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

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## Letters from Latin America

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion endures from generation to generation. -Daniel 4:3-*

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who remains faithful from generation to generation. This year for our missionary conference, we were blessed to have the opportunity to gather together with our colleagues serving throughout Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) along with some of the former missionaries of LAC. Thanks to a wonderful display by Concordia Historical Institute and presentations by Dr. Rast and some current and former missionaries, we were able to learn more about the history of LCMS mission work in Latin America and celebrate 125 years of God's faithfulness as we reflected on the theme "Remember, Repent, Rejoice!" This past year, we were tasked with writing a history of the work in Panama, and Arthur had the opportunity to present it during the LAC leadership meetings prior to the conference. As current missionaries it is inspiring to hear stories of both the joys and challenges our predecessors faced and realize that we are not alone in our own joys and challenges as we continue to serve. Together, we can all rejoice in God's faithfulness "from generation to generation."

After the conference, we have been consumed with preparations for the new academic year. There is a new cohort of ladies beginning their studies to serve as deaconesses in ten countries throughout the region. While the trimester does not officially begin until next week, the last two weeks have been especially busy with orientations for the ladies and working on enrolling all the ladies in their classes using Canvas, an online platform, we are implementing for the first time with this new cycle of students. Arthur has been instrumental in launching this platform and the seminary is hoping to integrate its use into the other seminary programs as well. Additionally, last Saturday we began our first intensive class with the ladies here in Panama and will be finishing the remaining units of this course on Saturday Sept 20<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for all the deaconess and seminarians beginning a new academic year.



Panama



Colombia



Mexico

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

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Ladies from three congregations and Pastor Raphael Voigt, Panama's new Director of Theological Education, joined us for our first intensive class on Deaconess Identity.



## Requests, Praises, and Thanks

- ...for the congregation we serve in Panama.
- ...for health and safety for our family and all who serve in Latin America.
- ...for seminarians and deaconess students beginning a new academic year of studies.
- ...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](http://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

One of the highlights of the conference was showing our children the campus of Concordia Seminary where we attended 20 years ago! History is one of their favorite subjects, so they enjoyed the presentations, hearing about the beginnings of LCMS mission work in Brazil and visiting Altenburg, MO, where some of the early German Lutherans settled in America. While, as missionaries, we still face some challenges with reliable mail and experience occasional outages with electricity, internet and water, it is nothing compared to the challenges experienced by those first missionaries in Brazil who had to ride days on horseback to reach their congregations!



***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!**

**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](http://www.lcms.org/rickman).