

missionaryMAC

News from Erin Mackenzie, serving the Lord in the Dominican Republic (DR) | missionaryMAC.blogspot.com

Vendors selling cold drinks, roasted cashews, and fresh, tropical fruit are a common sighting at busy intersections in the Dominican. Wares such as windshield wipers and car chargers are also *logical*, readily available choices. I've seen the weird and the wacky, though!

Child-sized rocking chairs?!?

Pet fish?!?

Kites?!?

Phone cases?!?

Feather dusters?!?

Piggy banks?!?

(If you received a hard copy of this and would like to help me be green and save on postage, please send an email to erin.mackenzie@lcms.org.)

E.M. Go Home [Service]

February 2 marked my 18-month anniversary on the field. Praise God for His faithfulness thus far in my missionary journey! By His grace, I'm excited to be planning my first "home service" - a biennial, stateside furlough for enjoying time with family and friends, taking care of mundane tasks, and, above all, [re-]connecting with current and potential supporters.

[Note: For a refresher on how LCMS missionaries are funded, click [here!](#)]

Donor care (thanking and communicating with supporters) represents about 25% of my job description while in the field. During home service, the pendulum will swing in the other direction: I'll be in support-raising mode about 75% of the time and, while not neglecting my on-field duties, only spending about 25% of my time attending to essential tasks.

I'll depart for the US on August 10 and be available to visit, share, and present as often as I'm able between then and the end of September. That's less than six months from now, aka NOT too soon to start sketching out a road map (literally!) of what my time in the States will look like.

If you (or your congregation, school, LWML group, Bible class, Sunday school class, youth group, church council, mission board, etc.) would like a visit and/or missionary presentation, [email me](#). As was the case during my initial, pre-deployment network-building phase, my weekends are limited, so **midweek invitations** will be especially helpful in maximizing my time. I'll include a scheduling update in each newsletter between now and August as plans solidify.

Pray for me as I prepare to share about the Church's work in Latin America and the Caribbean, how God has been using me as a vessel in said work, and the new normal of my crazy, beautiful life!



Fellow missionary Johanna and I at the bottom of a (muddy!) new hike.





Praises and Petitions

1. Thanksgiving for a hassle-free residency card renewal.
2. Thanksgiving for the rapid progress on the Concordia the Reformer Seminary library in recent weeks.
3. For fellow missionaries planning weddings (Danelle, Jamielynn, and Stephanie)!
4. For Buby, a young man who attends the Lutheran church in La Victoria, Lima, Peru, who was recently diagnosed with rapidly metastasizing skin cancer.
5. For the safety of all missionaries, their families, and their belongings.

The Great Latin North

LAC is a culturally and geographically vast region, spanning three continents from the US/Mexico border to the southern tip of Chile, plus Spain (although not part of the Americas nor the Caribbean...) and Montreal. Yes, the northernmost outpost of LAC is in CANADA! Emperor Napoleon III coined the term “Latin America,” to distinguish French, Spanish, and Portuguese holdings in the New World from the “United States of America.” As the largest city in Francophone Quebec, Montreal fits the bill!



Rev. Charles St-Onge

Area Facilitator Rev. Charles St-Onge lives in Montreal and dedicates 20% of his time to a multiethnic SELC parish there when he’s not island hopping in the Caribbean. Ironically, the latter is often easier and more economical for him than those of us who *live* there. Montreal even had its first FORO in September 2019 and is currently seeking a [structural engineer or architect](#) to spend a week or so as an OIM short-term volunteer.

LAC’s truly global scope reminds us that “In Christ there is no east or west / In Him no south or north / But one great fellowship of love / Throughout the whole wide earth” (LSB653).



In my element! L to R: On kitchen duty at Camp Concordia in Belize; garlic bread for a crowd and keeping the relief bag assembly line tidy in Puerto Rico.



Quote of the Month!

“To travel is to live.” –Hans Christian Andersen

To support the LCMS through me, you may give a tax-deductible gift...

- **online**, securely from any device: lcms.org/givenow/mackenzie;
- by **calling** a donor care representative: 1-888-843-5267; or
- by **sending a check** (with “Mackenzie/Latin America” on the memo line) to:
 - ⇒ LCMS, PO Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861; or
 - ⇒ Mission Central, 40718 Highway E 16, Mapleton, IA 51034.

