

missionaryMAC

News from Erin Mackenzie, serving the Lord in Latin America & the Caribbean | missionaryMAC.blogspot.com

What's on the money? (Part I)

(*All coins feature the national emblem on the reverse.)



1 peso
~ \$0.02

Front: Juan Pablo Duarte,
founding father



5 pesos
~ \$0.09

Front: Francisco del Rosario
Sánchez, founding father



10 pesos
~ \$0.19

Front: Matías Ramón Mella,
founding father



25 pesos
~ \$0.46

Front: Gregorio Luperón, hero
of the restoration

(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.)

Breaking the Limit

Lettering—particularly Bible lettering in my circles—is trending right now. From Wikipedia: “Lettering is an umbrella term that covers the art of drawing letters, instead of simply writing them.”

Together with some other LAC missionary women, I completed an [April Bible lettering challenge](#) that saw us letter a different verse each day. About midway through, it hit me. I don't *enjoy* lettering. There. I said it. I persisted until the 30th because I finish what I start, but I won't be adding Tombow's newest marker sets to my Christmas list or practicing thin upstrokes and thick downstrokes in my spare time. (No disrespect to Visual Faith Ministry, featured in my [April newsletter](#) and on page 2.)

I feel pressured to like lettering, which childishly makes me not want to. But even more so: I'm a self-proclaimed perfectionist. My attempts at swirly, flowing strokes look like a second grader learning cursive. My uptight hand muscles know the rules and can't seem to break them. Psalm 119:96, then, spoke to me:

I have seen a limit to all perfection, but your commandment is exceedingly broad.

My friends long ago dubbed my handwriting “Mackenzie Font.” I've come to terms with and even embraced the straight-laced part of who I am. But even printing that tends to go in evenly spaced, straight lines on a blank sheet of paper will never be perfect. In fact, my best efforts at anything this side of heaven will always fall short because nobody's perfect, except One Man. Thanks be to God for sending His flawless Son Jesus Christ to break the limit to perfection—to fulfill the “letter” of the law on our behalf, die, and rise again. His victory is our invitation into the impeccable bliss of His eternal Kingdom!





God's Gifts

OIM's new [English Conversation Partner program](#) kicks off in earnest this month! English has long been a bridge between the communities in which missionaries serve and local church bodies, though.

Home Service Corner

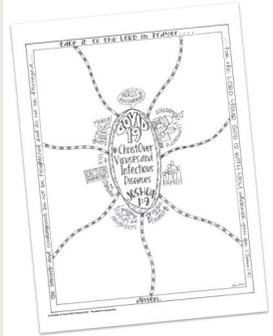
Due to COVID-19, my home service plans are on pause indefinitely.

Eurasia in particular has employed English Bible camps as part of its church planting strategy for several summers in a row now, so it only made sense for a team of experienced missionaries and others to collaborate on a resource that didn't need to be "Lutheranized" first. "God's Gifts" helps children strengthen their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills, all while teaching five stories from the book of Acts that highlight God's gifts of the Holy Spirit, teachers, faith, joy and life. A second curriculum is in development as of this writing.

TELL NEW NEIGHBORS ABOUT JESUS AS THEY PRACTICE ENGLISH



Learn more and download God's Gifts for **FREE** to use in your church or community [here](#).



Christ Over Viruses and Infectious Diseases!

This month, use the [Visual Faith Ministry COVID-19 Prayer Sheet](#) to pray for...

- Government & community
- Family
- Work & finances
- Friends & neighbors
- The sick & stranded
- Medical staff & caregivers



Left: Santiago's cathedral by night; *Center:* Courtney & I at the La Remembranza cigar factory; *Right:* I've always known my neighborhood was abloom with mangoes, passion fruit, sour oranges, coconuts, and plantains, but who knew there was a cashew tree, too?!

Quote of the Month!

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

—Maya Angelou

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.

