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Brief Review of Regional Work

Dear friends in Jesus,
 Greetings from Santiago! It is time for a note to catch up on our comings and goings. November and December were full of travels for Ted to Belize, Panama, Spain, Bucharest, Chile, Peru, and the States for meetings on Puerto Rico. In Chile, an all-site visit was made of all nine congregations and missions. We covered some 1300 kilometers in three days and had numerous encounters with good Lutheran folks and potlucks with all sorts of good food. In Panama, the visit was shorter than hoped for, but there was the good news that the Gauthiers are doing well, and a new mission station is coming together with a pastor being called to begin a new church plant.



Newly ordained pastor in Spain, alongside LCMS missionary Pastor David Warner

In Bucharest, for a meeting of all regional directors, there was the opportunity to see the very first church plant in Romania, as well as learn with colleagues on how the Lord is working in our four regions of the world. In Puerto Rico, our FORO held in Iowa tripled in size with supporters who were eager to lend a hand to those who have been devastated by the hurricane that hit there this past fall. Thankfully, two mercy houses are now up and running and serving hundreds through bags of food and the telling of the Gospel. In Belize, the FORO agreed to buy its first property for planting a church and met the Burches, a new/old missionary couple, transplanted from Peru. In Peru, the FORO visited all of the sites that serve 200 children daily in the areas of health, life and education, with church plants alongside of them.



Bethesda House in Chile – a home of mercy for people with disabilities



Latest family photo... with Oma visiting from Canada, and GEO missionary Uncle James

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Disaster Relief work begins in Puerto Rico
- Rev. Herb and Markie Burch relocate to serve in Belize
- Partners meet to support work in Belize, Panama, Chile and Peru
- Second native pastor ordained in Spain

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HIGHLIGHTS

- Weathering of 2 major storms as hurricanes passed close by
- Disaster training led by LCMS Disaster Response staff
- Construction continues for church/preschool in Licey



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PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- All our missionaries and their families
- For our Business Manager, Blake Warren, and his wife Lizz, as they await the birth of baby Warren
- Our Regional Team
- Construction of school and church in Licey
- Our seminary, seminarians and professors

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- The service of the Lohmeyer Family in the Dominican Republic, term finished in Nov. 2017
- Good health
- Time to spend with visiting family



REGIONAL UPDATE

The latter half of December was filled with Christmas services and time to pause, give thanks, and hear the Christmas story that never grows old of our Lord Jesus who has come as a baby born to die so that we might live by faith in Him to new lives. A special treat was seeing our missionary children hold a Spanish Christmas pageant and a hymn-sing by missionaries that lasted a couple of hours after a good Christmas dinner.

In January we received our regional team leaders from around the region and planned our work together for the next several months. Seven of the eight lead team members are new so there is a need in the coming months to find a rhythm,



learn how to work together and, by the Lord's grace, achieve some forward motion so that we might properly serve our missionaries in their far flung corners of Latin America. Pray for wisdom and patience and growth of our new missionaries as they adapt to new lives in their efforts to make Him known to an ever expanding circle of people.

A note from home -

I know I have talked about this before, about how we like to go "tobogganing" here in the DR. Often we go to a big hill in the middle of the city with our big sheets of cardboard in hand, to go "tobogganing" down the hill. A few weeks ago, on a bright sunny day in January, we headed out with our friends to the mountains west of the city, for a cultural day with our Spanish teacher. The first step of the trip was arriving at our destination. Thankfully, the maps and google maps were easy to follow and there were even some road signs to "Los Montones". Once there, we took some real plastic sleds out into the back fields and enjoyed watching the men pull the kids down the hills. After our fun exploring the mountains, we headed back to the house to eat a delicious traditional Dominican stew, called "sancocho", cooked outside over a fire, with a banana leaf lid for the pot. Word has it that traditional sancocho can have 7 different types of meats in it! Ours had at least 3 and was delicious ☺

~Becca

We are very thankful for all of your prayers and support!

- Rev. Ted & Becca Krey, Esther, Matthias, Natalia, Evangeline & Azariah



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

If you wish to support our work, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Ted and Rebecca Krey."

Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on our online giving page at lcms.org/krey.