January / February 2023

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH Missouri Synod

Misericordia Activa

An Active Mercy

The love of Christ at work in the streets of Latin America

News from the Ramirez Family serving the Lord in Peru.

Crowded city streets of Lima the capital of Peru where the Ramirez Family is living and working



Ramirez Family Personal Update

We are grateful to start 2023 in Peru. South of the equator it is summer, so the new year has brought a break from school, sunshine and hot weather. Praise the Lord. Abraham is taking soccer and swimming lessons and Eliana has been hanging out at church with mommy. We were able to purchase a car in January to allow us to travel and support the different ministries around the city.

As we shared in December Jeancarlos' once again needs treatment for his Arteriovenous Malformation (AVM). We give thanks for an initial

exploratory procedure which was completed during January. He will be having a surgical procedure done in the coming months. We know that our Lord is faithful and trust in Him. We are grateful for your prayers during this time.

Pastor Jeancarlos leads mid-week bible study, attended by adults after a long day of work.



Join us in prayer to the Lord this month:

We give thanks for Coffee and Conversation English Outreach. Please pray for this evanglistic event and the people who attend.

We give thanks for activity with Castillo Fuerte Los Olivos. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless the outreach and give us guidance.

Please join us in praying for Jeancarlos' health.

We pray for peace in Peru and stability in the government.

We pray for Caitlin's residency request.

We give thanks for the first Deaconess class in Peru. And pray for the Catechism Course in Feb and March 2023.

We pray for the Short Term Team from Grace, Midland Texas who will be serving with us Feb. 11-18, 2023.

For more news updates, stories and photos follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RamirezMissions

Please contact me at caitlin.ramirez@lcms.org or by mail at 2272 Ramblin Dr. Battle Creek, MI 49014



First Deaconess Course in Peru:

Our deaconess students completed their first course with the regional seminary Concordia the Reformer through distance learning. Myself (Deaconess Caitlin) and Missionary Pastor Walterson were the main professors for the class which was taught in a weekend intensive. The nine ladies came from their different churches and we all stayed in the bunk beds at the mission office in order to focus our time on studying God's Word. Over the weekend the ladies learned all about the office of the deaconess, who she is, what she does, the history of diaconal service in the church and so much more. It was a blessing to begin to lay the foundation for their future service to the congregation and community.

Fun Vacations at Castillo Fuerte:

Summer at Castillo Fuerte brings fun vacation workshops; the kids have music, mini chef, English, crafts and other activities to keep them busy. Activities in La Victoria are taking off with 20 kids enrolled in the first week. In Addition, La Victoria is trying music and English classes for adults at a low cost to try to reach a new sector of the community and invite them into the church.



In Los Olivos, Castillo Fuerte and the church continue our evangelism efforts. In the last two weeks alone we have distributed

Deaconess Caitlin works on math skills through play at Castillo Fuerte La Victoria



1,000 flyers inviting people to join us. Please continue to pray for this outreach of the church.

As Director of Castillo Fuerte Deaconess Caitlin has been busy working with our staff to have regular bible studies, strengthen ties between the church and institution, and plan for the coming year. We are grateful for the work of Castillo Fuerte and the doors that it has opened into the community. We pray that it can continue to serve the young church, pointing people to Christ's love and creating a bridge between the community and the altar.

Peruvian Political Situation:

As many of you have heard in the news Peru is currently suffering political conflict. Over the last 5 years the country has had 5 presidents. This instability has lead people to distrust their democracy and government. In December the president was impeached, and there was a failed coup. Since then the countryside has been aflame with protests which have now made their way to the capital city of Lima.

Our missionaries and church members are safe and continuing to preach the gospel to those who are lost and suffering in these times. We pray for the country of Peru, that peaceful solutions can be found for all those who are hurting.

To support our work financially, send a tax-deductible gift marked "Ramirez Family" to:

Mission Central 40718 Highway E16 Mapleton, IA 50134 Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod PO Box 66861 St. Louis, MO 63166 You can also give online <u>www.lcms.org/ramirez</u>

