



IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME IN PUERTO RICO

PEACE, HOPE, JOY, LOVE, ALL ABOUT JESUS.

On the first Saturday morning of the month, the Latin America and Caribbean missionary girls meet from different countries on Zoom for a bible study. Deaconess Christel Neuendorf (PR) and Deaconess Tirzah Krey (DR) are the organizers of this group. I was asked to teach about Peace, Hope, Joy, and Love for their December bible study. It was a great way to start the advent season being reminded that it is all about Jesus. He is the reason for the season. Missionary Heidi Paul (Cayman Islands) lead the girls in an advent wreath craft. What a joy it is to have this collaboration of missionaries and missionary children joining together and learning about the Word of God.



CHRISTMAS CRAFT MORNING AND CHRISTMAS ENGLISH WORKSHOP

On December 16th at our Iglesia Luterana Fuente de Vida (Ponce), Deaconess Christel Neuendorf hosted a craft morning. There were three Christmas themed crafts that we got to make. One was an ornament with the Three Kings, another one was a wood Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus craft. The final one was a gnome made from a pinecone. Christel mailed these pinecones to Puerto Rico from Michigan for us to be able to do the craft.



At the same time, Missionary Ruth Maita hosted an English workshop for adults. They studied and learned Christmas carols such as "Joy to the World." During the workshop they practiced a Christmas drama and shared it with the craft group.



MY 2023 SHOW IN...BEDS.

I need to preface the next page. In 2021, my missionary friend, Erin Mackenzie (DR) took a picture of every bed she slept on during the year. I knew that I would be traveling a fair amount during 2023, therefore I thought it would be fun to track how many beds I slept on as a unique recap of the year. Without further ado 2023 Beds!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

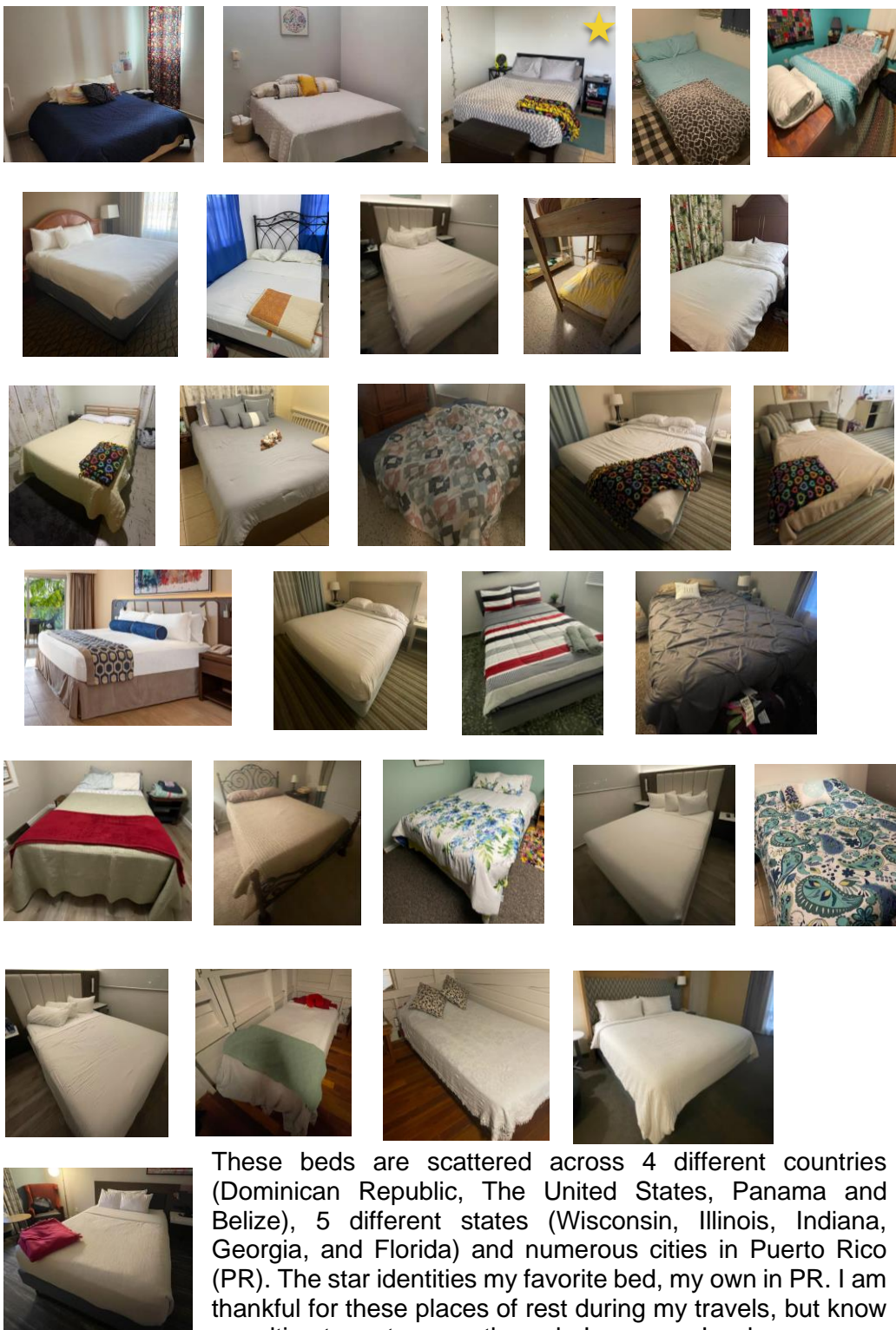
- The Kids English classes starting in January.
- All the Advent and Christmas services in Puerto Rico.
- All Pastors and Church workers.
- The Puerto Rico Lutheran Mission in the new year.

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- A wonderful thanksgiving in Puerto Rico.
- Safe travels for my trip to Wisconsin in at the End December.
- All the beds that provided rest in 2023
- Thanksgiving that the Redeemer (Balboa, Panama) congregation got to worship in their renovated sanctuary for the 1st time on Christmas Eve.
- The many congregations and individuals who pray for, encourage and support me serving in Puerto Rico.

**COME TO ME,
ALL WHO LABOR
AND ARE HEAVY
LADEN, AND I
WILL GIVE YOU
REST.**

(MATTHEW 11:28)



These beds are scattered across 4 different countries (Dominican Republic, The United States, Panama and Belize), 5 different states (Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Georgia, and Florida) and numerous cities in Puerto Rico (PR). The star identifies my favorite bed, my own in PR. I am thankful for these places of rest during my travels, but know our ultimate rest comes through Jesus, our Lord.

You can support my work by giving online to www.lcms.org/lehr or

Adopt me as your missionary by visiting missioncentral.us/Lehr/



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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