and the village of Mashient
- The family of our friends who lost their loved one
- A smooth transition, physically, emotionally and spiritually
- God's direction
- Libby and Loren as they start a new school
- Employment

### Needs

- Prayer!
- Provision for moving expenses
- Provision for salary while we look for employment

### Support

Make checks out and send to:

CornerStone International  
PO Box 192  
Wilmore, KY 40390

Donate by Paypal, credit card or sign up for monthly donations from CornerStone's website:

[www.cornerstoneinternational.org](http://www.cornerstoneinternational.org)

Thank you!

### Contact

Christy: [chayesid@yahoo.com](mailto:chayesid@yahoo.com)  
Matt: [mjhayesleather@hotmail.com](mailto:mjhayesleather@hotmail.com)

Matt cell: 208-353-7976  
Christine cell: 208-546-2550



### Yes!

I would like to help Matt and Christy with their transition.  
Enclosed is:

- a **monthly** gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.
- a **one-time** gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to and send to: CornerStone International  
PO Box 192  
Wilmore, KY 40390



Please note "**Hayes-LT**" on the memo of your check. Thank you!