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## Update from the Dominican Republic



Children's choir singing at the Lenten music concert.

### Lenten Music Concert

On Palm Sunday evening we celebrated our first Lenten music concert. The event included a women's and children's choir from our home mission in Pueblo Nuevo, the seminary choir, various families and individuals, piano students, and guitarists. The Krey family sang too, Esther played her violin, and Matthias sang with the seminary choir. The Scripture reading followed Bugenhagen's passion narrative with musicians interspersed throughout. Of course, there was good congregational singing too as the three missions in the Santiago region came together.

### FORO in the Dominican Republic

March 8-10<sup>th</sup> saw several of our mission partners come together to hear about church planting

efforts in the Dominican Republic. A few of the highlights included: the desire to build a Lutheran sanctuary in Pueblo Nuevo, two new church planting professors who have been called, Pastor Roberto Weber and Pastor Ross Shaver, both of whom are expected to arrive in the next 3-4 months.

Additionally, we heard a report from Concordia the Reformer Seminary about its 7<sup>th</sup> year of studies, and how their symposium this year will be on church planting. Additionally, we were encouraged to hear that the seminarians' evangelistic weekend visit to Santo Domingo brought forth fruit with a dozen contacts for our missionary pastor in Las Americas, including people now attending church!

### REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- *Thankfulness for the second year of classes drawing to a close in our three-year deaconess program, for the dedication, sacrifice, and faithfulness of our LCMS deaconesses leading the classes.*
- *Thankfulness for so many young musicians learning to praise God as they sing and play the recorder, piano, and guitar in our missions.*
- *Prayers for our 45 church plants that LAC is supporting across 10 countries and for strength and the Lord's angels to protect our pastors, teachers, and their families.*
- *Thankfulness for Elyn who voluntarily served for the past few months in our accounting-finances of LAC.*



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Dominican Republic FORO, March 8-10<sup>th</sup>

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *Our area facilitators: Rev. Herb Burch, Rev. James Sharp, and Rev Arthur Rickman and their families.*
- *Prayers for strength for Ted as he is in the midst of many travels to supervise missions this month.*
- *The Flores family as they recently returned to Belize after their son's successful surgery in Mexico.*
- *Respite for those suffering in Haiti and prayers for our church there.*

## GIVE THANKS FOR:

- *Healthy Krey children advancing in their school studies.*
- *Newborn baby girl born to the Maita missionary family in Puerto Rico.*
- *New missionary pastor coming from Brazil to serve in Mexico to mentor pastoral students.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR NEW DEACONESSES

Ted and his sister, Tirzah, are concluding their third course that they have co-taught this year to 6 women in the Dominican Republic who are preparing to be deaconesses through our seminary in the Dominican. The courses were on the Divine Service, Old Testament, and Theology of Mercy. The courses have usually been taught on Thursday evenings. The women are now entering their practicum/internship time, working with Deaconess Tirzah and our local pastor, on teaching Sunday school, making visits to the sick, and evangelistic visitation.

Tirzah graduated last year from Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne as a deaconess and also serves as the regional Human Care Coordinator for LAC missionaries. Two of the women in the classes are Dominicans who are both members of the mission that Ted and Tirzah attend. Another student, Mayra, is from Mexico. She is in the Dominican while her husband studies to become a pastor. At the same time, Mayra is a psychologist and generously

assists us at our Lutheran school, working with parents and children there, along with our chaplain and deaconess principal. We are thankful that the Lord Jesus continues to raise up those who want to serve their neighbor in their body and give witness of Him with their lives.

Ted has been the deaconess coordinator alongside of the Associate Coordinator, Deaconess Danelle Putnam, over the past number of years. The program currently has around 70 women enrolled from 9 countries, preparing to be deaconesses and serve vocationally. Unlike the United States, these women work voluntarily in their local missions and congregations. Ted was recently in Mexico and heard a report from the Sinodo Luterano Mexico leadership that their Vacation Bible Schools throughout their missions were led by our deaconess graduates with over 1000 children attending across the country. O that more might hear, and even more be prepared to tell of our Lord Jesus for the forgiveness of sins!



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

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



*Esther is now 15 years old!!*



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OR- Make checks payable to the LCMS, marked in "Support of Ted and Rebecca Krey."  
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