



# To the Ends of the Earth

## Chile mission news from Jim and Liisa Tino

November 2020

### New! GLO app!



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Dear James,

Thanksgiving Day is upon us (well, upon some of us. Chile doesn't celebrate Thanksgiving). Is there anything to be thankful for in 2020?

I read a great comment the other day: "What if tomorrow you only had the things that you thanked God for today?" Wow! It made me think. Do I thank the Lord for my wife? My children? Grandchildren? Other family members? House, home, health? Food to eat, bed to sleep on, car to drive?

I guess there ARE things to be thankful for in 2020! I pray that this Thanksgiving, our eyes may turn to the Lord who is the Giver of all good gifts! Thank Him for what you have today!

A lot has happened since the last time we sent a newsletter! We have a lot of ground to cover, so in this edition we are going to provide several "ministry snapshots". Hope you enjoy them!

## Chile social unrest and Jim "the prophet"

The social uprisings that have rocked Chile since October 2019 have pretty much gone away. What happened? Back in our March 2020 newsletter, Jim wrote, *"My guess is that eventually, Chile will write a new constitution. That seems to be what Latin American countries do in times of social crisis."*

Nailed it. In October, Chile held a nationwide "plebecito" (referendum) on whether or not to form a representative Constitutional Assembly and write a new constitution. It was approved by over 80% of the voters. Interesting detail: In Chile there are an estimated 1.5 million immigrants, but only about 59,000 have been approved as registered voters. Liisa and I are two of the 59,000. We voted!

## Return to In-Person Worship

All Saints' Day (November 1) marked the return to in-person worship for our mission in the Providencia municipality of Santiago. We celebrated "Reformation Day" and tried out our

new outdoor setting for worship. The 34 souls in attendance rejoiced at the opportunity to draw near to the Lord's table and be strengthened by Word and Sacrament. Of course, in true Latino style, we were fortified by fellowship and a hearty chicken soup after worship as well!



## House of Refuge

We praise God that the ministry towards Venezuelan immigrants continues. New people have moved in. Others have moved out. Currently, we are interviewing people who are in need of housing in order to fill some vacancies.

Also at our ministry site, we have our Resale Shop which is open about two days a week. Not only is this a way to help those in need, but the hope is it will generate some cash to help fund the ministry center.

## New Immigrant Residents

Andrius and Dextre have been in Chile since October 2019 when the social protests began. The social and economic unrest, combined with winter temperatures and corona virus, brought them to our house of refuge seeking a safe place to live with their 4 year old son, Carlos. They are thankful for a place to get on their feet. Laura also arrived in Chile in 2019. She is an early education teacher, but with schools only opened virtually, has not been able to find a job in her field. She is an energetic young woman who is struggling to make a new life in a new country.



We will build our temporary chapel in the space pictured above. The chapel will cost approximately \$5,000. If you would like to donate to the project, [click here to make your contribution to the Santiago Immigrant Ministry project.](#)

## Temporary Chapel Project

The original "chapel" (a converted garage) on the church property has been "re-purposed" during the coronavirus. The resale shop occupies one half, while the other side is our Sunday School/meeting room. "Where should we hold worship services?", was the question as Santiago began to move out of the quarantine stage.

Well, immediately a few more patio tents were purchased and the space between buildings was cleaned up for outdoor worship. Next, we need to construct a "temporary" chapel - "temporary", because this property is rented and hopefully we will one day be able to relocate onto our own land and take our chapel with us! Pray for these plans as we hope to begin this exciting stage next month!

## New Members!

Juan Carlos and Luis Marcos were received as members by adult confirmation on November 15! They had the unique experience of studying confirmation with pastor Jim via zoom during COVID-19 quarantine! They have been looking forward to this day.



## Veronica and Florencia

Veronica also completed her confirmation instruction. However, she has been battling cancer and thus is unable to circulate in public. The family would also like to baptize their daughter Florencia. Veronica daily gives thanks to God for sustaining her life as she awaits the opportunity to be healthy enough to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Lord's Supper! Her confirmation day and also witnessing her daughter wrapped in the grace of her Heavenly Father in baptism will be a very special moment.

## Medicine for Venezuela Project completes 3rd Year of Operation

Rev. Vielma and wife Geny prepare medicines for distribution in Venezuela.



Thousands of people have benefited from this incredible project of mercy over the last 3 years. Currently we are packing and preparing to send about 60,000 pills which will be distributed to people in desperate need via our 21 sister congregations throughout Venezuela.

Some of the more than 1000 beneficiaries receive life-sustaining medications that they would otherwise not be able to afford.



Unfortunately, **this may be our last shipment since our funding has run out.** If you feel God is calling you to help support the continuation of this project, **you can make a donation [HERE](#).** Each shipment costs about \$15,000!

## Family and Furlough

We were blessed with the opportunity to finally see family during the months of September and October. We are thankful for health and safety during our travels – both internationally and in the



USA. The weeks were full of masked and socially-distanced celebrations: a wedding, anniversaries, birthdays, family get-togethers...even Liisa's dad's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday! What a blessing it was to see our grandchildren and all of our kids...EXCEPT Ben, who was not able to leave Guatemala. Unfortunately, the pandemic did not allow for us to visit all our supporting congregations. We look forward to planning a regular "furlough" in 2021, according to God's will. We will keep you informed!

## Support Corner

The pandemic has been hard on everyone, missionaries included! Travel restrictions and limitations placed on gatherings such as worship and fellowship times have made traditional missionary visits to supporting congregations and individuals both impractical and inadvisable. Additionally, many partners have been forced to make the difficult decision to discontinue financial support for their missionaries. We move ahead in faith, knowing that God is faithful and is able to do those things that - humanly speaking - are impossible!

Financial Support Level



## Praises and Prayers

\* **Pray for our friend Veronica**, as her breast cancer has moved into her lungs. We ask that God does **a miracle** to bring glory to His name, but if it is not His will, that He will provide comfort to the family.

\* **Thank the Lord for Edwin Mattson's improved health** even as he battles cancer and other health issues

\* **Pray for God's direction and provision during the next stage** of our mission-plant; the new building, faithfulness among the new believers, a future pastor.

\* **Praise the Lord** that our daughter **Veronica successfully passed all of her exams** to complete her certification as a chiropractor!

\* **Praise God for the opportunity to touch lives** through the immigrant ministry.

\* **We praise the Lord for the opportunity our daughter Sonrisa has to start an after-school program** at a Lutheran Church in Miramar, Florida. Pray that God multiplies this ministry.

\* **Pray for the national Lutheran church of Chile.** Pray for decisions and direction and for more workers in this mission field.

\* **We thank God for our countries – the USA and Chile** – and pray that God would in His mercy **lead our governments** in ways of peace and holiness.

**To support the Tino's ministry in Chile, click on the GIVE button below.**

**Or, you can mail a check to:**

Global Lutheran Outreach

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Miramar, FL 33023

(Please indicate "Tino - Chile" on the memo line of the check)

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