



**Interesting Facts About the state of Nayarit, Mexico**

- + Nayarit is one of the smallest Mexican states.
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- + The indigenous people of Nayarit are distantly related to the Aztecs.
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- + Although it is relatively small in area, Nayarit has hundreds of miles of rain forests.
- + The town of Sayulita, located in Nayarit state, is known for its surfing beaches.
- + The Sierra Madre Occidental Mountains run through part of Nayarit.
- + Nayarit's economy has been historically based on the agricultural sector. The main crops include coffee, sugar, corn, tobacco, and tomatoes, which is augmented by livestock and commercial fishing.

## Greetings from Mexico!

We pray that all of you had a blessed Christmas, New Year, and Epiphany celebration. Amid the pandemic the Christ child continues to shine his light in all parts of the world.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of January Kathy's mother, Helen Burns, was taken to her eternal home. This event continues to fill us with sadness. At the same time, we rejoice in the new life that Helen has through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. The Lord lifts us with his promise, "...I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die" (John 11:25)

The winter academic semester is underway, and Dan is teaching one course to the seminarians in the Dominican Republic and coteaching another to the deaconesses of Guatemala. We give thanks to God for these future kingdom workers who will serve the Lord throughout Latin America. Both of these courses are being taught via the ZOOM application.

The Covid virus continues to curtail many of the activities that we normally celebrate in homes and in the sanctuaries. Nonetheless the Word of the Lord continues to go forward. The Psalmist declares, "Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God." (Psalm 42:11) These divine words give us hope and strength amid the present pandemic in Mexico and in all parts of the world.

The faculty of "Seminario El Reformador" in the Dominican Republic. The seminarians hail from 10 Latin American countries.



Pictured from left to right: Daniel Conrad, Sergio Fritzler, Roberto Benancourt, Joel Fritsche, Arthur Just, David Preus, Andrew Schlund, Jonathan Naumann, Don Wiley, Sergio Maita, Ted Krey, and Lawrence Rast.



### We Pray For

- + Missionary Andrew Schlund and his family as they return to the United States.
- + The future pastors and deaconesses who are in formation.
- + The future deaconesses of Mexico and Guatemala.
- + The continual arrival to Mexico of the the COVID-19 vaccine.
- + The winter academic semester that it now underway.

### We Give Thanks For

- + The faithful missionary service in Mexico of Andrew Schlund.
- + The prayers and financial support of our donors that make the mission in Mexico possible.
- + The COVID-19 vaccines that are arriving to all parts of the world.



## Personal Notes

We continue to pray to God for good health. So far, we have avoided the contagion of the Covid pandemic. The loss of Kathy's mother still grieves us. Please keep us in your prayers during this time of loss.

We thank God for the mission in Mexico as we build up existing congregations and provide Biblical training for national pastors, deacons, and deaconesses. Prayerfully consider how the Lord may be leading you to partner with this vital mission. The Lord provides the funding for his mission efforts through the donations of His local churches and its individual members.

Through your financial donations national pastors, deacons, and deaconesses will be formed and mentored that they may spread the Gospel throughout Mexico. Together we partner with God to take the Gospel to the far ends of the earth. We thank you for supporting the mission in Mexico as you are able during the present crisis.

May the Lord bless you abundantly in 2021!

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:3)*



**Soli Deo Gloria**

*Daniel, Kathy, and Ana*



**National pastors Guillermo Leyva and Nefali Garcia**

To support our work financially, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861

St. Louis MO 63166-6861 Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Daniel Conrad."

Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on our online giving page at [www.lcms.org/conrad](http://www.lcms.org/conrad) or call 888-930-4438 to speak with one of our Donor Care representatives. You may also donate through Mission Central:

<https://missioncentral.us/conrad/>

**Thank you for your support!**