# SERVING THE LORD IN **PUERTO RICO** NEWS FROM ASHLEY LEHR





### THE FIRST BAPTISM AT LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH PUERTO RICO.

On Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> we welcomed Amelie Ortega Luna to the family of God through Holy Baptism at Iglesia Luterana Cordero de Dios. She is the first child of God to be baptized at our Lutheran Church in San Juan. Praise God!

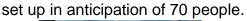
## A SHORT-TERM TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS AND A TABLE APOCALYPSE

From June 10th to June 17th, we hosted a short-term team of volunteers from St. John's Lutheran Church in Arnold, MO with a few volunteers joining them from Faith Lutheran Church in Hastings, NE.

They painted the inside spaces of our church in Ponce including the sanctuary and the outside entrance of our church in Mayaguez. However, a majority of their week was spent hosting a vacation bible school (VBS) at Iglesia Luterana Fuente de Vida in Ponce and a handful of art and lettering classes at each of the congregation.

One of the nights in Ponce was specifically focused on outreach, The missionaries and the team of volunteers planned a "Noche de Pintura" or a water coloring night led by one of the volunteers, Lizz Warren. Deaconess Christel Neuendorf did all the promoting for this event, and over 70 people signed up.

This was our first outreach event in a truly post-covid Puerto Rico, we were excited about having so many people come to our church event but to quote Pastor James Neuendorf "*this is a table apocalypse*." We were thrilled by the thought of reaching so many people but questioned if we had a enough tables or if anyone would even come. With our events in the past many people would sign up but very few would attend. We questioned if this event would be the same. Nevertheless, we located all the tables and chairs and set up in anticipation of 70 people

















#### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Hurricane season, that is predicted to be strong this year.
- The follow up by the pastors and mission team to the community members that attended our outreach event.

#### **GIVE THANKS FOR:**

- The Short-Term Team from St. John's Lutheran Church, Arnold, MO and Faith Lutheran Church, Hasting NE and their servant hearts and their great work.
- The well received watercolor outreach event.
- Amelie as a newly baptized Child of God.
- A wonderful surprise visit to Puerto Rico by my parents.

Pastor James Neuendorf started the evening with a devotional sharing the promises of God and a brief introduction to our church. The water coloring project focused on the Psalm of the week, Psalm 33:20 *Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.* 

Our expectations were greatly exceeded with 53 people in attendance, and a good list of people to follow up and continue sharing the Gospel with. It was a table apocalypse after all. Praise God for this wonderful event and the help of an amazing short-term team of volunteers.



### **GIRLS DAY IN SAN JUAN**

On Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup>, a church member from our Lutheran church in San Juan, had ladies from all 3 Lutheran churches in Puerto Rico over to her house for a lady's night. We had cocktails, a charcuterie board, and then experimented with some semi-permanent hair dye. Christel Neuendorf also made each of us some lavender lotion. Hopefully this is just the first of many Lutheran ladies' gatherings in Puerto Rico. What a joyous day that sisters in Christ could gather for fellowship.







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* 

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