



La Familia Krey. My shelter in place family.

PHOTOS FROM MY LAST SUNDAY IN THE DR

Thank you to the team in the DR that supported, worked with, and loved me the 6 months I was there. I am thankful for the family I have there. Not all pictured here but all hold a place in my heart.



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.

I AM IN PUERTO RICO!

Exciting announcement time! I have officially made it to Puerto Rico after being in the Dominican Republic for 6 months. I arrived in Puerto Rico on Monday July 13th. I transitioned quickly to PR because of changes being put in place regarding entering and leaving the Island due to COVID-19. Praise God that all travel went smoothly and that there were no problems getting to PR.

After arriving in PR, I started a wonderfully busy summer. I was picked up at the airport in San Juan by Pastor Gustavo Maita. As we traveled across the Island to Mayagüez we stopped in Ponce for dinner to celebrate my arrival with the team members that live there. My first week on the Island, I lived with the Pastor Anthony and Jamie Diliberto, and their children. The following week I spent a few days living in Ponce with Pastor James and Deaconess Christel Neuendorf and I ended the week by staying with Pastor Gustavo and Ruth Maita and their baby.



After a month of living with other missionaries, I signed a contract and moved into my own apartment. This is the first apartment I have ever rented. I live in the same apartment complex as the Maitas.

I was installed as a missionary in Mayagüez at Iglesia Luterana Príncipe de Paz by Pastor Anthony DiLiberto, Pastor James Neuendorf and Pastor Gustavo Maita on July 25th.

Only after living in Puerto Rico for a few weeks, I experienced my first tropical storm. Tropical Storm Isaías was the biggest storm our team has experienced this year. The most damage experienced by the storm was seen in Mayaguez with many areas of flooding. As a team we were able to help church members, and neighbors clean up their homes after the storm.





My Installation to the PR Mission Team

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Times of transition and Changes.
- New and continuing ways to spread the Gospel
- For all the fields in our region that are affected by hurricanes during this 2020 hurricane season.
- Healing around the world

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- To PR mission team for welcoming me with open arms, by picking me up at the airport, feeding me dinner, and for opening their homes to me.
- The success of our first virtual VBS.
- Finding an apartment and a smooth move

PRAISE GOD FOR:

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



The Puerto Rico Mission Team

During the time of the storm I was living with the Maitas. We were watching the storm on the news when a big wave of rain came, and the power went out. During the power outage, Ruth played the piano and we sang hymns from the hymnal including "God's Own Child I Gladly Say It." Pastor Gustavo kept me relaxed during the day and many other times with a simple phrase. **Paz en Cristo, Peace in Christ.** Our peace is not of this world but in Christ.

I have now lived in Puerto Rico for two months and I am getting settled in nicely with the help of the mission team here. I have been busy serving the Lord and the people of PR. My work thus far has included helping with English class, disaster response, communication, and church activities.

← Thank you to all of you my partners on this journey, for your prayers, support, and encouragement. I looked forward to starting and sharing my life in my field of service with you. →

God's Blessings

Ashley

Join my Facebook where I share more frequent updates:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SendAshley/>



My work with our English outreach involves writing lessons and teaching our classes alongside our English team. Each week I send the lessons to the students and remind them of class through social media and email.

I also work alongside Pastor Gustavo to help with disaster response. We are now in the midst of the most active hurricane season on record in the Caribbean. The month of August has been spent preparing for hurricanes by buying supplies and counting inventory in order to be prepared for any possible hurricanes.

One of my roles within the team is communications. I have been tasked writing the Puerto Rico FORO Newsletter. Due to the pandemic, I have not been able to work with short term teams, but I am hoping I will be able to work more with this in the coming year. Other work I have been doing is printing off bulletins and taking attendance for Sunday worship. I have also been helping weekly with lawn maintenance at church. I look forward to walking alongside the mission team and the people of Puerto Rico while serving our gracious Lord.



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](https://www.lcms.org/service). Click on "Service Opportunities."

You can support my work by giving online to www.lcms.org/lehr or

A check can be made payable to the **LCMS** with **Ashley Lehr** in the memo to:

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

Mission Central

Adopt me as your missionary by visiting missioncentral.us/Lehr/

A check can be made out to **Mission Central** with "A10899-69467" in the memo and sent to: Mission Central 40718 HWY E16 Mapleton, IA 51034