

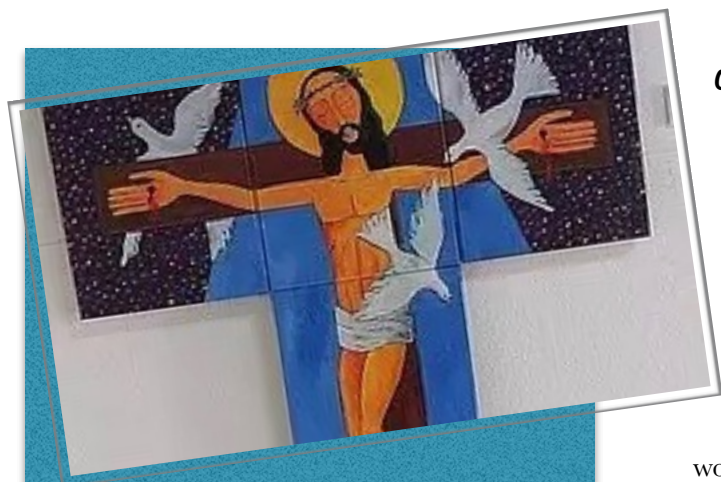


F E B R U A R Y - 2 0 1 7

SERVING THE LORD IN

Latin America

News from Rev Dr Jonathan & Deaconess Cheryl Naumann



Christ For All Nations

Dominican painting is traditionally characterized by bold and brightly colored images full of symbolism.

In this painting by Jose Morillo, peace with God - provided through the atonement made for all humanity by the crucified Christ - is depicted by the doves surrounding His cross.

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'...Yo estoy con vosotros todos los dias, hasta el fin del mundo' *'I am with you always, to the end of the world'* (Matt. 28:20)

In the Latin American mission field, the 1960 version of the *Reina Valera* (Spanish translation) of the Bible is widely used. In any good translation, the translators' choice of words to express the meaning of the text is very influential, as is the case with many translations.

Most English speakers think of Jesus' promise in Matthew 28 in terms of His being "with you always." This Spanish translation, using the phrase "*todos los dias*" (every day), emphasizes the daily presence of Christ, when and where His work is going on daily, as the members of His Body - the Church - go about discipling all nations, and baptizing people in the Name of the Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus is not only with missionaries in the field who are encountering all nations with His teachings, but He is also with those who support missionaries in the field; He is with those who pray for God's work in their own communities as well as in foreign lands; and He is with all who know Him as Lord and Savior and dedicate their lives to Him, whatever their vocation.

As we contemplate Jesus' words in Matthew 28, we also remember, with gratitude to God, our partners in Gospel who make it possible for us to serve as missionaries. **THANK YOU for sharing with us in the discipling of all nations!**

Gratefully,
Pastor Jonathan



Left: New DR Seminary built on the top floor above Concordia Lutheran Church and School in Palmar Arriba



Right: View of the seminary from the top of the hill



Left: View from the new Seminary, with Good Shepherd Lutheran Home in the foreground and Deaconess School at the top of the hill. In Palmar Arriba, Dominican Republic.

Dear friends in Christ,

As the season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (March 1), it evokes memories of past years in various congregations. Midweek services, lenten dinners, inspiring sermon themes; favorite hymns, and especially the contemplation of what Jesus Christ agreed to take upon Himself in order to provide atonement for our sin.

Those who attend our Latin American mission congregations will be marking the season of Lent just as our churches do here in North America. Yes, we are in the "business" of International Missions precisely because of what happened during the first Holy Week, that is, what God did for us through His son Jesus Christ, by sending Him to die in our stead, and raising Him to life as a guarantee that our bodies will also rise to join our souls in heaven when He comes on the last day.

What a message we have to share with every tribe and nation, every people and language; whether educated or not educated; whether rich, poor, or somewhere in between; no matter what their age or occupation!

A very blessed Ash Wednesday to all of you!

Deaconess Cheryl

Giving up AND Giving!

Conversations during Lent often include a reference to what individuals are "giving up" for Lent. The items to be given up range from meat and chocolate to pizza and soft drinks. Perhaps this year would be a good time to take the dollars you normally spend on something you have given up for Lent, and set them aside to support God's work through us in Latin America! Your tax-deductible gift can be given in several ways, listed below!

Please Pray:

- *That God would bless all LCMS missionaries as they carry out their work, both in the US and abroad;*
- *A prayer of gratitude for the women of the LWML who provided "mile" funding for the building of the new seminary in Palmar Arriba, DR;*
- *For God's guidance as curriculum and logistics are worked out before the first seminary classes begin on August 20;*
- *A prayer of thanks for safe travels for Pastor Jonathan and Cheryl, as they have traveled many miles, even in winter weather, in the endeavor to build a network of prayer and financial support for God's work through them in Latin America;*
- *Finally, please pray that Pastor Jonathan and Cheryl's mission fund receives the funding needed for them to deploy soon to the mission field into which they have been called.*

SPECIAL GRANT CHALLENGE: We are delighted to report that YOU did make it possible for us to meet the challenge of raising \$20,000 within a particular time period, to have that amount matched by one of our donors! **THANK YOU!**

Thank you to our February 2017 hosts:

Randall Goddard and Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, Detroit (MI); Pastor Patrick Sparling and Immanuel Lutheran Church, Columbus (NE); Pastor Jon & Jenny Sollberger, Louisville (NE); Peace Lutheran Church, Grand Island (NE); Circuit 003: Columbus Winkel and Peace Lutheran Church, Columbus (NE); Wayne & Elaine Muskopf and Christ our Savior Lutheran Church, Freeburg (IL); Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fort Collins (CO); Glenn & Deaconess Betty Mulholland and Peace With Christ Lutheran Church, Fort Collins (CO); LWML, Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Loveland (CO); Pastor Stephen & Angelika Weiss and The Bridge (Gloria Christi Lutheran Church), Greeley (CO); Pastor Jon & Emily Olson and Trinity Lutheran Church, Casper (WY); David & Mary Bishton, Longmont (CO).

Tax-deductible gifts to support the work of Jonathan & Cheryl Naumann can be given:

- + **Online at www.lcms.org/jonathan.naumann**
- + **By phoning the LCMS donor care line: 888-930-4438**
- + **By mailing checks to The LCMS, PO Box 66861, Saint Louis, MO 63166-6861 with "Jonathan Naumann - Latin America" on the check memo line**
- + **OR through a MISSION CENTRAL Adoption Agreement at http://i.b5z.net/i/u/1461075/f/Naumann_Agreement.pdf**