

# Tanney Newsletter



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**La Misión Luterana de Puerto Rico**

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## IN THE WORD

Gloria called our mission office in search of help to provide for her soon-to-be born child. Our small group of believers was able to purchase some necessities for her. We kept visiting her and sharing the Good News with her and Gloria began to attend church and study the Bible. Amaury, Gloria's baby



Amaury, we have been born again.

boy, was baptized when he was two weeks old. Gloria, herself, was baptized and confirmed on Christmas Eve. It has been exciting for us to watch her faith take root and grow.

**PRAISE** the Father with us for bringing Gloria to faith in Jesus. **PRAY** that she and Amaury will continue to grow in the Word and follow Him.

Gilberto, one of the deacons at Principe de Paz, just finished the second course on the Gospel of Matthew. This course forms part of the theological education curriculum here. He and his family live an hour away from church and yet always make an effort to attend Bible class before Sunday services. We are blessed by his thirst for the Word and thankful for his faithfulness to Christ.



Matt and Gilberto studying the Gospel of Matthew with Michael.

**PRAISE** the Lord for Gilberto and his family and their example of faithfulness.

**PRAY** that the Holy Spirit will move even more to search and study the Word of Life.



St Paul group from Boca Raton, Florida

The construction continues to move along. We have had three volunteer groups here since January and eight more are scheduled from now through July. The Lord continues to provide just what we need, right when we need it, in His own wonderful way. One exciting story of the Lord's provision involves fish. A couple from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Boca Raton, Florida decided to enter a fishing competition. They saw a presentation on the ministry here, and determined that they would donate any winnings from the competition to help further the work. The event involved several weeks of deep sea fishing in different spots in the Caribbean. The last leg of their tournament "just so happened" to be right here in Mayaguez. Their team arrived in Mayaguez in third place,



but they didn't stay there! They caught enough marlin in the course of two days to win the tournament. ESPN televised the tournament after it was over and we were able to watch the exciting finish. Even though we knew the outcome, it was with great joy

that we watched this team come from behind and win. They dedicated their portion of the team's winnings to the church and we have been able to purchase materials and a stain glass window for the church and school with the money.

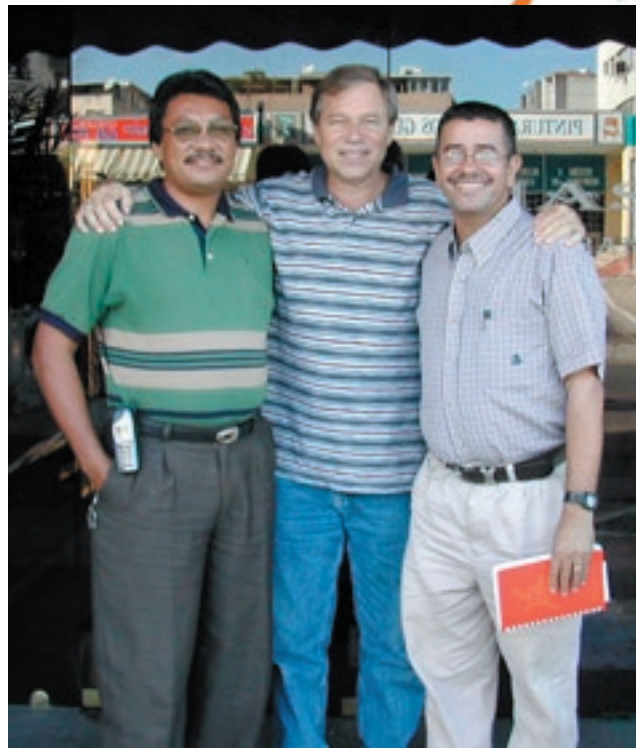
We PRAISE the Lord for the generosity of this couple and the creative ways that He continues to provide for our needs.

PRAY that the Holy Spirit will continue to move churches and individuals to become involved so that this ministry facility might be completed.

#### TRAVELS

In December Mike had the opportunity to make a trip to Venezuela to present a workshop for the youth of the ILV (Lutheran Church of Venezuela). What a joy it was to see and share with our brothers and sisters in Christ. It was very emotional to return to our home of thirteen years and reconnect with friends and visit the church and school that we had the privilege of planting and nurturing. The Venezuelan church has had a difficult couple of years with the cutback of LCMS career missionaries. The national church has even experienced division. Mike's visit seemed to bring encouragement, especially to the youth leaders and pastors.

PRAISE the Father for the opportunity to be a blessing to the Lutheran Christians in Venezuela.



Pastors Elias and Luis from the Venezuelan church.

PRAY that the Holy Spirit would heal divisions and renew a vision within His people to reach the lost.

Our family visited Antigua, Guatemala in February for a conference/retreat with all the missionaries and volunteers serving in the Caribbean and Latin America. We enjoyed the fellowship and Bible study. It was an opportunity for us to dialogue with representatives from the mission board and better understand what the Ablaze movement means for us, personally, and the Latin American/Caribbean mission fields.

To our mission responders: volunteers, friends, family and partner churches we ask you to help us accomplish the Ablaze Vision by learning, praying, giving, telling, sending and celebrating. Visit the Ablaze website [www.lcms.org/ca/mission/ablaze/index.asp](http://www.lcms.org/ca/mission/ablaze/index.asp) to find out



more about what that means.

We have seen first hand that many of your hearts are "ablaze" and on fire for the Lord and for His mission. We thank you for your prayers and participation in our ministry and pray that you will be blessed as you reach out to those around you with the love of Christ.

In the Risen Lord,

Michael and Cathy Tanney