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Meet Your Missionary



Exterior of Iglesia Luterana Principe de Paz (Prince of Peace Lutheran Church) in Mayagüez.

FUN FACT ABOUT PUERTO RICO

On November 19, 1493 Christopher Columbus discovered the island on his second voyage to the New World.

Originally the newcomers called the island San Juan Bautista, for St. John the Baptist and the town Puerto Rico (Rich Port) because of its obvious excellent potentialities. It was not until later that the two names were switched.”

(welcome.topuertorico.org)

FUN FACT ABOUT YOUR MISSIONARY

My treat of choice is a Rice Krispy bar with a Gatorade, preferably blue, but any color will do.



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



My Parents, My Cousin, Dana, and I at my graduation.

Truth about this Picture: My dad is tall, and my mom is standing on a bench to decrease the height gap. 😊

BIENVENIDOAS MIS AMIGOS! WELCOME MY FRIENDS!

I am excited to be sharing my experience as a Globally Engaged for Outreach (GEO) missionary with you. For those of you who may not know me personally, I will share a little bit about myself. My hometown is Appleton, Wisconsin. I lived there until I attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, where I graduated in May with a Bachelor Arts in Social Work and a minor in Communications.

ABOUT ME

I have participated in two short-term mission trips to Haiti (2014) and Guatemala (2018). These trips are what put the thought of being a missionary on my heart. I have been a Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) at two LCMS National Youth Gatherings (New Orleans 2016 and Minneapolis 2019)

I hope this helps you learn a little more about me. I am looking forward to sharing these experiences with you.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *Patience during this time of transition*
- *Safe travels while I visit and present at different Churches around the U.S*
- *For the Puerto Rico Missionary Team: The Neuendorf's, The Maita's, The DiLiberto's, (Pictured Above) James Krey, Stephanie Wilde, and Myself (Not Pictured)*

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- *For the Congregations I have visited:*
 - *Saint John's Lutheran Church, Almond, WI,*
 - *St Paul Lutheran Church in Wild Rose, WI*
 - *Emmaus Lutheran Church, Poy Sippi WI,*
 - *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI,*
 - *Alleluia Lutheran Church, Wrightstown WI,*
 - *St. Paul Lutheran Church, Amherst WI, and*
 - *Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Moorhead MN.*

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- *My gracious and faithful supporters and for the people God has put in my life during this new chapter.*

New Journey and New Friends

The month of August began with new missionary orientation in St. Louis. It was a joy to meet other missionaries who will be serving around the world. While at orientation, I had the privilege to meet many amazing people who I become great friends. The rest of August and September was full of meeting new people, hearing their stories, and sharing with them what I will be doing in Puerto Rico.

One thing that I have been seeing clearer is that we interact with many different people. Every day we are surrounded by many people, the barista at Starbucks who gives us our coffee, our coworkers, the grocery store clerk, our family, our friends, etc. God puts people in our lives for a reason. Sometimes the reason for the relationships may be unknown or for a short period of time; however, God uses them to strengthen, encourage, and build each other up. You might not see the impact you had on others' lives, but God is using those relationships.

As I have been building my support network, I am seeing this more clearly than before. During missionary orientation, and while visiting churches, I have met people that I would not have known or meet if it wasn't for God using them in my life. I have had the opportunity to meet neighbors, that I would not have connected with before becoming a missionary. The people I have met are wonderful and truly a blessing. I have learned something from every church I have visited. I thank and praise God every day for the opportunity to meet and hear stories from my brothers and sisters in Christ. I look forward to visiting more churches in the coming months.

I am excited to back be in St. Louis for week two of missionary orientation. I am learning about preparing for my transition to the field and learning tools that I will be using as I serve aboard. Thank you for your support in this transition and I look forward to having your partnership as I serve in Puerto Rico.



Ya te lo he ordenado: ¡Sé fuerte y valiente! ¡No tengas miedo ni te desanimés! Porque el Señor tu Dios te acompañará dondequiera que vayas (Josué 1:9)

- Ashley Lehr



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."

To support the LCMS through the work of **Ashley Lehr** you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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