

J A N U A R Y — F E B R U A R Y
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SERVING THE LORD IN

Latin America

News from Rev Dr Jonathan & Deaconess Cheryl Naumann



New House of Worship!

Praise God for the new worship facility that was dedicated at our LCMS mission in La Paz, Honduras, on February 13!

As part of the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) regional team, Pastor Naumann serves as Chaplain to missionaries throughout the LAC region and Deaconess Cheryl coordinates the activities supported by the Mercy Center, such as the Disaster Response preparedness course taught for the people of Guatemala and Honduras last year.

...en la cruz, extendiendo tus brazos amorosos para abrazar al mundo en tu muerte; concede que todos los pueblos de la tierra puedan mirarte y ver tu salvación... (Noon prayer - Spanish Daily Prayer office)

In our Spanish daily prayers, the midday prayer recalls how it was at noon that Christ hung on the cross, **'extending His arms of love to embrace the world in His death.'** The prayer goes on to request that all the **'people of the earth, see and appreciate'** the salvation that Jesus accomplished on that cross as He redeemed the world by His blood.

As Deaconess Cheryl and I celebrate the 6-year anniversary of being called to this field, we praise God for the opportunity to be part of a team that helps more people to learn that *'your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for'* (Isaiah 5.7). Our earnest prayer is that many **will** come to trust in Jesus Christ as their Saviour through the LCMS mission work here, and will join us in worshipping Him, both here and in eternity.

We are grateful to you for your support, without which we could not be among these people, sharing the Gospel that is the source of your joy and ours - the joy of eternal life through faith in the forgiveness of sins won by Christ Jesus. May God bless all of us as we contemplate this priceless gift in the season of Lent. *Pastor Jonathan*



Interior of the new church during its dedication in La Paz.



Curb-side Sunday School in Ocoa led by seminary field workers & deaconess interns. As mission expansion opportunities arise we pray for more workers to preach the Gospel and plant Lutheran churches.

Dear friends in Christ,

I am still directing the VDMA Project, which translates and provides good Lutheran Bible materials to missionaries, partner churches, and emerging Lutheran Churches in Latin America. After CPH decided to stop printing *Portals of Prayer* in Spanish, we knew that we needed to create a good daily devotional booklet for lay people here in Latin America, which could also be used in North America. ***La palabra del Señor permanece para siempre (The Word of the Lord Endures Forever)*** will be coming out for the first time in July 2022. The devotions are written and edited by Lutheran pastors in Latin American and Caribbean countries and will be available as eBooks through Amazon for only \$0.99.

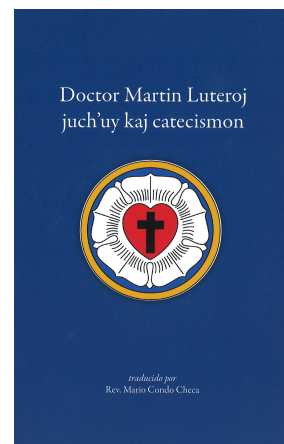
One of my recent projects was administering the translation and publication of *Luther's Small Catechism* into the Quechua language. The request for this resource came from our brothers and sisters in the Lutheran Church of Bolivia. We are grateful to Lutheran Heritage Foundation for assisting with layout and financing 500 copies of this **very first translation of the *Small Catechism* for those who speak Quechua** in the central Andes Mountains, particularly Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Chile.

The lifting of pandemic restrictions here in the Dominican Republic and other Central and South American countries has made it possible for more in-person Mercy Center courses. This means we can currently provide Disaster Response, Every One His Witness, and Ambassadors of Reconciliation workshops in several locations in Venezuela, Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, and the DR.

As a seminary professor and Director of the library at Concordia Lutheran Seminary of the Reformer here in the DR, Pastor Jonathan is thrilled that a long-awaited shipping container of shelves (once used at Concordia Theological Seminary in Springfield) and thousands of theology books (donated by many LCMS members and organizations) have finally arrived. The library benefits not only our pastoral students, but also student deaconesses and the teachers in our Lutheran schools who are provided with ongoing intensive training.

For us as a couple, the best part about the lifting of restrictions is the increased amount of opportunities to speak with the people that we meet casually everyday - whether walking at the botanical garden, waiting for a car to be washed, or browsing in a grocery store. In these places and others, we meet the people that are the reason for our presence here. We see and share their everyday joys and struggles. We share the same temptations that they face from the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh. And ultimately we can also share the good news that is for both us and them - Jesus Christ has already paid the penalty for all sin and forgiveness is available through faith in Him. **Thank you for being part of this mission!**

love in Christ, Deaconess Cheryl



Quechua Small Catechism



Pastor Jonathan and students assemble library shelves

Please pray: + For good health and safety for us and all missionaries, especially during travel in the field; + Thanksgiving for the arrival of the shelves and books for the seminary library; + Thanksgiving for the new church building in Honduras, new Sunday Schools in and around mission plants, and the baptism of nine individuals in the Las Americas mission two weeks ago; + Thanksgiving for Luther's Small Catechism in Quechua; + That God would give wisdom to our church leaders and regional mission directors as mission strategies are planned and executed; + Thanksgiving to God as we pass the 6-year anniversary of being LCMS missionaries in LAC; Thanksgiving for the people and congregations who support us financially and with prayers for our work and those whom we serve.



Tax-deductible gifts to support our work can be given:

- + Online at www.lcms.org/jonathan.naumann
- + By mailing checks to MISSION CENTRAL, 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, Iowa 51034, with "J & C Naumann - Latin America" on check memo line
- + By mailing checks to The LCMS, PO Box 66861, Saint Louis, MO 63166 with "Jonathan Naumann - Latin America" on the check memo line