



DOMINICAN FACTS

The Dominican Republic Flag is comprised of two red and two blue sections divided by a white cross. The coat of arms is in the center of the flag and reads, “Dios, Patria, Libertad” which means “God, Fatherland, Liberty”

The Dominican Republic is abbreviated “DR” and is “República Dominicana” in Spanish.



Holding my Adoption Agreement at the Mission Central Booth at the LWML Convention in Mobile.



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to kathryn.phillips@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

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The Beginning of a New Journey



My parents came to St. Louis for the Missionary Sending Service on May 30th at the International Center.

I am a Globally Engaged in Outreach (GEO) missionary, serving a two-year deaconess internship in the Dominican Republic. After the internship, I will receive a Masters of Arts in Deaconess Studies and be commissioned as a Deaconess in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

In the middle of May, I packed up my dorm room at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana and moved everything back to my parents’ house in Maryland, where I will be living until I leave for the Dominican Republic. A week later, I headed out to St. Louis for New Missionary Orientation! Seven other missionary families and I spent the week learning how to build our networks and prepare for life in another country. It was wonderful to get to know my new colleagues, particularly Cindy and Courtney whom I will be serving with in the DR.

As the date for my arrival in the DR draws closer (sometime this fall), I will be sharing more about what I will be doing there. For now, I will give you a broad description. I will be serving at one of the church plants in Santiago, teaching women’s and children’s bible studies as well as going on evangelistic visits. My focus will be working with people with disabilities throughout the Santiago area, particularly at Hogares Luteranos el Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd Lutheran Home).

The month of June was spent connecting with pastors over the phone and in person and visiting congregations. It has been fun meeting new people and sharing with them about how the Gospel is being spread in the Dominican Republic, how I will be a part of that, and what life is like in the DR. This will be my focus the next few months, and I would love to visit your congregation too! Please email me to schedule a visit.

I attended the Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) Convention in Mobile, Alabama June 20-23. I even found my Official Adoption Agreement at the Mission Central booth! I enjoyed seeing friends from across the country, and especially from the Southeastern District. I always appreciate hearing about the many ways people are caring for others and telling them about Jesus all around the world. These stories helped inspire me to become a deaconess and opened the doors to serving internationally.



Outside the congregation, school, and seminary in Palmar Arriba, Santiago, DR

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Safe travels while I visit the Midwest
- All those traveling to the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis and LCMS Convention in Tampa in July

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- The staff members at the LCMS International Center who help and support all the missionaries
- A successful LWML Convention
- Time with family from Maryland, Tennessee, and Alabama

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- The many congregations and individuals who pray for me, encourage and support me

There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

I will be visiting Mission Central at the beginning of next week. I'm looking forward to meeting many of the wonderful volunteers who work diligently in their communities to share the love of Jesus and do so much to get missionaries to the field to teach about Jesus in far away places. In between my Mission Central presentation and making a visit to Cedar Falls, Iowa, I will be at the LCMS National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. If you are there, please stop by the LCMS booth and say hi!

Update from the field!



This article appeared in a recent newsletter from the field: Doors are opening (again!) for the DRLM (Dominican Republic Lutheran Mission) in the state-run home for abandoned adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities near Santo Domingo. Our director, Dra. Marisol (above, left), hired after conditions improved drastically due to regular visits beginning in 2010, was asked to train new staff and create a rehabilitation program for the residents. In doing so, we'll be able to provide spiritual as well as practical guidance and continue to share the love of Jesus with the residents in regular Bible study. This is an opportunity we have been working toward and praying for. We are excited for the lives that will be improved and changed!

I look forward to updating you each month. Please keep in touch! I would love to hear from you, too. Thank you for your prayers and support as I prepare to serve the Lord in the Dominican Republic!

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.- Romans 8:38-39

Joyfully Serving in Christ, Kate Phillips



To support the LCMS through the work of Kate Phillips, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
PO Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

-or through-
Mission Central
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Please include "Phillips-Dominican Republic Support" on the memo line of your check.

