



Rafael and I invite you to give thanks to God along with us because Rafael's paperwork has been released in Venezuela and is on its way to Santiago; delivery is expected next week. Please continue to pray that the process to begin his legal residency locally and our legal civil marriage will go smoothly, according to God's will.

"Goin' to the chapel and we're gonna get married!"

According to the will of our faithful God, Rafael and I plan to be married next month,

**August 22nd!**



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to [jamielynn.tinkey@lcms.org](mailto:jamielynn.tinkey@lcms.org) with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

## Mission Moments



Our mission churches here in the Dominican Republic re-opened their doors the first Sunday in June, as our country moved into the next phase with the re-opening of offices and public spaces during the coronavirus pandemic.

*I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Psalm 122*

It was a huge blessing to participate in person worship again after months of worshipping online. I am thankful for our faithful church planting pastors who provided opportunities across several platforms to reach their members as well as new contacts during the time they could not "GO" as we have been commanded. Now, with the opportunity to worship in community again, I am thankful!

### **Life Ministry in Latin America**

In May, we hosted a Life workshop led by Pastor Michael Salemink of "Lutherans for Life" to our missionaries in six weeks of education on life topics and a gospel approach to life questions. Our missionaries provided a lot of great feedback and conversation in the sessions! I am looking forward to collaborating and getting this educational opportunity in workshop format out to our missions and partner churches around Latin America and the Caribbean.

With the LCMS Life Ministry position in the LCMS Office of National Mission now filled by Deaconess Tiffany Manor, we have been meeting regularly in order to make connections and resources. Stay tuned here: [lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/life-ministry](https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/life-ministry) as Tiffany promotes and produces newsletters, educational events, life-affirming reading, and more for the Synod's work in promoting and protecting the lives of all people.



As a BIG change happens around here, when our two lives become one, you may see some changes coming to my giving page, Facebook page and this newsletter. We will be create updates for you together, with information on both my service and Rafa's studies. You will read news from Rafael himself, get updates on the seminary, and hear prayer requests from us as a couple.

We are looking forward to beginning our life in the Dominican Republic together, and trust in God to guide us into the future. Our life will be one of new adventures, continued ministry, and steadfast faith in our loving Father.

We pray that you will continue to be prayer warriors and supporters for us as a couple, just as you have supported me through the years as an individual. Along with your prayers and encouragement, your financial support continues to be an important blessing. This year, those gifts will not only support my work, but begin to also support Rafael in his continued studies to become a pastor!

The following is a greeting from Rafael; he has written in Spanish and my translation can be found underneath. Rafael speaks English well (when he wants to!), and continues with English classes this summer through our regional Language Institute.

However, he's decided to write to you today in his native language:

Hola a todos, saludos en Cristo Jesús, Hello to all, greetings in Jesus Christ,

Mi nombre es Francisco Rafael Flores Saavedra (Rafa), soy Venezolano y tengo 31 años de edad, tengo 7 hermanos, papá y mamá. Estudié por 2 años en el seminario en Venezuela con pastor Ted Krey en el 2009. Salí de mi país en el 2016 y fui a Chile donde la Iglesia Luterana en este país me recibió muy bien. Allá estuve casi 2 años como miembro hasta que me enviaron a estudiar al Seminario Concordia El Reformador en la República Dominicana.

My name is Francisco Rafael Flores Saavedra (Rafa), I am Venezuelan and 31 years old. I have 7 brothers and sisters, and a mom and dad. I studied for two years in the seminary in Venezuela with Pastor Ted Krey in 2009. I left my country in 2016 and went to Chile where the Lutheran Church there received me very well. I was there almost two years as a member until they sent me to study in the Dominican Republic at Concordia Seminary "The Reformer".

Estoy muy agradecido con Dios por la oportunidad que me da de nuevo de seguir adelante con mis estudios teológicos. Voy a comenzar mi 3er año Lectivo y solo me faltará un año más para graduarme y estar listo para ser pastor. Según la voluntad de Dios, el próximo año estaré, con Jamielynn, de regreso a Chile para hacer mi vicariato. En eso, estaré ayudando a las diferentes iglesias y pastores en el trabajo misional. Mi deseo es servir primeramente a nuestro Señor por medio de esta vocación, predicando su Evangelio a todas personas y ayudar tanto físico como espiritual a todos los que necesiten.

I am so thankful to God for the opportunity He has given me again to continue moving forward with my theological studies. I am going to begin my 3rd year of studies here and I will only have one year left to graduate and be ready to be a pastor. According to God's will, next year Jamielynn and I will be on the way back to Chile to complete my vicarage. In this time, I will be helping the different churches and pastors in the mission work of the Lutheran Church of Chile. My desire is to serve first our Lord through this vocation, preaching His Gospel to all people and help in both the physical as well as the spiritual to those who need it.

Doy gracias a Dios también por colocar a una mujer tan especial en mi vida como es Jamielynn y poder compartir mi vida junto con ella. Y ya comprometidos para casarnos y unirnos en santo matrimonio, ella ha sido sin duda un regalo de Dios para mi vida.

I give thanks to God for putting such a special woman like Jamielynn in my life and to be able to share my life with her. And now, as we are engaged to be married and united in holy matrimonio, she has without a doubt been a gift from God for my life.

Gracias por todo su apoyo para con nosotros. Espero que nos tengan en sus oraciones y sin duda nosotros estamos orando cada día por ustedes.

Thank you for all of your support for us. I hope that you will keep us in your prayers and without a doubt we will be praying each day for you.

Un abrazo en Cristo, Francisco Rafael Flores

I invite you to read these verses with me from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11

"**Todo tiene su tiempo, y todo lo que se quiere debajo del cielo tiene su hora.**  
For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

**Tiempo de nacer, y tiempo de morir; tiempo de plantar, y tiempo de arrancar lo plantado;**  
a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

**tiempo de matar, y tiempo de curar; tiempo de destruir, y tiempo de edificar;**  
a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

**tiempo de llorar, y tiempo de reír; tiempo de endechar, y tiempo de bailar;**  
a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

**tiempo de esparcir piedras, y tiempo de juntar piedras; tiempo de abrazar, y tiempo de abstenerse de abrazar;**  
a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

**tiempo de buscar, y tiempo de perder; tiempo de guardar, y tiempo de desechar;**  
a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

**tiempo de romper, y tiempo de coser; tiempo de callar, y tiempo de hablar;**  
a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

**tiempo de amar, y tiempo de aborrecer; tiempo de guerra, y tiempo de paz.**  
a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

**¿Que provecho tiene el que trabaja, de aquello en que se afana?**  
What gain has the worker from his toil?

**Yo he visto el trabajo que Dios ha dado a los hijos de los hombres para que se ocupen**  
I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with.

**Todo lo hizo hermoso en su tiempo; y ha puesto eternidad en el corazón de ellos, sin que alcance el hombre a entender la obra que ha hecho Dios desde el principio hasta el fin.**  
He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

**Yo he conocido que no hay para ellos cosa mejor que alegrarse, y hacer bien en su vida;**  
I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live;  
**y también que es don de Dios que todo hombre coma y beba, y goce el bien de toda su labor.**  
also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil; this is God's gift to man."

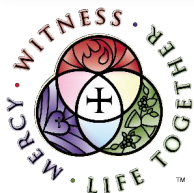
#### A Prayer written by Rafael:

**Señor Jesús, gracias por tu infinita misericordia para conmigo, perdóname todas las veces que he confiado más en mis caminos y no en los tuyos, te pido que en el momento de la angustia te quedes siempre a mi lado, dándome la paz que solo Tu puedes dar. Bendice y cuida a todos aquellos que sufren Todo esto te lo pido en el nombre de tu amado Hijo Jesucristo, nuestro Señor. Amén**

Lord Jesus, thank You for your infinite mercy for me, forgive me for all the times that I have trusted more in my ways and not in Yours. I ask that in moments of anguish You stay always by my side, giving me the peace that only You can give. Bless and care for all those who suffer. All this I ask You in the name of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

#### Pray with Us:

- in THANKSGIVING for God's faithfulness in trial
- in THANKSGIVING for Rafael's paperwork progress
- in THANKSGIVING for the upcoming marriage of Jamielynn and Rafael
- in PETITION that all people may come to know our Savior Jesus Christ
- in PETITION for continued health and safety



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](http://lcms.org/service). Click on "Service"

Interested in supporting God's work in Latin America through His missionary?

Visit [lcms.org/Tinkey](http://lcms.org/Tinkey) or send a tax-deductible donation (**Memo: Jamielynn Tinkey**) to:

#### LCMS

P.O. Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Or to our wonderful friends and co-workers at:

#### Mission Central

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