

late, was not my idea of acceptable service), including visits to both the governmental and independent Consumer Defense Commissions. Now, it has arrived within the week posted on the front page, for 3 months straight. (Perhaps it helped to explain to various levels of postal workers that "Guardian" didn't, in this case, mean "Guardar"--to keep, store).

Water? Electricity? Those continue to be daily uncertainties for most of us--and ongoing struggles, of course. All those communities blocking roads in protest over the years hasn't helped.

Garbage service? Also unpredictable. Last week's garbage didn't get picked up until Wednesday night. Nevertheless, Thursday morning pick-up was right on time. I wonder how much garbage our neighbourhood had accumulated overnight?

We should be learning patience . . . What would I do with all the free time I'd have, if all services functioned normally? And what would I have to complain about :-P ?

### Invitations Are Welcomed!

Do you want to organize a world mission evening or highlight global missions on a Sunday morning? Please contact Elina Singh at [elinasingh28@yahoo.ca](mailto:elinasingh28@yahoo.ca) or by phone at 778-893-1905, and she will come and visit your congregation. The presentation includes mission stories and a PowerPoint slide show (20-45min).

### Mind for Mission

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Find out more about the ELCIC Mission in the World program by visiting the ELCIC website: <http://elcic.ca/In-Mission-in-the-World/default.cfm>

# Mind for Mission

## BC Synod World Mission News

Volume 3 – Fall 2008

### ILEP Update:

Through the **Amazon Mission Sponsorship** program, ELCIC MW provides the funds needed to support a pastor of the Peruvian Evangelical Lutheran Church (ILEP) in Iquitos, Peru. Rev Irene Ponce served as the Amazon Mission pastor for 2007. An ILEP intern, Yoli Zavaleta, accompanied Pastor Irene in her ministry and became the pastor based in Iquitos in 2008 after Irene returned to Lima. Pastor Yoli was ordained by ILEP on July 5, 2008.

ELCIC MW is grateful for the contributions received for Amazon Mission Sponsorship from individuals and congregations in the ELCIC, a total of about \$6,000 in 2007. This is about half of what is needed by ILEP in 2008 for Amazon Mission in the Iquitos area of Peru. ELCIC MW encourages sponsors to continue their support and invites new sponsors to help reach this goal.



The photo was taken in the house of Edith from the faith community in El Triunfo. The house includes a shop and is made out of split bamboo and logs tied together with strips of tree bark. It is in this house that the faith community worships and has Sunday School for the children. Yoli is second from the left and Irene is on the right. Edith is between Irene and Yoli.

## New ELCIC Missionary:



Rev. Fran Schmidt is the new ELCIC long-term missionary to Peru.

Fran was born and raised in Thunder Bay, Ontario. She obtained a Honours Bachelor of Music degree from Lakehead University in 1993. Following graduation, she taught private voice lessons. Fran was the Parish Assistant at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, and, while attending Lutheran Theological Seminary, she worked part-time as the Music Coordinator for Zion Lutheran Church in Saskatoon, 2003-2006. She graduated from the seminary this year with a Master of Divinity with Honours degree.

Fran departed from Canada on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 and is now in Cochabamba, Bolivia. She is staying with a Bolivian family and studying Spanish full-time at the Maryknoll Language Institute in Cochabamba for three months. The Maryknoll Language Institute, founded by the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers in 1965, prepares Catholic missionary personnel through the development of language skills for contemporary mission in Latin America or for mission with Spanish-speaking peoples in other parts of the world. In the spirit of Ecumenism, this institute also accepts candidates from other churches.

Fran will proceed to Peru to begin her work with ILEP at the beginning of December, 2008. She will be stationed in Lima, where she will be half-time pastor of the congregation of San Juan-Camino de Esperanza and half-time as trainer in music, singing and liturgy for all of ILEP.

You can follow Fran's travels in <http://fransadventures.blogspot.com/>.

## Other Missionary Updates:

Bonnie Weppler, an ELCIC long-term missionary to Papua New-Guinea, returned to Canada in May 2008.

Bonnie entered St. Paul University in Ottawa in September, to study for Master of Arts in Conflict Studies. She is very excited about this new opportunity. During the summer she has been part of a missionary re-entry program by the Canadian Churches' Forum for Global Ministries.



## Excerpts of a letter from Brian Rude, El Salvador

### Housekeeping

. . . or should that be "Sanity-keeping"?

Perhaps I **am** living in rural Zimbabwe (where we lived for 2 months without any phone service, anywhere . . . but that was way back in 1983). I am still without phone service from Telecom--this entire month of June. I have a whole team phoning in regular complaints, starting with my landlord. Perhaps Telecom is happy with all the business they've generated from all these complaint calls, and doesn't want to lose it. The regular responses are: ". . . as soon as possible", ". . . in 3-5 days", and "It is a very delicate problem". Other phone technicians have assured me that the problem is not inside my home or yard, so I don't need to keep staying home "por gusto" when Telecom assures me someone will be coming by. But I won't burden you with that sad saga.

So, who knows how many calls I've missed, how many folk have given up calling me, how many folk assume I've moved on . . .

I spent the entire month of February struggling to get my postal service normalized (getting my "Guardian Weekly" four at a time, up to four months

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