



THE BRIDGE THAT CONNECTS US

Newsletter from Milton Castillo
from Panamá



Walking together

When we go together in the name of Jesus, the possibilities of impact are much greater.



It was a great experience to climb the hill "Cerro la Cruz" together.

In this year 2018 the Lord has blessed us in CALMS with the opportunity to serve in Panama walking with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Panama - IELPA.

In late November and early December we were able to serve with Hales Corners Lutheran Church of Wisconsin and Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Sorá in Panama.

The days in Sorá were quite slow for the country lifestyle, very pleasant for its climate (especially for those who arrived from the cold winter) and kindness of those who welcomed us and with whom we served together.

The opportunity to reach out to the community, to meet the pastor and his family, and many others allowed us to begin to walk together in the service of Christ.

What have we learned about walking together in the mission of Jesus?

- We walked together because Jesus sent us two by two.
- We walk together because we can share our burdens.

Reformation continues

In the community of Loma Cova, District of Arraiján in West Panama.



The Lutheran church God is Great of Loma Cova celebrated 501 anniversary of the reformation with a march in the community where children and young people raised the banners of Salvation Only by the Grace of God, Only the Scripture as Source of the doctrine, Only the Faith as a gift allows us to appropriate the benefits of salvation and only through Christ are we justified before God.

6 very cool things that happened:

- Children led the way
- Young people accompanied the march
- Visualized the message of grace
- We praise and pray in the streets
- Families from the community came out to say hello
- A group from St. John's Lutheran Church, Chaska MN accompanied them

The days of the visit also allowed talking with the leaders of the congregation to strengthen the relationship and discover the vision that God has given them to reach people. And what are some of the things they want to accomplish in the coming months and years as a congregation to achieve it.

- We walk together to be able to pray for each other.
- We walk together to learn from each other.
- We walk together to serve other people.
- We walk together to proclaim the good news of the Gospel of Jesus.

Would you consider walking with another partner in Panama to serve in the mission of Jesus?

Exploring together

Global Team Training helps to see the mission field, its workers and opportunities to support them.



Global Training Team Band

Three congregations from Minnesota, one from Illinois and another from Texas traveled to Panama to learn more about the field, its culture, the people and those who are serving the Lord in different communities.

The visit began in a community formed mostly by members of the Guna tribe west of Panama City, on Sunday we went to worship the Lord in a Lutheran church in Panama City in the old Canal Zone, the third day we drove to the west to the Sorá mountains in the Chame district where we visited a missionary couple who served there in a small and beautiful community and the last visit was in the Christian community Gloria Dei in Los Andes 2, in the vibrant and dense city of San Miguelito.

Help us by praying for the churches that have been part of the GTT and those that are considering coming back with congregational teams.



We celebrate in baptism the washing of regeneration in Rio Rita, Province of Colón together with the brothers of the Lutheran church Jesus Divine Savior.



For the team from St. Matthew Lutheran, Columbia Heights, MN it was a great opportunity and a privilege to practice the ministry of being present in the lives of people in the community, encouraging them with gospel, praying for the needs and telling the stories of how faith in Christ continues to restore and heal them.

Seeing the smiling face of Pastor José Ángel and his wife, Raquel, summarize very well what the Lord Jesus continues to do in the midst of his people here and there.