

From Everywhere to Everywhere

The monthly newsletter of Global Lutheran Outreach



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Dear James,

"He measured off another 1500 feet... but the water had risen so much that it became a river which I couldn't cross." (Ezekiel 47:5, GW)

Recently, I was privileged to present the work of GLO in California: at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Orange, at Searchlight Lutheran, and to the Lutheran Mission Society in San Diego. I preached on Ezekiel 47, which is a vision of the Gospel, the River of Life, flowing out from Jerusalem. The river starts small, only ankle deep. But the further it flows, the deeper it gets until it is impossible to cross.

It's a vision of the movement of the Gospel from the day of Pentecost right up through today. Before He ascended into heaven Jesus said (Acts 1:8), "you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Four measurements. Four depths. It started out small in Jerusalem, just 12 disciples. But as the Spirit moved, the trickle of the Gospel became a stream (Judea), then a river (Samaria), and then an overwhelming flood to the ends of the earth!

But the river of the Gospel doesn't flow all by itself. Our God is a God who has chosen to use means to accomplish His purposes. And the means that He has chosen to bring the Gospel of Life to all people is... us. You and me. "You will be my witnesses".

Pray that the Lord will use GLO to be an effective instrument for facilitating the service of His witnesses "to the ends of the earth"!

Share it with a friend!

Know someone who would be interested in reading



Director's Corner

Rev. Dr. James Tino

The *Iglesia Cristiana Evangélica Luterana de Bolivia* - ICEL (Christian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bolivia) arose out of Norwegian missions in Bolivia which began in 1978 and which continues in some form today. It is not a large church body - perhaps 900 members scattered among some 20 congregations and in two major language groups. But this small church has undertaken a big challenge - to send their own missionaries!

This issue spotlights the work of Rev. Osmel and Yuli Soliz. They are Bolivians, serving as missionaries in Bolivia. They currently receive salary support from the Norwegian mission, but that support will expire next year, in 2025. The Soliz family has the challenge of raising up support from among their own members and others, and they have a year to do it! GLO is matching all support they raise in Bolivia,

about, praying for, and praising God for His work through the missionaries of Global Lutheran Outreach? We encourage you to share this newsletter with others who may enjoy it! Or, simply share the link below.

If you have any suggestions for this newsletter, please pass them along. [You can email me here.](#)

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Did you miss previous issues of "From Everywhere to Everywhere? [You can read or download them here!](#)



dollar-for-dollar.

I have been to Lutheran **congregations** in the USA which have more than 900 members! If the Bolivians can do it, we can, too! Here is my challenge: consider sending one (or more) of your church members as missionaries from your congregation! GLO stands ready to help you figure out how to do it.

*This newsletter focuses on God's work through the missionaries of Global Lutheran Outreach in order to build a supportive community of prayer and praise. Together, we rise up. **Rise with us!***

Missionary Spotlight: Rev. Osmel and Yuli Soliz

Serving the Lord in Tarija, Bolivia

Pastor Martin Osmel Soliz Bernal was raised a Lutheran in the "New Life" Evangelical Lutheran Church in the city of Potosí, Bolivia. He was confirmed, married, and ordained in the same congregation. He is happily married to Yolanda Incata Fernández, and they have two children: Caleb Matías (3) and Jireh Zoe (1).

Pastor Osmel studied at Concordia Seminary in Argentina and at the El Reformador Seminary in the Dominican Republic. He served as a vicar and pastor in the LCMS Lutheran Mission in Peru for four years.

Since May 2023, the Soliz family are serving as missionaries in the city of Tarija, Bolivia, since They are planting a Lutheran church from scratch along with the Ueland family from Norway.

This year, their work has focused on three objectives:

- 1) **Exploring and researching the city** (schools, hospitals, nearby neighborhoods, community leaders, etc.).
- 2) **Making contacts and evangelizing** through Bible studies and sharing the Gospel in the plaza, offering coffee and candies.
- 3) **Teaching and discipling members** through Bible studies and worship services.



From the Soliz' newsletter: "The Family is a Gift of God"

In their recent newsletter, the Soliz' wrote:

"We want to tell you that there is wonderful news about what God did in Tarija through His church. This month we have focused a lot on the family of God and the family that we have.

"On Saturday May 18th, we celebrated the Day of the Family at a local public school. Parents and children attended our event to play together and learn as a family... The workshop dealt with how the family plays an important role in the development of the child, and how it is better when more people are involved in caring for the child. We also talked about different kinds of parents: The Sergeant Father or the Ruling Mother, the Permissive parent ("parenting light"), the Democratic parent, and the Gifter parent (the one who is not physically present but tries to fill the void with gifts). The parents were excited about continuing the workshops in order to continue to improve communication and relationships between parents and children."

"One joyful thing is that in May, we started a confirmation class for 4 new people who want to be members of the Lutheran church in Tarija. We are studying Luther's Small Catechism, and they are enthusiastic about learning more about the Word of God."

[You can learn more about the Soliz family here.](#)



(pictured above: Confirmation class in Tarija)

Did you know that there is a GLO app?

It's true! The GLO app is regularly updated with missionary prayer requests and praise items, newsletters, and more! It is free to download onto your phone and free to use. You can customize the app so

that you get alerts when your missionary posts something, or just browse at your own pace. Check it out!



Thrivent members make a difference!



Last year, **Thrivent members used their Choice Dollars to direct over \$10,000 to Global Lutheran Outreach!** What a blessing! Designated Thrivent Choice dollars given to GLO go directly to the specified missionary or project. Undesignated Choice funds go to our Matching Fund program, matching dollar-for-dollar what missionaries raise for their support outside of the USA. **Your Choice dollars**

directed to GLO support missionaries!

You may direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Global Lutheran Outreach at any time during the year. If you need assistance determining whether you have Choice Dollars to distribute, [click this link for Thrivent](#), or call 800-847-4836. Thrivent's customer service can help you specify GLO as the recipient of your Choice Dollars.

Together before the Throne

*We praise the Lord for **missionaries Osmel and Yolanda Soliz** as they plant a new church in Tarija, Bolivia. Grant them a permanent place from which their ministry can operate. Thank you for the 4 new contacts studying scripture to become members of the Lutheran church.

***Praise** be to the Creator and Sustainer of Life for the **recent workshop in Tarija, Bolivia titled "Celebrating the Family"**. Thank you, God, for the opportunity to share with parents the Biblical concepts of raising children. Bless this connection with a school community to spread the Gospel.

*We give thanks for **God's provision in the sending of Rev. Samuel Udofia and his wife, Grace, from their home of Nigeria to Tanzania.** Bless Pastor Samuel as he prepares to teach theology at Mwanza Bible School. Guide deaconess Grace in the use of her gifts of teaching and service in this new culture. Continue to raise up financial and prayer support for their ministry.

*We give God glory for the **five baptisms recently celebrated in Battambang, Cambodia,** as a result of the Ray of Hope street children ministry. We thank you, God, for partners such as **LeadAChild** who

*Heavenly Father, **protect and direct missionary Shary Frahm** as she takes care of health needs, visits supporting congregations and makes family memories during her time in the USA.

*We join Shary in **thanking the Lord of the Harvest for providing funds** for the construction of a physical church building for her mission congregation in Siemp Reap, Cambodia. Bless pastor Ravy as he invites the community to this new center where they ministered to physically and spiritually.

*With **the Ventura family, missionaries from Venezuela to Chile**, we praise the Almighty Father for the recent ordination of their son, **Josué**, from “Reformador” Lutheran Seminary in the Dominican Republic. Guide and protect him as he serves for one year in Peru. According to your will, Lord, **facilitate his visa application** so that he may continue as pastor in Chile, where he has been called.

***God of Love, we thank you for the recent “marriage workshops”** that Pastor Adrian Ventura has been leading at “Divine Providence” Lutheran church **in Santiago, Chile**. May these young couples apply the biblical lessons on building their marriage on Christ’s self-sacrificing, forgiving love and be a witness to their families and community.

supply resources. We pray for Joe, Vimol, and all those who lead this dynamic ministry.

*We implore you, Heavenly Father, for **supporters who would be able to donate towards the purchase of a new ministry vehicle for “Ray of Hope”**. We trust that You will raise up those who can make this need a reality.

*Gracious Lord, **thank you for the willingness of Pastor Chimah & Success Francis of Nigeria to answer Your call to serve in Uganda**. We pray that they will find fellow Lutherans both in Nigeria and other parts of the world to financially and prayerfully support this ministry.

*We give **all praise to the God of Mission** for the recent 3-day GLO board meeting in St. Louis. We place in your hands, Lord, all the decisions, plans and goals that were made. **We thank you for each person who is part of the GLO board** and pray that our endeavors will bring true Hope and Life to those who still walk in darkness.

Rise above!

Through your prayers and your gifts, you are a key part of the Global Lutheran Outreach family! Your gift to the General Fund supports all GLO missionaries. Or, designate your gift to the missionary of your choice. [Click here](#).



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