



A note from LCMS Missionaries, James & Christel Neuendorf

The month of May has been a time of transitions and new beginnings.

This month we had the special opportunity to dedicate a small rented facility in San Juan as a church and mercy center, as well as confirm the first catechumens in the city. The entire congregation from Ponce came up to celebrate the event together, and we packed the room with joyful noise and singing.

The congregation chose the name "Cordero de Dios" (Lamb of God) and we produced artwork and made an altar and baptismal font to match the theme. In June we will also have a baptism and will begin outreach plans, something the new confirmands are already eager to be a part of.

Meanwhile we have begun an especially hot summer and entered a quieter season of ministry as English classes and the homeschool ministry have gone on a pause for the summer months; but throughout the week people come to the Casa de Amparo to hang out, to talk, and to spend time with each other and out of the sun. Our daily ministry continues to see more and more people present throughout the week.

During the Summer, with the Maita family on their home service for support raising, we are also traveling regularly to Mayaguez to cover services and Bible classes there. This means that each week, together with Pastor Adam Lehman, we will be traveling to three different mission sites.

We give thanks to God for audio books and air-conditioned vehicles as we cover the miles to bring the gifts of God to an increasing number of people across the island. Pray for God to continue to give us strength, and to bring more and more people into these mission sites and our activities.



The new confirmands in San Juan! José, Pablo, Daniela, and Jonah!

Hiram (Ponce) and José from San Juan celebrating after the confirmations!





Prayers:

- Maita family as they are on Home Service.
- New church members in San Juan
- Outreach events in Ponce.

Fellowship Fridays have been a true highlight for us as a congregation. This particular Friday all the crafts were planned and provided for by member sand friends of the congregation. It was so fun to join together and visit as we grow together as a church family.

Our team! Through the crazy schedules that 2023 brought, we quickly realized that we as a team (all family members) hadn't gotten together to just have some fun since Christmas! It will also probably be one of the last times we will all be together until this Christmas as many of us are scheduled for Home Service this year.

At this gathering we also gave thanks to William Torres and his wife, Cindy, for William's full time service as Evangelist with the mission through the LCMS Disaster Response grant that was received right after Hurricane Maria devastated the Island. We thank God for their incredible and dedicated service.



Birthday time! One of the families who attended church back in 2019 had moved away from Ponce but has recently moved back! Even after all of that time they came to their church home and celebrated one of their child's birthdays with everyone on Sunday!

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