

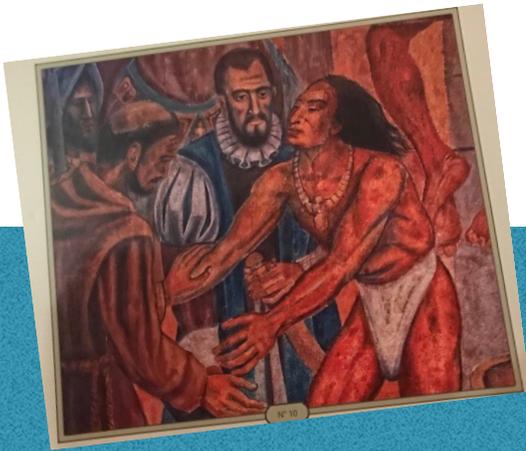
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SERVING THE LORD IN

# Latin America

News from Rev Dr Jonathan & Deaconess Cheryl Naumann



## *First Fruits of America in the Dominican Republic*

...is the name of this painting, which can be viewed in the museum at the old fort in Puerto Plata, near the harbor where Christopher Columbus anchored his ship. The scene depicts Guaticaganu from Macoriges, who, along with his whole family, was baptized by Ramón Pané on September 21, 1496.

Brother Pané was a monk of the Order of St. Jerome who came to the new world with Columbus on his second journey. He is famous for learning the language and culture of the Taíno peoples before witnessing to them in their own tongue, and also for being the author of the first book to be written by a Spaniard in the Americas.

*...el que siembra abundantemente,  
abundantemente también segará*

*...whoever sows abundantly will also harvest abundantly*

*2 Corinthians 9.9-11*

It was a joy to be able to offer anyone watching our Palm Sunday procession a copy of *Portals of Prayer* in the Spanish language. Those who received a copy were so appreciative that some wanted more than one, so that they could also give one to a friend. It felt great to 'sow abundantly' with the gift of God's Word that all people so desperately need.

And there is a promise attached to such abundant giving. '...As it is written: "He has scattered abroad His gifts to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your store of seed and will increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous on every occasion, and your giving through us will produce thanksgiving to God'.

I was also overjoyed to see that the Palm Sunday walk through the neighborhood drew a few new people in to the worship service. **You would have enjoyed being here to see this blessing from God! - And actually, in a way you were with me while sharing God's Word, as it is only through your generous prayer and financial support that I am here to further the worship of Jesus Christ in Latin America and the Caribbean. Thank you!**

*Pastor Jonathan*

Photos below: Pastor Jonathan distributes Spanish copies of *Portals of Prayer* on the street in Pueblo Nuevo.



Dear friends in Christ,

Few things are more entertaining or engaging for us than a walk or drive through the streets of a neighborhood, whether they be in Santiago or somewhere a little more rural. We never know what we might see or who we might be able to speak to. Often there are merchants at the side of the road selling nuts or fruit (like the bananas in photo 1) or they might be walking between cars at stop lights to sell windshield wipers, cellphone cable, flags, kites, or a variety of food or toys. Those who are selling sometimes also beg for money. A few days ago when driving home from church, after being told that we didn't need any of his wares, a man begged to have the half empty bottle of water he saw in our cup holder. Of course we gave the water to him. We cannot refuse water to a thirsty person - especially in light of Matthew 25:35!

The lady with the chicken under her arm (photo 2) was walking home after making her purchases at the same place where we bought our ten chicks. We had a nice little conversation but didn't find out if she was carrying her dinner or a new animal for her yard. Having chicks gives us a great talking point with others who have hens for eggs. People can be surprised at Jesus words in Luke 13: *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!* The Lord still desires all to be saved and wants to gather the peoples of all nations into His church. What a privilege to be used by Him in that task!

In the US, church secretaries normally acquire palm branches from a florist or through mail order. Before Holy Week, our mission pastor invited members of the congregation to bring their own palms to church for a Palm Sunday procession. In photo 3 you can see a man pushing a wheelbarrow of palms down the the street.



As we engage in our daily morning devotions, we often think of you, our brothers and sisters in Christ, and wonder how you are. Please do email us to let us know if there is anything that we can pray for on your behalf. We so appreciate your own prayers, and pray for you as well. ([jonathan.naumann@lcmsintl.org](mailto:jonathan.naumann@lcmsintl.org))

A special thank you to Deaconess Sarah Longmire who still sends out our printed newsletters, and to Trinity Lutheran in Traverse City, MI, which covers the printing.

A most blessed Holy Week to all!

Love in Christ,  
Deaconess Cheryl

*Please include in your prayers*

+ Comfort and peace for several missionaries who are going through bereavement in the Latin America & Caribbean Region (LAC); +That God would continue to bless Pastor Jonathan's efforts to establish and administer a good theological library for our the new seminary in Palmar Arriba; +That God would grant good health to us and all other LCMS missionaries as we carry out our work + For Odalis and others who are hearing, reading, or considering the Word of God in a serious way for the first time; +That God will bless new opportunities open to the LCMS in the LAC mission field by providing more missionaries to carry out the work; +For patience and joy for Josephine, a blind and homebound Christian whom Cheryl visits.



**Tax-deductible gifts to support the work of Jonathan & Cheryl Naumann can be given:**

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- + **By phoning the LCMS donor care line: 888-930-4438**
- + **By mailing checks to The LCMS, PO Box 66861, Saint Louis, MO 63166-6861 with "Jonathan Naumann - Latin America" on the check memo line**