

# Misericordia Activa

## *An Active Mercy*

The love of Christ at work in the streets of Latin America

News from the **Ramirez Family** serving the Lord in the **Dominican Republic**.

Ramirez Family in Michigan Summer 2020



### Ramirez Family Personal Update

We are thankful to have taken two weeks of vacation in July to visit family in Michigan and complete medical check-ups. Abraham, mommy and baby girl all received clean bills of health. We were able to set everything up for our daughter's arrival in Michigan in Mid-November. After this vacation we unfortunately had to do two weeks of isolation and quarantine upon return to the Dominican Republic. In August, two of our best friends on the mission field got married, a fellow seminary student from Venezuela and an American missionary. We are thankful for friends who become family on the mission field.

### Adapted Home Service

We are excited to share that our daughter's arrival and birth in the States will allow us to be in the U.S. for several months and during that time to focus on connecting with you our faithful supporters! We will be able to travel within Michigan to share updates with your congregation/group during October and again in January. From October to January, we will also be available to meet with your church/bible study group virtually. Please contact us to set up your in person visit if you are in Michigan and your virtual visit if you are further away. We would love to visit with you and share more about the mission field. Please email me at [Caitlin.ramirez@lcms.org](mailto:Caitlin.ramirez@lcms.org) or call Debbie Worden at 269.753.1357.

### Confirmations

Each summer we try to focus on evangelism efforts in some way. Last summer it was with weekend evening prayer services. We're excited to report that in July we celebrated six confirmations. Three of these were adults who joined us during last summer's evening prayer services. The other three were youth confirmations. Praise the Lord for these new members of the Lutheran Church. This year's evangelism efforts are connected to our VBS and it's follow-up, read more about it on the next page.



Confirmation July 2020

For more news updates, stories and photos follow us on Facebook, search for RamirezMissions.

Please contact me at [caitlin.ramirez@lcms.org](mailto:caitlin.ramirez@lcms.org) or by mail at 2272 Ramblin Dr. Battle Creek, MI 49014

**Prayer Requests:**  
**Thanksgiving**  
**& Needs**

We pray for the new academic year to begin at the seminary in September.

We rejoice for the Confirmations this summer and continue to pray for the new members.

We give thanks for our VBS and pray for our evangelism efforts to the new families.

Please continue to pray for Peru and the mission there. (Check out our Facebook page for updates on whats been happening in Peru.)

Please pray for the Lord's protection during hurricane season June-November.

Please pray with us for Baby's healthy development and safe arrival in November.

**Virtual VBS in the Home**

Adjusting to this new reality, we held VBS virtually this year. The ladies of the church prepared kits to be used in the homes and then recorded videos of the teaching. Each day the ladies walked the neighborhood and passed out the kits and checked work and activities from the day before. It was the responsibility of the parents to help their children watch the videos, learn the bible stories and then up-load a photo or short video of the child's work. Normally we have about 10 kids in our Sunday school program. We had 50 children participate in this VBS and 30 of them had perfect participation for the week. It was a real joy to see the ladies of the congregation work together for the children and encouraging for everyone in the church to be active sharing the Word of the Lord and doing evangelism after so many months of forced slowness and distancing.



VBS in the Dominican Republic 2020

**Politics in the Dominican Republic and Life with COVID-19**

The month of July saw many Dominicans throw caution to the wind and return to a normal life. As a result the numbers of COVID-19 cases and deaths spiked. The U.S. State department removed covid related travel bans for most of the world, however the Dominican Republic still remains at a 'level 4 do not travel'. There are 89,867 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 1,533 confirmed deaths. A new president was elected and took office in the Dominican Republic. As a part of his new policies to control the spread of COVID-19 there has been a lot of media coverage to create fear. The government also reinstated daily curfew of 7pm and 5pm on the weekends. Most Dominicans believe that this should be stricter or that we should be mandated to stay at home completely. As missionaries we have been struggling with the fear in the hearts of our people. The church is able to hold services and events without restrictions, yet many times these events have low attendance because people are too scared of getting the virus to come. The virus and the fear that it causes have become the greatest tools of the devil to keep people from hearing the Word of the Lord. Please continue to pray for our members and the missionaries serving them.

To support our work financially, you may send a tax-deductible gift marked "Support of Ramirez Family" to:

Mission Central 40718 Highway E16, Mapleton, IA 50134

This will then be forwarded on the LCMS. You can also give directly

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod PO Box 790089 St. Louis, MO 63179 Or online at [www.lcms.org/ramirez](http://www.lcms.org/ramirez)