



Photo by: Natalie Howard

## Prayers:

- Thanksgiving for ten new confirmed members at Fuente de Vida
- Prayers for continued hurricane disaster relief work in Puerto Rico
- James' graduation and call
- Dr. Jonathan Naumann's (Regional Chaplain) health and recovery
- Transition for Rev. Richard & Gema Schuller to their call in California

FACEBOOK: @SENDJAMESANDCHRISTEL

# A note from LCMS Missionaries James & Christel -- October 2018

## Founding Members

Who are your founding members at your congregation? When was your church built? How long has your congregations been in existence? I have been asking these questions to the Lutheran Schools I have had the opportunity to visit. The answers are incredible. Some are 70 years ago, some 150+, some have newer buildings but older congregations. Thinking back to those who came before you to lay that foundation I think can only encourage you for the future of your congregation.

On October 14, Fuente de Vida in Ponce, Puerto Rico added to their founding members by ten people. This group of individuals have been studying God's Word and the catechism with Rev. Schuller over the last 6 - 7 months, faithfully coming every Wednesday. We praise God for their membership into the church, into our church. We ask for prayer as they take on this new vocation as members of Fuente de Vida.

This is what a new church looks like. People from all walks of life, coming together around God's Word and His gifts to His people.





Often times people ask what does a typical day for you look like? Sometimes they are spent waiting in lines and running around trying to figure out how to do what may be "simple" tasks. On the left Rev. Gustavo Maita and Rev. Anthony DiLiberto and I found ourselves in Home Depot tracking down a roof order. I don't really remember how long we waited, but by the time we were out the day was ending.

To the right is one of the fire stations in Ponce. In order to have a rented facility that is open to the public, permits are needed, including fire permits. This visit was the beginning of figuring how that process all works. After inquiring about the what was needed, the woman at the office later asked me about what kind of church we were and if we had any churches in the Kansas. It was an awesome opportunity to share about our church, and that yes, we have a lot of churches in Kansas.



On November 9, James graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary with his Masters of Divinity and received a call to serve as a church planter in Ponce, Puerto Rico. James has accepted this call! We praise God for His faithfulness and guidance during this time! We are so thankful for YOU, for your prayers and support during this time. You have been the Body of Christ to us! We will be communicating much more in the following months.

James' ordination is being planned for Sunday, December 9 at [St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor, MI \(downtown\) at 4PM.](#)

More details and finalization to come.

Pictured: Rev. Dr. Jeff Pulse and Dr. Gieschen.

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