

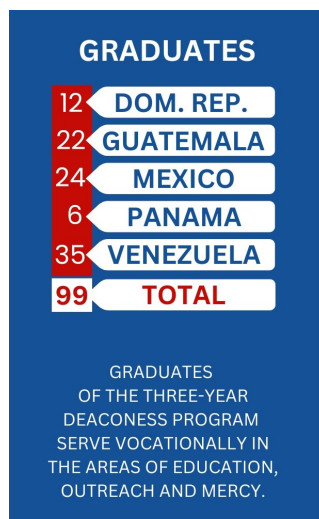
Misericordia Activa

An Active Mercy

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

News from the **Ramirez Family** serving the Lord in **Latin America**.

Over the last few months Deaconess Caitlin has been focusing on the seminary's deaconess training program, specifically in the areas of curriculum development and revision. In our first cycle of deaconess students, it was a learning process both for the students and for the seminary. What level of theological education do deaconesses in Latin America need? What is the best way to teach them, online, in-person intensives, weekly mentorship, videos, books? How can we make the logistics work of teaching so many women in so many different countries? There were so many questions and as is often the case in missions we had to pick something, try and then learn from the experience.



When we began teaching our second cycle of deaconess students, it was clear that we had some areas where we needed to review and adjust our program based on what we learned the first time around. One area was our New Testament course, the second our deaconess practicum experience, and finally the need for an online learning platform. These revisions, edits and gaps in the Latin America deaconess training program have set the agenda for the future work to continue our proclamation of the Gospel and formation of church leaders in Latin America.

Join us in prayer to the Lord this month:

For the local Church leaders in Peru, Pastors Milagros, Abraham and Elvis. For Yepci the director of Castillo Fuerte. And for the lay leaders fo the congregations in La Victoria, San Borja and Los Olivos.

For the deaconess students in Peru: Yepci, Oriana, Laura, Teo, Angela, Vicky, Violeta, and Lucia. That the Lord might strengthen them in their studies and encourage them in their final year of the program.

For the Deaconess Team as we continue the review and adjustments to our curriclrm for Latin America.

In thanksgiving that His Word is being proclaimed and received throughout Latin America. May every knee bow in the world to His Holy name and Word.

Luke-Act Deaconess Course

During the fall and winter Deaconess Caitlin dedicated herself to a re-write of our New Testament course for the deaconess program in Latin America. The new course, includes a 200 page manual and a series of 8 videos which looks at the books of Luke and Acts. Through these two books, we study the narrative of the work of Jesus, his message of salvation for all who believe in him. A message which is then carried out by his disciples and the church to the ends of the earth. The books of Luke Acts also served as type for the whole New Testament, allowing us to study key doctrines found throughout the New Testament. The final piece of the course was a section on Biblical Interpretation where we taught the ladies the steps to complete an exegetical study. We learned key biblical interpretation practices, such as scripture interprets scripture, doctrinal analysis and application of law and gospel. With these skills, the deaconesses in Latin America will be able to open up any part of scripture and faithfully interpret it, and share it with others. In February the seminary began teaching this course to women in 9 countries. It will continue until the end of April 2025.



Revision is always best when done in a collaborative fashion. We are grateful to have team of 7 missionary deaconesses working together in Latin America, as well as wonderful local pastors and laity to collaborate in the formation of our programs.



Deaconess & Students teaching VBS in Panama

Deaconesses in Latin America are leading the work of the church

In Latin America, the US winter months mean summer and VBS! Throughout Latin America we saw our Deaconesses (former students) and current deaconess students leading these efforts of evangelism in our congregations and communities. The women who have studied the Bible through the seminary have been empowered and are taking what they learned into their communities to share this good news of Jesus with others. In Venezuela, Panama, and Peru Bible camps, VBS and Youth Retreats were held, all with deaconesses working hard to make it happen.



It is amazing to see how the Lord works to exponentially increase the proclamation of the Gospel which we can do as His church. When I teach a class, write a course manual and proclaim the gospel as a missionary, I reach my small classroom, but each of these women goes back to her community and shares what she has learned about Jesus, and they go forth and share with others and so on. The ripple effect causes the numbers to become astronomical. Praise the Lord for inspiring these women to share His good news.

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

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40718 Highway E16
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