

More than a Mission Trip...

June 14-23, 2012



Required Getting Ready Event
May 19, 2012 from 10 AM-2 PM



Iquitos and the Amazon Jungle

Iquitos, like few other places in Peruvian territory, lets the traveler feel nature in all her splendor, her power of surprise, her beauty and mystery. These qualities elevate a pleasant journey into a kind of all-pervading mystery.

Iquitos lies two hours by plane from Lima. It is an interesting city sitting in the heart of the Peruvian jungle that can only be reached by air or boat! Almost completely surrounded three rivers and Lake Morona, Iquitos has the geographical charm of a sea island.

On the first day in Iquitos we will visit the Lutheran church Fiel es Dios and do a little shopping. The second day begins the adventure into the jungle with Explorarama Lodge. Visitors will enjoy piranha fishing, learning about the exotic plant life in the jungle, gaze at the Southern night sky with millions of stars in the vast darkness of the jungle and much more.

This promise to be hot and exotic with an awesome greenness, **Iquitos** is the largest city in the Peruvian jungle and the navigation gateway to the Amazon. Adventure is guaranteed!

Widen your view of Peru— Choose an Excursion

Time in Lima will introduce you to the ministry of the Lutheran Church and a city crowded with people along the coast. We will stay in Miraflores, an upscale district of Lima that offers restaurants within walking distance to our hotel.

In addition to this rich experience, we are offering two choices for excursions, both including a visit with local Lutheran churches in the area. The purpose of an excursion is to increase your understanding of this beautiful country. Your congregational group can split up or stay together. Students traveling with adult sponsors and children traveling with their parents will need to go on the same excursion.



Cusco and Machu Picchu

Located in the south-eastern part of the Andes, Cusco is Peru's main tourist destination and one of the most important in the Americas. Known by the Incas as the "home of gods", Cuzco became the capital of one of the largest pre-Columbian empires: the Tawantinsuyo. Its name in Quechua.

Cusco is the first stop on your way to visit Machu Picchu. We will meet with members of the local Lutheran church—Talitha Kum and may visit other historical sites in Cusco. Due to the high elevation of Cusco, we will include plenty of time to rest.

We will actually travel down to Machu Picchu by van, bus and train. The ruins of Machu Picchu, rediscovered in 1911 by Yale archaeologist Hiram Bingham, are one of the most beautiful and enigmatic ancient sites in the world. While the Inca people certainly used the Andean mountaintop (9060 feet elevation), erecting many hundreds of stone structures from the early 1400's, legends and myths indicate that Machu Picchu (meaning 'Old Peak' in the Quechua language) was revered as a sacred place from a far earlier time. Whatever its origins, the Inca turned the site into a small (5 square miles) but extraordinary city.