

SERVING THE LORD IN

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Jordan, Justin & Malachi Logston



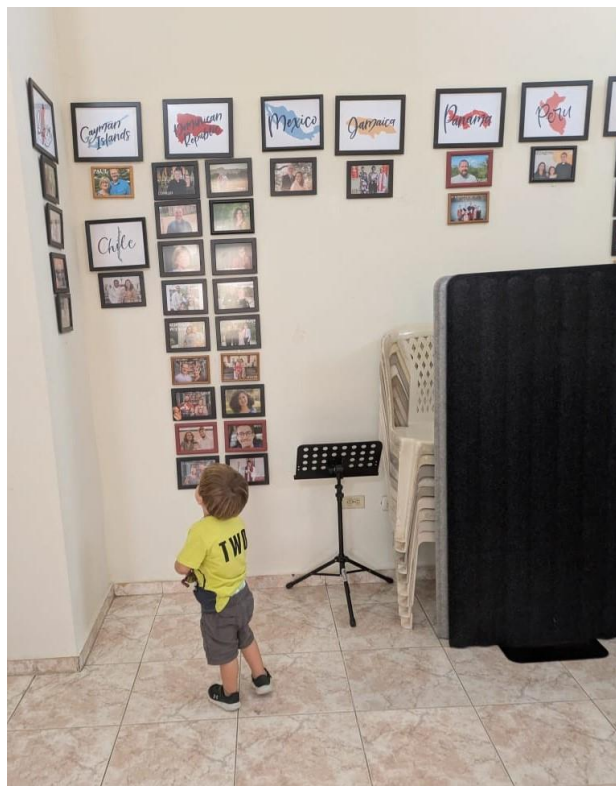
J⁴ February 2025 Newsletter

New Year, New Opportunities

Perhaps you were made for such a time as this?
Esther 4:14

Happy New Year (and St. Valentine's Day) dear friends in Christ!

As we turned the calendar to 2025, we were quickly greeted with new opportunities and new routines. Jordan has officially started her role as Associate Regional Business Manager, Malachi started attending part-time school nearby, and Justin has been continuing to take care of our new home. We have also been continuing Spanish classes with our teachers, Ilse and Lucia.



Malachi looking at the wall of missionary family pictures at the Regional Office in Santiago.

One of the biggest changes has been Jordan's shift from a country mindset in Belize to a regional mindset here in Santiago at the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Region headquarters. As you can imagine, there is a lot to keep up with.



THE NUMBERS

OUR MISSIONARIES

30
LCMS MISSIONARIES SERVE IN 7 COUNTRIES

9
ALLIANCE MISSIONARIES SERVE IN 7 COUNTRIES

CHURCH PLANTS

42
CHURCH PLANTS IN 13 COUNTRIES

This map shows where our LAC missionaries are serving across the region. An Alliance missionary is an ordained pastor from an LCMS partner church who is called by his church and, in coordination with the LCMS Office of International Mission (OIM), sent to serve as a missionary. A church plant is establishing a new gathering of believers around Word and Sacrament with the intent of forming a sustainable congregation.



As an example of Jordan's regional mindset, this video gives an overview (in English 😊) of the Lutheran Church in Chile, celebrating their 70th anniversary. View the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLz4ux6lkk0>

The first full week of January, Concordia the Reformer Seminary in the Dominican Republic hosted its third annual conference for Formación Pastoral Hispano (FPH) students and their mentor pastors. FPH is a distance learning program for aspiring Lutheran pastors who are unable to attend a formal Seminary. Countries represented included the Dominican Republic, Chile, Guatemala, Spain, Bolivia, Honduras, Venezuela, Columbia, Mexico, Cuba, and Brazil. The theme of this year's conference was "Identity and Agenda of the Lutheran Pastor." In addition to the presentations, the men worshiped together, attended a music workshop, participated in small group discussions and had ample time to visit and talk theology with seminary professors and pastors from across the region, the United States and Spain. We pray the week was a blessing for all in attendance and that the men will return to their home countries and congregations refreshed and encouraged.



Rev. Omar Kinas (left), serving in Chile, and Rev. Esdras Orozco, serving in Guatemala, share a laugh during the FPH Conference. Photo courtesy of Jana Inglehart.



Jordan (middle) and Short-Term Team volunteer Cathy working on a puzzle with one of the residents at Kilometer 28.

If you ask a Dominican about Kilometer 28, they will likely look at you as if you had 10 heads. "Es para la gente loca," is the normal response. For example, when our Spanish teacher, Ilse, was a girl and would drive by Kilometer 28 on the main highway to get to Santo Domingo, her parents told her to put her head down and cover her ears. However, as we know, our amazing God shines in ALL people, and we are to love all regardless of their mental state. Jordan recently had the opportunity to visit Kilometer 28 with a Short-Term Team of volunteers. Through a longstanding relationship between Kilometer 28, which has now grown into a rehabilitation center, and Danelle Putnam, LCMS Missionary who has served in the DR for 20+ years, we were welcomed with open arms to share time, fellowship and Jesus with the residents. Many of the residents asked for a blessing before we left, which was powerful as well.



Jordan (second from right) helped put on a puppet show for the residents at Kilometer 28, sharing the story of Jesus and the lost sheep.



Seminary students Edwin and Francisco pose with resident Juan, after speaking for hours.

Malachi Update

Malachi started part-time school in January and has been doing very well! His teachers are very impressed with his motor skills and intelligence, as well as his ability to shift focus to different activities. He enjoys playing with friends and classmates, helping Mom and Dad in the kitchen, watching Toy Story, and getting his hands dirty with playdough and paint.

Scripture in Motion



Scripture in Motion's February video is here! These videos are free to download and use. Visit <https://www.scriptureinmotion.com/> to learn more.



Prayers

- Prayers of thanks for our positive and productive transition into our new lives and roles in Santiago. We are grateful for all your support and love!
- Prayers for the residents and workers at Kilometer 28, that Jesus' love and grace would continue working wonders.
- Prayers for the 10 new missionaries in Santiago who are going through orientation and language learning before deploying to their respective countries.
- Continued prayers for Jordan's parents, Deb and Dale, as they continue searching for a new church home in southwest Florida.
- Prayers of thanks for Justin's father who has started serving in a wonderful prison ministry in Colorado. Pray for the ministry to continue unlocking hardened hearts for Jesus!

May God's everlasting love continue to uplift you throughout this new year!

Vivit,

J⁴ - Jesus, Jordan, Justin & Jamie Malachi

