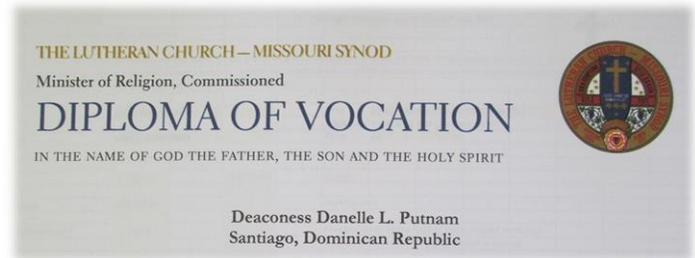


The Fruits of His Word

Isaiah 55:9-11

Call

This fall I received a Call from the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod Board for International Mission to serve as a Deaconess in the Dominican Republic! Early this month I accepted the Call! Now, many changes are ahead as with the Call comes a move. I will be relocating to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic to serve with new missionaries Pastor Joel Fritsche and his family (www.lcms.org/Fritsche) as well as Deaconess Rachel Powell (www.lcms.org/Powell). They are all set to arrive mid-February of 2015.



It has always been the desire of the Dominican Republic Lutheran Mission to place missionaries in Santo Domingo in order to support our Dominican Pastor, Willy Gaspar, as well as to expand work and plant new churches. Apart from the congregation in Las Americas, there is a Sunday school and another small mission in different areas of the city where we can begin to make more contacts and hold more regular activities such as Bible study, Catechism classes, and regular worship. We also plan to have more presence in the developmental disability ward of the psychiatric hospital and eventually plant a church in this community as well.

Please pray that I can find adequate housing and that the Lord will provide a smooth transition.

The Church in Licey



The Lord has brought forth the fruits of his Word in the town of Licey, 15 minutes east of Santiago. Eight years ago this February, I started the first *Amigos de Jesús* developmental disability outreach in Licey. We first met in the home of one of the volunteers, then moved to the local library, and later to the town fire station. In the fire station we held our first worship services after the *Amigos de Jesús* activity. Marta was one of the first volunteers to help lead the *Amigos de Jesús* group. Her husband, sister and herself, became the first members of the Licey church in February of 2011.

We outgrew our house church in Yban and Marta's home and moved to a rented facility where we started a preschool and continued the *Amigos de Jesús* ministry. This fall, our preschool enrollment jumped from 40 to 80 children! We have out grown another facility!



This December in Licey we saw the fruits of God's Word as the preschool children sang of Baby Jesus' coming at their Christmas. Over 150 participated. We also held our annual *Amigos de Jesús* Christmas party where over 70 people attend. Participants with developmental disabilities dressed in costumes helped tell the story of Christ's birth – how God in His love became incarnate to save us from our sin and to grant us salvation. These are all families that we have the opportunity to extend God's love and mercy and bring them into the church.

The Lord has brought this ministry full circle as we are currently negotiating the purchase of a property in Licey to begin building a new church and school! We are looking to close the deal within the next couple of weeks! We give praise and thanks to God for His faithfulness! *To the right, I am standing on the property posing with a Dominican-size poinsettia. Merry Christmas!!!*



Short-term mission teams

Along with the purchase of the property, comes building the church and school. Our first building stint on phase 1 of the project will be this summer and fall 2015. We will have another building stint for phase 2 in the winter and spring of 2016. WE NEED YOUR HELP! No construction experience is necessary, rather a willing heart and servant attitude! If you would like to bring down a short-term mission team or participate on one, please contact Debby Suchyta at MOST Ministries (dsuchyta@mostministries.org or tel. 734-994-7909).

Fundraising

Thank you all for your continued support! I am in great shape for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. However, I would like to ask your help for one of our missionaries. Deaconess Gail Ludvigson will be writing a diaconate curriculum to give women in Latin America Biblical and practical training in the area of mercy work. Please consider giving Gail an offering! (www.lcms.org/Ludvigson) Let's get her deployed and have her help on the field! You can donate to the addresses below by designating your support in her name (Ludvigson).

- *Financial support information (checks) or call 888-930-4438 to speak with someone:*

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 790089
St. Louis, MO 63179-0089

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
or 40715 Highway E16
Mapleton, IA 51034-7105

Designate: *Work of Danelle Putnam*

Designate: *Work of Danelle Putnam*

- *On-line giving and Putnam Prayer Card:* www.lcms.org/putnam
- *Facebook:* **Danelle Putnam** and **LCMS Missions in Latin America & the Caribbean**
- *Address for letters and cards:* **Danelle Putnam/Apartado 1356/Santiago/Dominican Republic**