THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

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News from the Maita family serving the Lord in Puerto Rico

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The Maita family: Gustavo, Ruth, Mikhaela, Isaiah and Ivanna

Seeing Fruits of the Harvest

When we were unable to meet in 2020, my fellow missionary Christel Neuendorf created a new way to connect with people online through art, to share Christ and to help alleviate stress. She invited people through our church facebook page to receive a craft kit and join us on facebook "live" to complete the craft together. Christel and I would take turns leading the craft and try to interact with the people who joined and commented (photo above).

Two faithful women, named Igsi and Igsi, were always there. We met them in person in December of 2020 when Christel had the first in-person craft event in Ponce, and we learned they are mother and daughter. Igsi also began coming to our English classes taught by William our church evangelist. Since that time, Christel has continued these relationships. She asked Igsi to lead a craft workshop at the church, and this became a reoccurring event. Igsi and Mama Igsi began to attend other church events and began to study the catechism. On Sunday, September 15th, they became members at the Luther church in Ponce! Praise God.

Pastor James Neuendorf stands with "Mama Igsi" at the left, and Idaliz and Igsi the daughter at right following their confirmation on September 15, 2024.

WITNESS ALWAYS

Prayer Requests, Praises and Thanks

Thanksgiving for the first three weeks of successful English classes:

- Kids English Class, with Sofia and her grandma, Nydia
- Adult English Class, with 6 students
- Online English with 17 students, and 7 LCMS volunteers
- Mom and Tots, English club—third Saturday of the month, with 6 children

Thanksgiving for our Oct Foro—a time to share about the mission with LCMS supporters in person, and a good time for fellowship between our church members of all three mission sites.

We pray for unity of our churches and growth of the faith in all of our members.

Prayers for those who have been (and will be) impacted by the hurricanes in the US. Thinking of our friends in Fort Myers and North Carolina.

A picture is worth a thousand words...

Gustavo, Emmanuel, Jose and Sandra meet for bible study after Sunday service. Pray for Emmanuel and Jose who are interested in studying theology.

One of the most challenging parts of missionary life is being far from grandparents. Here baby Ivanna gets a hug from her grandpa in Canada at the beginning of September.

Above: We pray for English student Sofia (in middle) who enjoys learning English through play with Mikhaela. We talked about Noah's Ark on this day.

At right: This is what our pew looks like on Sunday morning. It is the only way I can listen (while all the kids are busy playing quietly!)

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Pastor Gustavo, Ruth, Mikhaela, Isaiah and Ivanna 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."

To support the LCMS through the work of Ruth Maita, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

or to

Mission Central
40718 HWY E16
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Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or Mission Central. Mark checks "Support of Ruth Maita". Gifts can also be given securely online, through the LCMS website, on my online giving page, which will be ready soon!