



News from God's mission field in the Dominican Republic  
 Rafael & Jamielynn (Tinkey) Flores

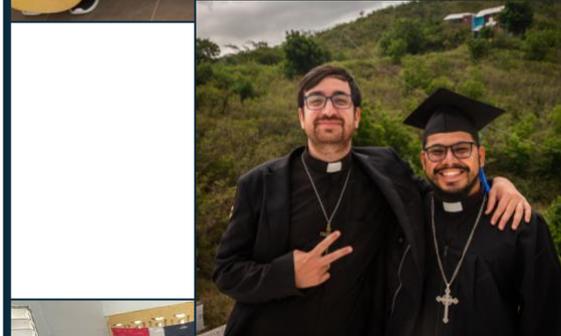
June 2022

*"So faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." Romans 10:17*



*Pictures (starting at top left):*

- 1) **Graduation day!** Rafael graduated from [Seminario Concordia el Reformador](#) on May 27, 2022! Thanks be to God! He's pictured here with Seminary Director Pastor Joel Fritsche and Seminary Dean Pastor Sergio Fritzler receiving his diploma.
- 2) **Family blessings!** It was a HUGE blessing to have Rafael's brother, Eduardo, and his wife, Jendaly, visit us for two weeks AND we also had visitors from my family - Mom and Dad, sister Elizabeth, and niece Ada.
- 3) **Music class!** The seminary is holding music classes for the seminarians over summer break. Rafa has been participating. It's two days each week - one day of theory and one day of guitar practice! **"I will sing and make music to the Lord!" Psalm 27:6**
- 4) **Special Visitor!** President Pastor Juan Pablo Lanterna from the [Lutheran Church in Chile](#) stayed with us during Simposio and Graduation week. It was a blessing to receive him in our home and got us excited to move to Chile!
- 5) **Ministry Continues!** Rafa pictured with seminarian Josue and a youth group that's been meeting in the mission community of Cienfuegos.





### *Proyecto Vida Abundante*

At the annual Seminary Simposio, I had the opportunity to speak with leaders from **17 different countries** around Latin America about *Proyecto Vida Abundante*. We invited them to join us (through this QR code), to utilize the resources on life issues that have been produced in or translated to Spanish, and to provide us feedback and information from **THEIR** local context through a short survey! We are looking forward to connecting with them over the next few months about their responses and how we can support life ministry in their context.

Do you participate in active life ministry in your congregation or community? **I'd love to hear about it.**

### *A translated excerpt from a sermon Rafa preached at Seminary Chapel: God is Light*

“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” 1 John 1:5-10

Living in the light means becoming aware of the existence of one's own sins that are exposed by the light. It is necessary to confess them and receive forgiveness through the redemptive death of Christ. Only in this way is communion with God a genuine communion. Men who live in this world illuminated by electric current lack a clear notion of the insecurity and terror that darkness can cause. They cannot appreciate this image in the way that people of times past did. Instead, they simply live in sin, in a darkness that sooner or later will hit them so hard that it may be too late. For John, **Jesus Christ is the light**, he is pointing to God who manifested Himself in His only begotten Son, the giver of grace, truth, life, and adoption as his children.

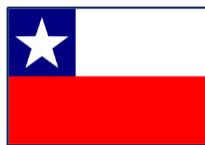
The light blesses us freely, and at the same time imposes on us a command: men are exhorted to believe in the light, to live in the light, and to become "children of the light". That is, all their nature and all their actions must be determined by the light. But not just any light - in the light of Christ. Similarly, darkness is not simply a state but a power that fights a battle against the light. This darkness is a condemned power, but not yet annihilated, it attacks men and claims their love and fidelity. That is why, dear brothers, it is so important and true that every time we walk in the light - remaining in Jesus - the blood of Christ cleanses us from all injustice. We confess our sins before God who forgives us and cleanses us from all evil. This we confess every Sunday in church. **His light purifies and cleanses our hearts and restores our fellowship with Him.**

That is why, as Christians, we live a life full of the light of Christ. His light, in the midst of any adversity, fills us with mercy, love, and the peace of God that only He can give us. We live a life united with the life of God, where He is the vine, and we are the branches. We only bear fruit when we are united to Him and we can never belong to the darkness but to the radiant light of God, who once and for all rescued us from that darkness that condemned us. **That darkness now has no power over us!**

We thank God for being the lamp to our feet and light for our path, that path that leads us every day to the beautiful feet of the cross of Christ where we receive the forgiveness of our sins and His love and mercy, for all those who confess Him as the only Savior. Thanks be to God for the light of the world today, tomorrow, and forever. Amen.

### *Chile Corner:*

Our visa paperwork has been submitted with a lawyer in Chile who will work with us for our visa and residency in Chile. We are beginning to clean our house and prepare to sell our home items. **Please pray for peace and patience in the paperwork process as we wait for a date to move to Chile!**



Do you think that the flag of Chile looks like the flag of Texas?? You're right... BUT the Chilean flag is actually 21 years older than the Texan flag.

- **White** - snow of the Andes Mountains
- **Blue** - sky and Pacific Ocean
- **Red** - blood spilled in fight for independence
- **Star** - guidance and progress

**PRAY WITH US...** our biggest “ask” as missionaries are your prayers. Here are a few things we are praying for. Will you join us?

- ⇒ Thanksgiving for the graduation of Rafael and his classmate Jeancarlos, who will serve in Peru. In addition, for the graduation of 100 deaconesses in five countries.
- ⇒ Thanksgiving for health and safety in travel for many visitors and family for the Simposio and the Graduation.
- ⇒ For patience and trust in God’s timing for our transition to Chile.
- ⇒ For paperwork, that all may be in order, according to God’s will.
- ⇒ For Jamielynn, as she finishes regular classes this month, travels to intensives in July, and enters a time of internship in order to complete her deaconess studies.

### *Devotional thought from Jamielynn: Marriage*

“Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways! You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.”

Psalm 128

It’s common to hear marriage described as “walking together through life”. What kind of paths have you walked on throughout your marriage? Smooth? Rocky? Sandy? No matter what kind of terrain you have been walking on together, you are not walking it alone. God walks with you. The Psalmist writes blessed is everyone who walks in the ways of the LORD!

Pray with us for the couples God has joined together, especially those marriages in ministry: *Heavenly Father, as you brought Eve to Adam in the Garden and gave them work to do for Your glory, bless the couples joined here together in the work you have given them for Your kingdom. Grant them strength, courage, and endurance to fulfill their vocations and responsibilities to Your glory. Bless the work of their hands, so that through their work in Your Word, more people may come to know You and be saved through Your Son, Jesus Christ. It’s in His holy name we ask these things. Amen.*



*In Christ,  
Rafael & Jamielynn  
(Tinkey) Flores*



Support the LCMS through the work of **Rafael & Jamielynn** financially:

- 1) Visit [lcms.org/Tinkey](https://lcms.org/Tinkey) or sending a gift (Memo: **TINKEY**) to:  
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P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

- 2) Visit [missioncentral.us/Tinkey](https://missioncentral.us/Tinkey) or send a gift through wonderful friends at Mission Central (**Memo: TINKEY**):

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