



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

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February
2025

News from Rev. Dr. Arthur, Deaconess Eva, and the Rickman Family serving in Latin America

Webpage: www.lcms.org/rickman Email: Arthur.Rickman@lcms.org

Letters from Latin America

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

*"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God."
1 John 4:7*



Panama



Colombia



Mexico

...and other areas in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ whose love is eternal and whose grace sustains us each and every day! While many of you in the United States are still in the midst of winter, here in Panama we are coming to the end of our summer. We were able to celebrate the last week with one of the most exciting events of summer, before the children return to school in March—Vacation Bible School!

During VBS, the children had the opportunity to hear Bible lessons, play games, make crafts, sing songs, eat together, and make new friends. The little ones sang, laughed, danced, played and most importantly heard the Good News of Jesus who loves them with an everlasting love. Coinciding with Valentine's Day (the day of love and friendship, here in Panama), we had the perfect opportunity to share the greatest love of all with the children in our community—the love of God in Christ Jesus!

Many of these children are very poor and come from unchurched homes in a nearby housing development. What a privilege it is to bring them the hope and peace of Christ. Please join us in praying that the Holy Spirit will work in their hearts growing the seeds of faith in their lives. Please also join us in giving thanks for all of our church members and volunteers that worked together to make this event possible.

With school resuming in a few weeks, we have also been planning on expanding our outreach to the children in the community. We plan to continue music classes, have been assessing the needs of the children in the area and are working towards incorporating English and technology as well as an afterschool program.

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Requests, Praises, and Thanks

- ...for the congregation we serve in Panama and for all our recent visitors.
- ...for health and safety for our family and all who serve in Latin America.
- ...for seminarians and deaconess students studying throughout the region.
- ...for the strengthening of our partners.
- ...thanks for the grace and eternal promises from the one who gives us all good things.
- ...thanks for the opportunities to serve His people in Latin America.
- ...thanks for all who make it possible for us to serve.

There are many opportunities to serve. Check out the current list and download an application at www.lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

***CAUTION: Please DO NOT FORWARD without permission or POST anywhere on the internet. Thank you!**

Rickman Family Update

What a blessing it is to have children of various ages who enjoy making crafts. They helped Eva test out the various crafts and helped make samples for the other children to follow during VBS. They also made some Valentines and sent some pictures to some special prayer partners. Your prayers and notes of encouragement are truly a blessing to our whole family!



When we got home from one of the days of VBS, we also got a special note asking if Mary Anna would be penpals with another special little girl with the name Mary. She was so excited to be able to write an email to her new friend.

***Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!
2 Corinthians 9:15***

We thank all of you for partnering with us and making it possible for us to share the most important message with those in Latin America! Please prayerfully consider supporting the ongoing work here with a monthly pledge or one-time gift. We are thankful for each of you walking alongside us and look forward to connecting with many of you this spring!

In Christ <+><,

Arthur and Eva,

Bethany, Zoe, Noah, Nathaniel, Mary Anna, Addy and Hannah



To support the work of the Rickman Family, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861.

ALSO, you can send your gift to:

Mission Central at 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, Iowa 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of the Rickman Family." Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at www.lcms.org/rickman.