



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

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December
2024

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,

*“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.” – John 1:14*

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate with joy this season! As the year draws to a close, we take a moment to reflect on the many blessings God has granted upon the mission work here in Panama. We are grateful for your partnership, prayers, and encouragement throughout this year as we continue proclaiming the Good News of Jesus to the people of Panama and beyond.

This Advent season has been especially meaningful for our congregation at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Balboa. Christmas Eve will mark the one-year anniversary in our newly renovated sanctuary. The past few Sundays have also been eventful since, for the first time, in many years, we were able to have a special celebration for Mother’s Day, celebrated on December 8th in Panama, and hosted a Christmas Concert the following week. It was such a joy to hear the sanctuary filled with music, laughter, and fellowship.

At this time of year, we remember that God, in His great love, came to us in the person of Jesus Christ. He did not remain distant but entered our world, lived among us, and ultimately gave His life for our salvation. This truth not only gives us hope and peace as we prepare to celebrate Christmas but also fuels our mission work. Just as Christ came into the world to seek and save the lost, we are called to bring the light of His Gospel to those around us. Whether it’s through events like our Christmas concert, weekly worship services, music classes, pastoral and diaconal formation, or acts of mercy, we rejoice in every opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus.



Panama



Colombia



Mexico

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

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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."

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Rickman Family Update

Even in the midst of this busy season of Advent and the end of the school year, the dear members of our congregation took the time to surprise Eva for her birthday. One dear member even took the time to make a delicious vegan chocolate cake, for her! Even as we have been called to serve these dear people, God continues to bless us in return with their love.



We give thanks for each one of you who has partnered with us in this mission through your prayers, encouragement, and support. May the joy and peace of Christ dwell richly in your hearts this Christmas and throughout the coming year.

*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 year-end 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.