

# THY STRONG WORD

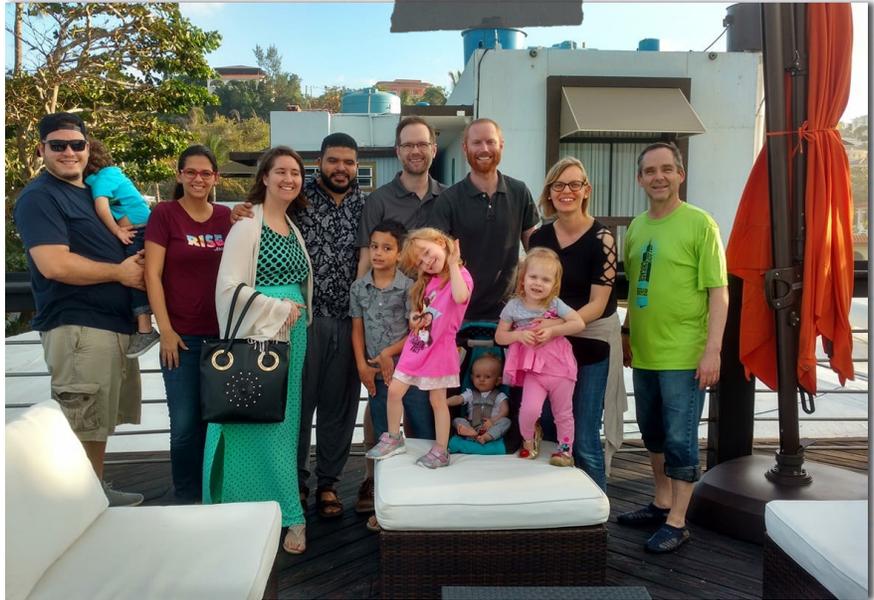
JANUARY 2019

## Mission Update

We praise God for everything that is happening in and through the Puerto Rico mission! As I've mentioned before, Anthony and Gustavo have been covering the pastoral duties in Ponce until Pastor James Neuendorf and his wife, Deaconess Christel, arrive on February 28. There is also a new deaconess intern, Stephanie Wilde, that will be joining them in Ponce. Prayers for them as they transition to the field are appreciated.

We are currently looking for a building in Ponce to purchase and use for all the work there. Anthony and Gustavo have spent significant time with a realtor finding just the right place. We think we found something, but it's still in process, so please pray that everything goes through in God's good timing.

One of Anthony's duties on the team is to help supervise our new satellite office of Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones (CPTLN), the Spanish equivalent of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Shortly after arriving to the field in October, the team hired a Puerto Rican woman named Yaritza to be the manager of the office. It will



be officially inaugurated at the upcoming FORO on March 24. Since it's a new office here in Puerto Rico, please pray for them as they set everything up, make connections in the community, and begin to share Jesus' love through CPTLN.

Anthony is now also supervising William Torres in his theological studies online through the Seminary in Fort Wayne. Anthony will watch the classes with him and work with

him on homework and be an on the field mentor.

We were able to spend time together as a team for a day and a half at a retreat/conference about an hour north of our home in Aguadilla. Our area facilitator, Pastor Charles St. Onge was here and Rev. Dr. Rick Marrs from Concordia Seminary St. Louis was our presenter. It was great to see him again and learn from him.



THE 3 KINGS ACT OUT THE STORY OF FOLLOWING THE STAR AND WORSHIPPING JESUS (ONCE AGAIN PLAYED BY LUCAS)



BLESSED TO SEE FAMILY AND FRIENDS IN ST. LOUIS



I SAW A RAINBOW FROM MY AIRPLANE FROM MAYAGUEZ TO SAN JUAN

# Personal update & Prayer Requests



Thank you for your prayers for Lucas's surgery last month and for Eliana starting preschool. The surgery went well, and we were able to fly to St. Louis the day after the huge snow storm (one day later than we initially planned). A big thank you to my parents for meeting us in STL and helping and to Anthony's mom for coming to PR to take care of the girls while I was gone. Eliana generally has a good time at preschool, but she does cry at drop off. Please pray that she would learn Spanish quickly (she's on her way!) and feel more comfortable at school.

We rang in the new year at home listening to all the fireworks and trying to get Lucas back to sleep after they woke him up. :) We were blessed to meet up with some friends from Good Shepherd in Collinsville while they were here visiting family. We also spent some time at the home of Joshua and Jonah, the two boys who were recently baptized in Mayaguez. We had a cookout and a lovely lunch at their beautiful home in the mountains of Mayaguez.

We also celebrated Three Kings Day at church on January 12th. It was an event geared toward children much like a Christmas event with crafts, Santa, etc., but instead of Santa, the three kings came and told the children about Jesus. Eliana started crying when she realized that Daddy was dressed up as one of the kings because she thought they would be the real kings. She got over it pretty quickly though. You can read an article Anthony wrote about Three Kings' Day here: <https://nonorthorsouth.com/2019/01/12/the-gifts-the-magi-bring/>

After getting back from Lucas's surgery in Saint Louis, we enjoyed two more weeks with Grandma. She even got to be here for Eliana's fifth birthday, which happened to be on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, so she got a day off from school that day! We went to a play place called Happy Land and invited our friends to join us there to celebrate with games and frozen yogurt.

## DONATION INFORMATION

Read our prayer card and give online at <https://www.lcms.org/diliberto>  
A check can be made to the LCMS with "DiLiberto" in the memo line and sent to: LCMS, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166

## Mission Central

Adopt Us as your missionaries by visiting <https://missioncentral.us/diliberto/A>  
A check can be made out to Mission Central with "A10898-69173" in the memo and sent to: Mission Central, 40718 HWY E16, Mapleton, IA 51034

**1. Praise God for a successful surgery and safe travel.**

**2. Thank God for 5 years of life for Eliana.**

**3. Please pray for Eliana as she continues to adjust to going to preschool.**

**4. Pray for the CPTLN office set up, the building search in Ponce, and William's seminary studies.**

**5. Praise God for keeping his promises!**

## PUERTO RICO FAST FACTS

I wanted to find a fast fact about rainbows in Puerto Rico because I see so many of them (it seems almost daily), but my quick google searches only led me to the chain of Rainbow stores, commentaries on the blends of culture in Puerto Rico, or LGBT information. So, I just want to share that rainbows are strikingly beautiful here and often times full half circles. While we are currently experiencing some culture shock, all the rainbows I see have reminded me of God's love for us and his promise not to destroy the earth but to give it and us new life in Jesus. This has been a great encouragement to me recently, and I pray this reminder will be that for you as well.



## CONTACT US - NEW ADDRESS!

Anthony & Jamie DiLiberto  
177 Ave. Algarrobo Apt 1603  
Mayaguez, PR 00682  
[jendorf17@gmail.com](mailto:jendorf17@gmail.com)

[ANTHONY'S BLOG  
NONORTHORSOUTH.COM](https://www.nonorthorsouth.com)

## Hymn of the Month: How Firm a Foundation, LSB 728, vs. 2

Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed, For I am your God and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.