

## From the Ends of the Earth

# Chile Mission News from Jim and Liisa Tino September 2021

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#### **Our Mailing Address**

If you are planning to mail us something (or visit us!), our address is:
James y Liisa Tino
Julio Montebruno 588
La Reina, Santiago, R.M.
Chile

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Visit our web page here!

Dear James,

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." (Gal. 5:1)

This weekend, all of Chile is celebrating! September 18 is the Chilean independence day, similar to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in the US but with very different traditions. This year the celebration is even more special as the country is celebrating "freedom" from COVID-19 lockdowns. Still, the government is constantly sending reminders: "the virus is still among us".

For us as Christians, every day should be a celebration of our freedom from the eternal consequences of sin, death, and the devil. Yet even in our freedom, we know that "the virus (sin) is still among us". In Christ, we are free to soar above the pettiness and meaninglessness of our world and live as beloved children of God, called to a life of purpose in Christ! May God grant that many more people - in Chile, in the USA, and around the world - would come to know TRUE freedom!

#### In this Issue...

- + Salt of the Earth celebrating God's blessings on the anniversary of our mission to immigrants!
- + "Salting" our community two ways we are loving our neighbor and sharing the Gospel!
- + Convention in Chile representatives meet to receive reports and select new leaders.
- + Prayer and Praise
- + Leave a Mission Legacy!
- + Support Corner



Resale shop / garage sale every Friday benefits lowincome people and provides some funding for the ministry! (see article below)

#### "Yo Soy la Sal de la Tierra"



ABOVE: Most of the congregation gathered for our anniversary celebration worship!

(P.S. The hand truck is what we use to hold the camera for recording the sermon! Nothing but the most advanced technology here!)

Matthew 5:13, "You are the salt of the earth..." was the theme for our 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lutheran church "Divina Providencia" on the first Sunday in September! (We have now been in Chile for seven years! This is our second mission.) We were blessed with 36 people who came to worship and be fed by the Word. We can't help but be amazed at God's divine provision...beginning in a smaller house with a handful of Lutherans... struggling through the time of Chilean political unrest and protests...surviving almost a year of national quarantine due to Covid...always teaching, praying, outreaching! In this last year alone there have been 5 baptisms, 3 confirmations and pretty soon, another group of people are about to begin their studies. To God be the Glory!

### "Salting" our community!

Every Friday afternoon we open the doors of our "Resale Shop". Our coordinator, Elianeth, and Liisa are always amazed at the people that stop by. There are the regulars, like an older gentleman, Ricardo, who comes to check if we have received sweaters in his size; or the Peruvian maids who are on their way home from their domestic jobs and pick up some baby clothes or a "new" purse; or the recently arrived Venezuelan who needs a warm jacket or a good pair of slacks for his/her new job; or a neighbor who is just curious, and then becomes engaged when we talk about the ministry and offers to donate items for our "garage sale". Besides providing for the needs of others, this shop draws attention to our Lutheran church.

We are grateful to **Lutheran World Relief** for a huge donation of quilts that were distributed in all the Lutheran churches of Chile to be used as needed. At our church, we package up the homemade quilts with info about our ministry, vacuum-seal the bag, and they are ready to go! About 100 quilts have been received by the elderly and children in small towns in the cold south. Recently, we delivered 100 to a Children's Hospital in Santiago, and another Clinic for Children with Cancer has requested a donation. We have shared about 200 with different immigrant groups (mostly Haitian and Venezuelan) and the cozy, patchwork guilts have also been a



ABOVE: Elianeth (foreground) helps customers in the Thrift Shop.

BELOW LEFT: Jim displays some of the guilts.

BELOW RIGHT: One quilt vaccuum-packed and ready for distribution!

source of comfort for families in our congregation who have recently lost a loved one.



#### News from the Lutheran Church of Chile



ABOVE: The annual assembly of the Confessional Lutheran Church of Chile met in La Florida, Santiago on August 28.

BELOW: All the pastors of the Lutheran Church of Chile. (From left) Obed Coronado; Pablo Gonzalez; Omar Kinas; Juan Pablo Lanterna, president; James Tino; Adrian Ventura, secretary.



Every May, the Confessional Lutheran Church of Chile has its national convention. Because of corona virus, this was not able to happen last year and this year it was delayed until August. Finally, last month a group of about 20 - consisting of pastors and congregational representatives - met for a full day to share reports and hold long-overdue elections. We were proud of our small mission plant that has reached "congregation-size" status and chose to send the newly elected congregational president, José Vilches, as our representative! Jim has been serving as interim Secretary/V.P. for the national church, so he was very busy with the preparations and procedures of the meeting.

Besides the six churches, we heard about the four mission plants and about the various Lutheran organizations such as Lutheran Hour Ministries ("Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones") in Chile. Another important ministry is "Casa Bethesda", which sponsors a rehab center in Santiago for people with cerebal palsy and other handicaps; and an after-school program in the town of Constitucion run by GLO missionaries Pastor Adrian and Cruz Maria Ventura. After the new board was elected, we closed with a joyous worship service, giving thanks to our Great God.

#### PRAYERS AND PRAISE

\* PRAISE GOD for the growing group of young Christians in our congregation! We also thank Him for how the immigrant ministry has grown to be a vital part of the church.

\*PRAY FOR THE HEALTH OF OUR FAMILY – especially Jim's mom, Norma, as she deals with heart problems, and for Liisa's dad, Edwin, as he undergoes chemo for prostate cancer.

- \* PRAY FOR our meeting on Tuesday, September 21 at 9:00 am with local government authorities. We will be introducing them to our immigrant ministry, and we will ask them to donate property for our ministry!
- \*We PLEA TO GOD FOR HIS WISDOM and direction as we help this mission plant move into the next stage of self-sufficiency. Specifically, pray for a permanent place to operate, without paying a high monthly rent. Also, pray for the next pastor who will lead this congregation.
- \*PRAISE THE LORD that soon we will have a new "daughter" in-law! If you haven't heard, our son, Ben is now engaged to Scarlett, daughter of Pastor Byron & Yuli Paz (Puerto Barrios, Guatemala). Pray for them as they prepare to serve and live their lives together as husband and wife.
- \*JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR PASTOR PAUL (BO) BRINK, who is battling stomach cancer. So far the cancer has reacted favorably to an aggressive chemotherapy treatment. However, now Paul is experiencing all the terrible chemo side effects of tiredness, nausea and secondary infections. Please pray for him, his wife, Barb, and their family as they lean on God's healing mercies during this difficult time.
- \*THANK GOD, with us, for the new GLO missionaries that are raising funds outside of the United States to be sent as God's representative to a different culture. Specifically pray for: Samuel & Grace, Amos & Evelyn, Victor & Belen, Chimah & Success. If you feel God is moving you to support any of these missionaries from other lands, please click here!

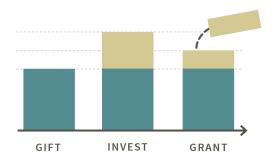
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Do you have a passion to see that the Good News of Jesus continues to be shared at home and around the world? Rather than being spent on immediate needs, a gift to the Global Lutheran Outreach Endowment Fund will be invested under the management of the Lutheran Legacy Foundation, and the gains on the investment will provide resources for Lutheran mission work for generations to come! Learn more here.

#### **GLO CAN NOW RECEIVE DONATIONS OF STOCK!**

"YIKES! What happened to your funding?", you may be asking. GLO missionaries should have a minimum of 3 months funding on hand. As you can see, we are below that level. A series of unfortunate events have put a big dent into our financial reserves: unexpected home repairs; car repairs; high costs of re-entry to Chile due to mandatory quarantine at a hotel approved by the government; and legal costs for renewing our resident visas - all added up to several thousand dollars in expenses! Ouch.

We know that God will provide - He always does! If God has blessed you in such a way that you can give an offering to support our ministry this month, we How an endowment fund works



Financial Support Level



Months of ministry funding currently on hand: 2.5

would appreciate it (as always!). We continue to pray that our God would support YOUR every need, as well!

To make an online contribution, **click here**. Or, you can mail a check to: Global Lutheran Outreach 6709 Ficus Dr. Miramar, FL 33023 (put "Tino - Chile" on the memo line of the check")

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