

SERVING THE LORD IN

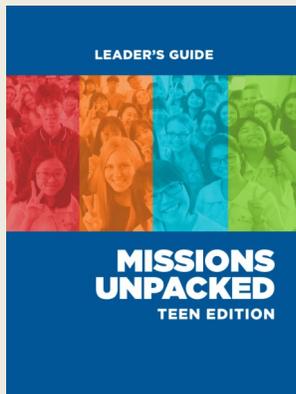
Latin America & the Caribbean: missionaryMAC



August 2022

News from Volunteer Coordinator Erin Mackenzie | missionaryMAC.blogspot.com |  [erin.mackenzie5](https://www.facebook.com/erin.mackenzie5)

(If you received a hard copy of this and would like to help me be green and save on postage, please email erin.mackenzie@lcms.org.)



Missions Unpacked (MU)...MU for Kids...and now **MU: Teen Edition!** This new addition to a suite of FREE curricula that introduce participants to LCMS mission work around the world is designed for *either* a) a series of “youth nights,” or b) a retreat/lock-in. Having soft launched at the LCMS Youth Gathering in July, the Leader’s Guide is available for download anytime (click the image above) and includes:

- Teaching tips
- 4 sessions, which include Bible study, activities, food ideas, and a family connection resource
- General activities to learn about international mission
- Prayer stations
- Ideas to continue learning
- Templates and other printable resources

Prepositional Ponderings

I learned Spanish in school. Lessons made up of vocab, grammar, and the four essential skills of language learning built upon one another until I, like all Spanish students, reached the dreaded *por* vs. *para* day in Spanish IV. *Por* and *para* are prepositions that, among other nuances, are both commonly translated “for;” each has specific uses that can be a bear to distinguish.

In ten seconds or less, *para* is the lesser used of the two and can also mean in order to, by (think deadlines), and according to; it bears an implied goal or destination. *Por* occurs more frequently, often to express movement or continuous action, as in because of, through, by (*via*), over, per, and instead of.

Christ—and all 3 persons of the Trinity—is FOR (*por* AND *para*) YOU!

Cristo es para ti. You are the destination, the recipient, of God’s good gifts, namely Jesus. In the RVC Spanish Bible translation, we read that God the Father has plans FOR [US] (Jer). His Kingdom has been prepared FOR [US] (Mt), and His Son goes before us to prepare a place FOR [US] (Jn). Redemption is FOR US through Him (Heb 9), and two chapters later in the “faith chapter,” our resurrection on account of Christ’s resurrection is “something better” FOR US.

Cristo es por ti. It’s substitutionary atonement: Christ died FOR US—in our place. The “for” in the words of institution throughout the Gospels is *por* because we should have been the ones bleeding and dying on the cross of Calvary. But we’re not. Paul states more times than I can list (in Rm, Eph, 2Co, 1 Th, and Ti) that Jesus loved us and died/became a curse/gave Himself up FOR US. Now that He is seated at the right hand of the Father, the Holy Spirit is interceding FOR US (Rm, 2x).

No doubt about it, Christ is FOR YOU. And, on account of your Baptism, He is also in you; with you; beside, before, and behind you; and working through you to let others know He is FOR THEM, too!

Adapted from a [Higher Things Video Short](#) recorded in August 2022.

**Making
Disciples
for Life** 



In theory...

Several seminarians have been “in theory” all summer...music theory *class*, that is. Those who remained in the DR during June, July, and August were assigned summer vicarages consisting of congregational work, special projects, English classes, instrumental music classes, music theory classes...aaaaaand a 2 week vacation. [Rev. Sergio Fritzler](#) (church planter, seminary provost, and seminary professor), himself a gifted pianist and accordionist, is providing the music instruction. It’s especially timely as LAC prepares for the rollout of *Himnario Luterano* and the subsequent monumental task of teaching Spanish-speaking Lutherans in 17 countries how to make the most of such a rich resource in their worship and devotional lives. Praise God for these men who are more equipped than ever to “sing and make music to the Lord” even now and, as they graduate and disperse, together with all the faithful in their flocks wherever He calls them.



Praises and Petitions

1. Thanksgiving for the union of Rev. Obot Ite (Jamaica) and Melissa Thompson in holy matrimony on 7/16.
2. For all LCMS Youth Gathering participants, that they might always remember that Jesus is IN ALL THINGS.
3. For all 2022 Higher Things conference participants, that they might always remember that Christ died and rose FOR YOU.
4. For the many LAC missionary families in transition this month.
5. For Rev. Dr. Jonathan Naumann, LAC’s regional Chaplain, recovering from a broken leg in the US.



(Above) 3rd annual Christmas in July (barely!) celebration with friends. (Right) One last selfie with Lisa, a member of my Gathering Ambassador small group—both *still* sporting yellow “flair”!



Above: Morning devos by the pool for 2 college-aged members of the 2022 [Missionary Kid Program Team](#).

Quote of the Month

“One of the great things about travel is that you find out how many good, kind people there are.”

– Edith Wharton

To support the LCMS through me, you may give a tax-deductible gift...

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- by **sending a check** (with “Mackenzie/Latin America” on the memo line) to:
 - ⇒ LCMS, PO Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861; or
 - ⇒ Mission Central, 40718 Highway E 16, Mapleton, IA 51034.

