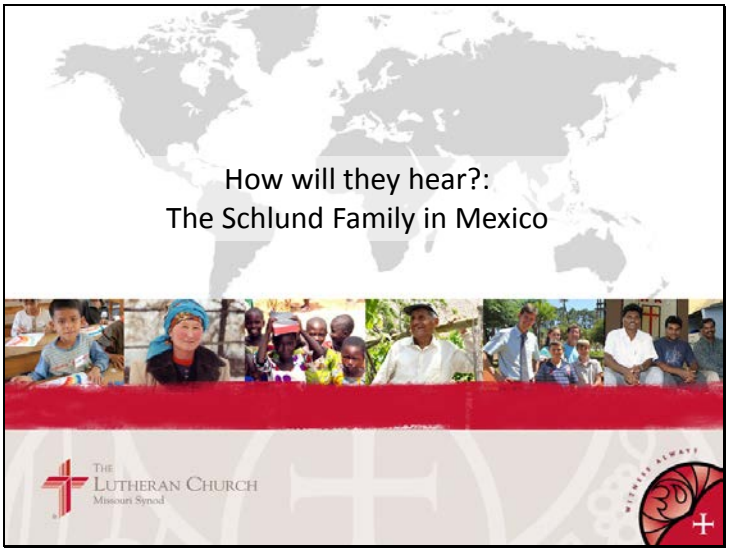
Slide 1



Slide that shows our name Romans 10:14-16 - **14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”**

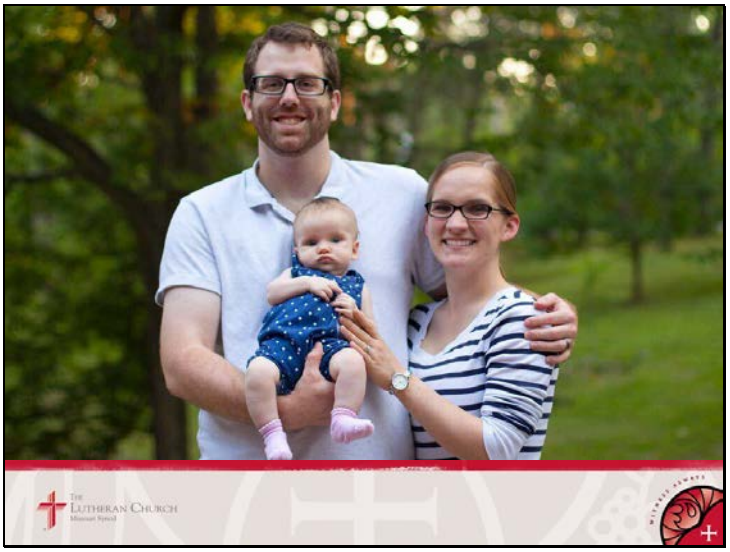
Slide 2

There are about 36 partner church bodies all around the world. Hopefully we can increase this number. Our efforts as missionaries are focused on six parts of the world: Latin America – red, North America- yellow, Africa – Orange, Eurasia – Blue, Asia Pacific – Green, and Southern Asia and Oceana- Purple

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod has many missionaries scattered around the world. Just in my missionary orientation class, we had one pastor going to Sri Lanka, one to Tokyo, Japan, another to Seoul, South Korea, another to Kenya, another to Ethiopia, another to Peru, another to Belize, Two teachers were going to Slovakia. Another teacher is going to Turkey. One woman is going to be the Director of the Wittenberg project in

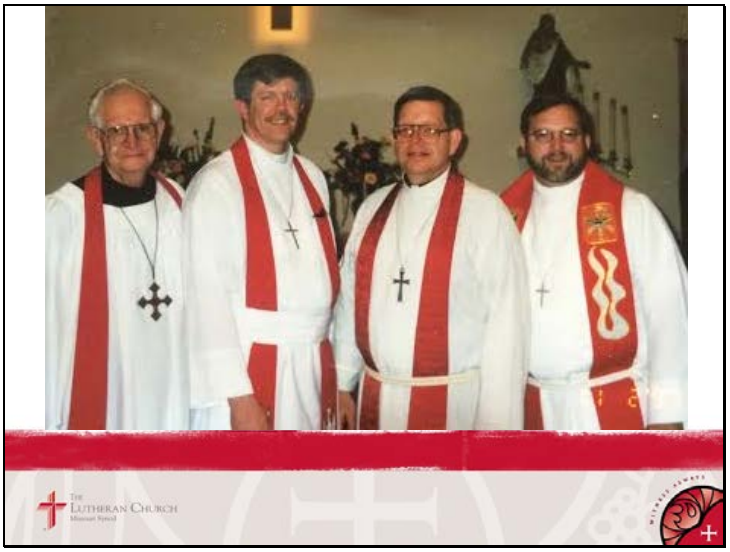
Germany. Another woman who is a nurse is going to Kenya as a medical missionary and educator.

Slide 3



5 mins- Welcome personal; background; introduce your family
Met at seward during college Married June 17, 2011 after 1st year at seminary
Charlotte – March 28, 2015
Received my call April 29, 2015 and here I am

Slide 4



Have you ever wondered why some people become pastors or missionaries? Sometimes, it is following in your families footsteps.
5 mins, talk about other pastors in the family Great-Great Grandpa Heinrich (came to US because he wanted to learn how to run hotels), Grandpa, Father, brother, 2 uncles, and 2 cousins
However this was not really my experience. Throughout most of my childhood I did not want to be a pastor much less a missionary
It wasn't until college that I started considering missionary work and pastoral work. The two went hand in hand.
ordination on July 19, 2015

Slide 5

When did you know that you wanted to be a missionary? No I am not talking about literally sowing seeds. Does anyone know what this place is and where it is?
Mission Central
As far as becoming a missionary, that may predate my desire to become a pastor. When I was young at my father's second congregation in Ravenna, NE. My father would let men like Gary Thies come to speak at his church.
So when I wanted to be a pastor in college, I also wanted to be a missionary but I met my lovely wife and she did not want anything to do with missionary work.
So you may be asking, why are you going to the mission field? This past fall the Graduate office at Concordia Seminary asked if any of the students had thought about teaching overseas. I said, "Yeah" but I knew that my wife though "Neah" so I really didn't think much of the email. I did mention it in passing to Kelsey and she said that it sounded like a good idea and so here we are. We also had other missionaries who came to speak. While I do not have an exact aha moment for wanting to become a missionary, I've always had a desire to go wherever they Lord would take me, including overseas.
http://www.missioncentral.us/missioncentral/about_us

Slide 6

LCMS calling you into service – sending service –
I am called by the LCMS to serve in the Lutheran Synod of Mexico.

pic of them from sending service

Slide 7

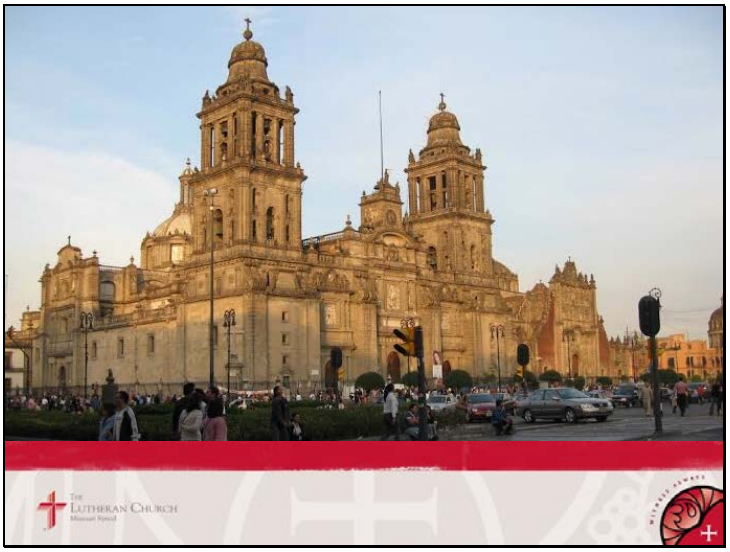
Here is where we are going.
Geographical information
Former Major Ancient City of the Aztecs Tenosh-teetlan
Located in a valley but still has a high elevation – 7,382’
What is your elevation? Decatur IL (677ft)

http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/namerica/mx.htm

Slide 8

Mexico City is a very large and diverse area with over 20 million people. One of the Largest cities in the World.
Image: http://www.theguardian.com/travel/2013/feb/08/walking-mexico-city-dbc-pierre

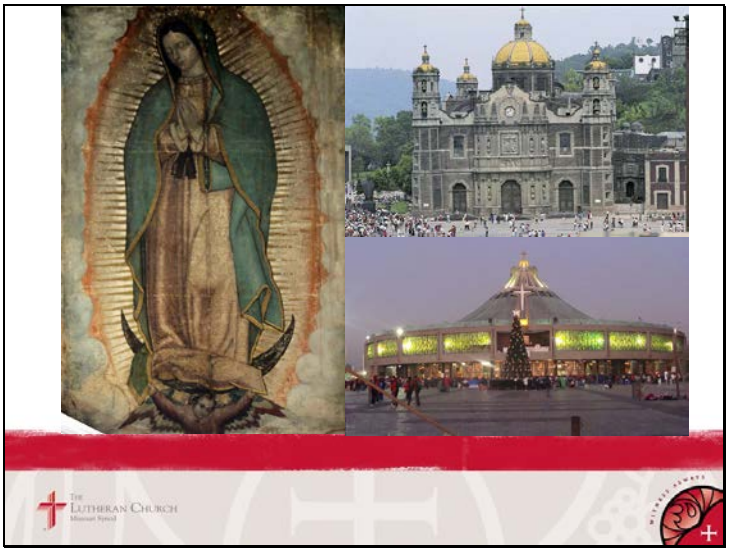
Slide 9



Mexico has a large Roman Catholic population.
The **Metropolitan Cathedral of the Assumption of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven** –

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7b/Mexico_Dic_06_045_1.jpg

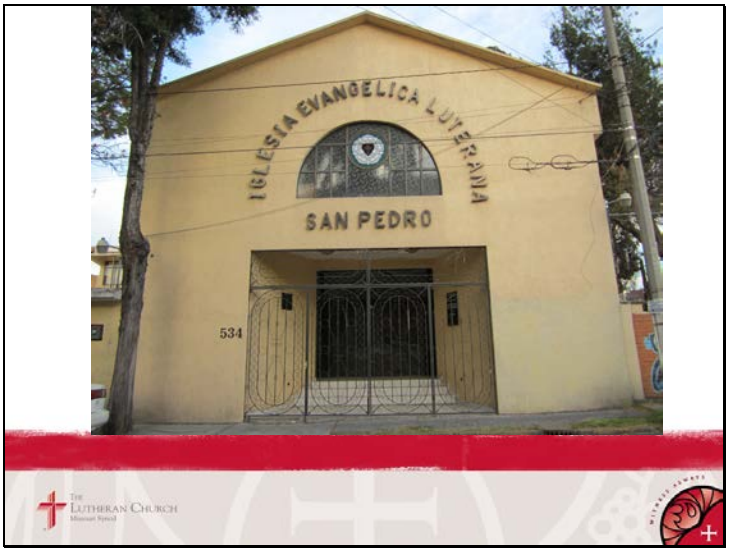
Slide 10



Mexico has a large Roman Catholic population. Lots of Mysticism, especially surrounding the Virgin Mary. The Virgin of Guadalupe is venerated.
Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. It is reported to house an image of the Virgin Mary that appeared on the cloak of Juan Diego. It is one of the most visited pilgrimage sites in the world.
Why go to Mexico when there are already lots of Christians? There are still many people who do not know about the free gift of salvation won by Jesus. I want to go to Mexico to tell people about Jesus, plain and simple

Image: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Our_Lady_of_Guadalupe, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basilica_of_Our_Lady_of_Guadalupe#/media/File:Basilica_de_Guadalupe.JPG, http://www.britannica.com/topic/Our-Lady-of-Guadalupe-patron-saint-of-Mexico

Slide 11



The Lutheran Synod of Mexico has asked the LCMS to send theological educators to assist in the formation her pastors. They are telling people about Jesus but they want to be able to do it better.
Right now the Lutheran Synod of Mexico has 10 congregations and 4 pastors and around 1200 member. The Lutheran synod of Mexico has asked what it means to be Lutheran and I will be going down to help them understand what that means.
Primarily, I will be working with the pastors in their churches by teaching some classes on the Bible and the Lutheran Confessions.
Currently they are taking online classes. I will be working with our other missionary Rev. Daniel Conrad in supplementing their education.

Image: https://cptlnmexico.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/img_1896.jpg

Slide 12

Currently there are three congregations associated with the Lutheran Synod of Mexico in Mexico City – San Pedro, San Pablo, and Buen Pastor
If the congregations desire, I will serve one of them part-time as a pastor doing all the things that a pastor usually does. I get to tell them about Jesus. Preach the Word, Administer the Sacraments, and visit the people. I am very excited to get to know a diverse range of people and I am excited to get to tell them about Jesus.
What worship is like:
Hymnals and liturgy in Spanish
Songs accompanied by piano or guitar

A special choir visits San Pedro Lutheran Church in Mexico City

Image: https://cptlnmexico.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/img_2600.jpg

Slide 13

Slide 14

LCMS work in Mexico City:
Lutheran Hour Ministries – Cristos Para Todas Las Nationales
BREAD program – provides lunches, Bible study, and vocational training for poor/unemployed – based in SLM churches

Slide 15

The food pantry is funded by the congregations

Slide 16

Slide 17

Youth group meeting – youth from several churches

Slide 18

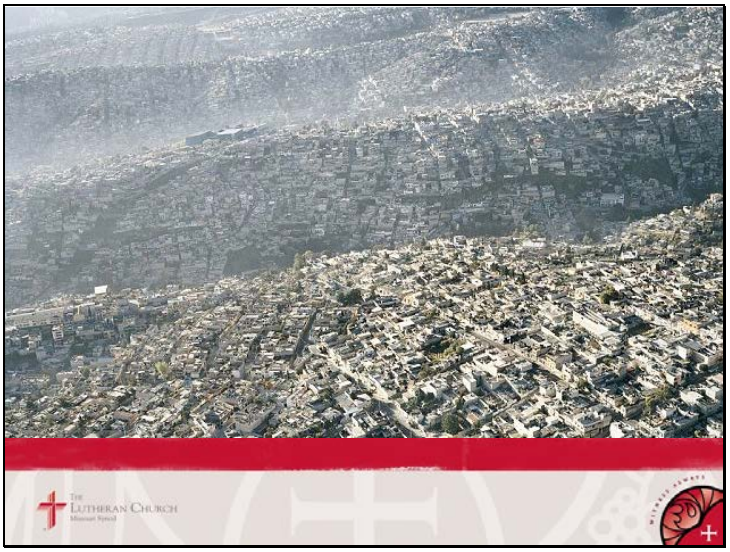
LHM and Lutheran partner congregations also provide health fairs where volunteers offer basic health/dental screenings and eductation

Image: https://cptlnmexico.files.wordpress.com/2015/06/dsc_0078-copia.jpg

Slide 19

Very large (>20 million) and modernized city
Split up into several different neighborhoods
Income inequality
Image: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mexico_City-12.jpg

Slide 20



Lots of suburban sprawl. Greater Mexico City region has >20 million people.
Pollution was a major issue. Starting in the 80s they started making strides to address the pollution.
Moved

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2401975/Amazing-aerial-photos-Mexico-City-natural-boundaries-stand-way.html

Slide 21

Transportation
Mexico City is frequently listed on “world’s worst places to drive” lists
Millions of cars, general disregard for traffic rules
The VW beetles are taxi cabs

https://timenewsfeed.files.wordpress.com/2011/09/newsfeed_mexicocity.jpg?w=455

Slide 22

Transportation
Public transportation easiest (cut back on pollution, heavy traffic, etc.)
Buses provided by government, but you can also find or hire private buses
Some buses have separate sections for women and children

Image: http://wikitravel.org/en/File:MexicoCityRTP.JPG

Slide 23

Transportation
The government also operates the Metro, the second largest metro system in North America

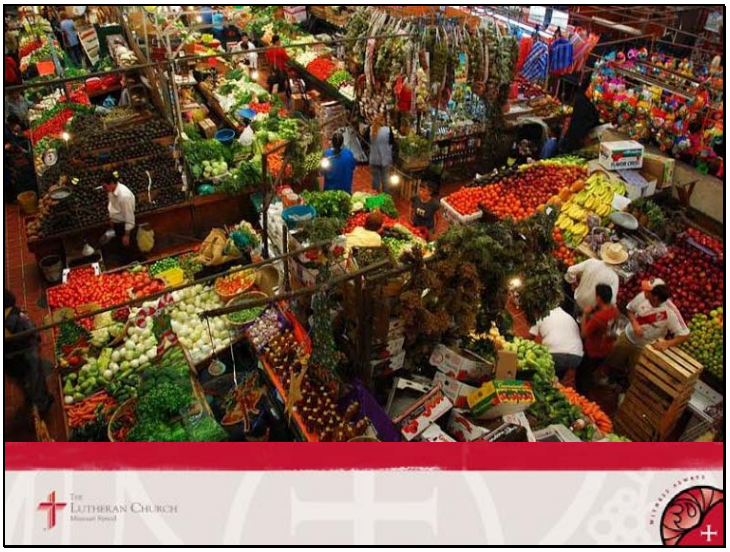
Image: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8e/Hpim3749-1-nm73a.jpg

Slide 24

There are many markets featuring food, crafts, artwork, etc.

http://cache-graphicslib.viator.com/graphicslib/media/39/la-merced-photo_8214329-fit468x296.jpg

Slide 25



http://i0.wp.com/inguadalajara.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/liberty_market_in_Guadalajara.jpg

Slide 26

While some shopping is done in markets, supermarkets and stores (like Walmart) are very common

http://s1.reutersmedia.net/resources/r/?m=02&d=20120815&t=2&i=642867276&w=644&fh=&fw=&ll=&pl=&r=CDEE87E1L9500

Slide 27

Culture – Time
If someone invites you over at a specific time, show up late – you are not expected to show up early or on time

How would you invite someone to church? Saying " would you like to come to church tomorrow at 9:30?" is considered very rude. It puts the other person in a an awkward position and embarrasses them. Instead, say something like "church is tomorrow at 9:30, I'll wait for you there."
https://static.pexels.com/photos/1778/numbers-time-watch-white.jpg

Slide 28

There is lots of excellent street food in Mexico City
Tacos al pastor – thinly sliced pork on a large skewer, cooked with chilies, spices, and pineapple; blend of traditional food and Lebanese migrant influence
http://www.theguardian.com/travel/2013/feb/08/best-places-eat-street-food-mexico-city
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taco#/media/File:01_Tacos_al_Pastor.jpg

Slide 29

Culture – Food
Mole – thick sauce with variety of ingredients (chilies, chocolate, etc.)
Lunch is the largest/main meal of the day
Dinner is a lighter meal and later than we're used to here

Slide 30

Before we deploy to Mexico, we will be attending Spanish school and learning about Latin American culture in the Dominican Republic

Slide 31

First of all, pray for us. Second, be like Barnabas and encourage us. We are going to a culture that is not our own, it will be difficult for us. I remember on vicarage that the favorite cards I received were those that encouraged me in my work.

Slide 32

- Please partner with LCMS: put your blog information, lcms.org/your webpage and where to send your gift to lcms
- There are many ways you can financially partner with God's work in Mexico City.
- First, you can partner as a congregation.
- Second, you can partner as individuals. (25, 50, 100 a month)
- If you go online, you can set up a direct payment option
- The financial support you give to the Mission in Mexico will strengthen the church there.
- I have enjoyed our time together. Thank you for allowing me to share about God's ministry in Mexico. Please pray about your decision to partner with LCMS in God's ministry to the people of Mexico.