

Recent News from Ecuador: Nov- Dec 2014

Commissioning new UMC Missionaries

(Oct.27 – Nov.16)

During the month of November we were blessed with two events sponsored by our mission agency, Global Ministries. For three weeks 7 **new missionaries from around the world were trained in Ecuador** and were then commissioned by the President of Global Ministries, Bishop Hope Ward and Bishop Silvio Cevallos of the United Evangelical Methodist Church of Ecuador. These 7 new missionaries will be serving in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the USA.

<http://www.umcmision.org/learn-about-us/news-and-stories/2014/november/1121missionariescommissionedinecuador>



Missionaries in training visiting Churches in Ecuador

Regional Missionary Retreat (Nov. 16-19)

The training event was followed by a Regional Missionary Retreat for the Global Ministries missionaries serving in South America and parts of Central America. After participating in the commissioning ceremony of the new missionaries we spent three days together in workshops, worship and community. It was an important time of renewal and forming new relationships with our colleagues.

Please keep all the missionary community in your prayers



Ordination of women pastors in Ecuador

In an important event in the life of the United Evangelical Methodist Church in Ecuador, the Church Ordained its two women pastors, **Blanca Viracocha** and **Carmen Castañeda**, two courageous women who have responded to God's call to ordained ministry.

“Rios de Agua Viva” Methodist Church in Romerillos
Ordination service of Pastor Blanca Viracocha
November 30, 2014



Both of these women are excellent pastors with a vocation for ministry and gifts for service that give testimony to the love of God not only in their local congregations but also in the communities where they serve. Both are excellent examples of the integrated mission that the Lord calls us to in the Gospel.

“El Buen Pastor” Methodist Church in Pijal
Ordination service of Pastor Carmen Castañeda
December 14, 2014



Gifts of love to the Pastor from the community

Christmas in El Prado

Presentation of the story of the birth of the baby Jesus.

December 20, 2014

We had the joy of celebrating Christmas with the children of the El Prado community, singing, reading the Christmas Bible story and feeling the love of God in life itself. The photos below show the shepherds and angels participating in the Bible story. Afterwards all we enjoyed a sandwich, a typical Ecuadorean oatmeal drink with fruits, candies and a small gift for each child.

Shepherds and angels



Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

With love,

Sara Flores & Dakin Cook

