

Sharing Jesus during Epiphany

Greetings in Christ!

A new outreach started this month. On January 13th we started English classes for little children in Mayaguez. In December when we visited the Headstart preschool (who rents space in our church), we invited all the families to join. We sang English songs like “Jesus loves me”, and “the itsy-bitsy spider”. We read the bible story of Daniel and Lion’s Den.



Gustavo receives a surprise birthday celebrations after church on Jan. 21st. Isaiah and Mikhaela help him blow out 3 candles for 33 years!

We talked about how God sent his angel to shut the lions’ mouths, and we made a happy lion craft. We were joined by 2 new families with 2 children each. Special thanks to Missionary Ashley Lehr who provided support for this activity, and to Pastor Gustavo who set up a bouncy house for us.



We are learning that children with autism pick up English more easily than Spanish (according to a child’s therapist); and that these mothers were looking for English activities for their children. We thank God for this way to support these families and hope to connect with even more families. After this event, another family with young children came to visit. They are from the Adventist faith so we are thankful to have a chance to form relationships with them and share the grace we have in the Gospel. The father was invited to the men’s event happening later that evening in our outdoor kitchen, where the men enjoyed a meal and bible study about Job.

On January 12th we began our Friday bonfire fellowship. Though the rain stopped us from having a campfire, we still cooked in our new outdoor kitchen, enjoyed fellowship, a bible study, and hymns. Our church members are helping to plan a Valentine’s Day event for celebrating friendship on February 17th. We are thankful for our outdoor kitchen where we are preparing to host church members’ birthdays. Sandra is preparing for her birthday in February.



A sample of our craft.

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Prayer Requests, Praises and Thanks

Thankful for the safe return after Christmastime of William's family and Missionary Ashley Lehr.

Thanksgiving that Emmanuel has used his guitar skills to help play the liturgy during our services. This has been a big help while William was away. Pictured below are Emmanuel and William on Jan. 21st.

Thankful for hungry sheep and praying that they will be a blessing!

Prayers for our us as we expect a new baby in April.



A picture is worth a thousand words...



Here are two pictures from the divine service. Gustavo prepares for communion as Jose follows along in the front row. Following the service we pass the peace. We are thankful to hug again!



We planted banana (plantain) trees for church meals, to help the community, and to provide some income for the church. The trees started about the size of a coconut seed and now look like small palm trees. Two sheep have been acquired to help maintain the weeds. Deborah and Dorcas are pictured in their shelter space at right.

Ruth leads a monthly English workshop in Ponce. We talked about our daily routines, learn the hymn "Christ be my leader", and were accompanied by Pastor James Neuendorf who closed our class with devotion.



Thank you for your prayers and support.

Pastor Gustavo, Ruth, Mikhaela and Isaiah Maita

There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

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