

# From Everywhere to Everywhere

The monthly newsletter of Global Lutheran Outreach

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Dear James,

*"Get up and eat, or your journey will be too much for you."* (1 Kings 19:7, GW).

## When it's all just too much

Elijah had a problem. He was faithful to what the Lord had called him to do, which was to eliminate the false prophets of Baal - and, he was successful! His reward? Evil queen Jezebel vowed to kill him! Elijah fled into the wilderness and asked God to take his life. "Just kill me now", was the gist of his prayer.

God's answer? "Get up and eat!" God provided miraculous food, which gave Elijah the strength to travel through the wilderness for 40 days.

The lesson: my comfort may not be God's #1 priority! (see also the book of Job.)

As a Jesus-followers, we are going to go through hard times. That's just part of the package. God has a plan, and He is working His plan - and sometimes, my personal happiness and well-being slips down on His priority list. That doesn't mean He doesn't love me. Doesn't mean that He has forgotten about me, or that He no longer cares about me. "Things are going to be tough for a while, Elijah, so you better eat."

When it's all just too much, it's time to eat! Feed on God's Word, and you will find strength for the journey.

## Share it with a friend!

Know someone who would be interested in reading



## Director's Corner

Rev. Dr. James Tino

Summer is winding down, and it's back to school - well, in some places, anyways. In the Southern Hemisphere, winter is winding down and the end of the school year is in sight!

This issue features a "southern cone" missionary. The "southern cone" refers to the southernmost countries of South America: Uruguay, Chile, Argentina, Brazil. Missionary Valeria Bustamante is a "south-south" missionary, a native of Argentina who is serving in Uruguay. She has been raising her support in the Southern Cone, which GLO matches dollar-for-dollar.

In my opinion, so-called "south-south" missionary sending represents the greatest opportunity for global

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.](#)

**Sign Up Here!**

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



Lutheran mission expansion in history! The largest Lutheran church bodies in the world are in the global South, while the Lutheran church bodies in the global North are in decline. The challenges are many, but so are the opportunities! Thank you for partnering with GLO to facilitate a global Lutheran missionary movement!

*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: Deaconess Valeria Bustamante** **Serving the Lord in Uruguay**

### **New GLO missionary in Uruguay!**

We are proud and happy to introduce you to deaconess **Valeria Bustamante**, our newest GLO missionary! Valeria will be serving in the city of Salto and in the village of Chapicuy, about five hours north of Montevideo in Uruguay. Salto and Chapicuy are two new church planting situations for the Lutheran Church of Uruguay, under the leadership of pastor Maicon Schieferdecker, a Brazilian missionary supported by LCMS World Mission and the Lutheran Church of Brazil.

Valeria has an interesting "life journey" as a church worker. Born and raised in Argentina, she started her ministry in a very poor section of greater Buenos Aires, working at the congregation "La Concordia" in the areas of music, children's ministry, and visitation. Later, she accepted the invitation to serve in Panama with the ALCE Lutheran Foundation, engaging in activities with women, children, and community projects in rural and indigenous areas of Panama.

Valeria was trained in theology at Concordia Seminary in Argentina and graduated as a deaconess through the Diaconal Training Program and was commissioned as a deaconess in 2010. From October 2010 to July 2019, she served as a deaconess in the Lutheran Church of Uruguay, supported by LCMS World Mission, to establish the Mission Center in downtown Montevideo. In September 2019, she accepted a call to Chile where she served as a deaconess in Valparaíso until 2024.



In all of those places, Valeria's ministry has been especially focused on children and families through visits, Bible school, music in worship, and diaconal service activities. Earlier this year, she accepted the call to return to Uruguay to serve as a **missionary deaconess** in partnership with Global Lutheran Outreach. The gifts, abilities and experiences that God has given her in visitation, music, and education will help extend the Lord's mission in Chapicuy and Salto, and wherever else God may call her to serve.

**You can learn more about Valeria and how to support her ministry here.**



## Happy birthday to...who?

**Here is a fun way to help missionaries feel loved and supported!** Four times a year, GLO will send out a list of all the missionaries who have a birthday coming up soon. Just click to select the missionary/ies that you want to greet, and your name will be included on a special greeting on their birthday for just \$1 per greeting! You will also get a reminder the day before the missionary's birthday in case you want to send your own special greeting or include them in your prayers on their special day. **Watch for an email from Liisa.tino@globallutheranoutreach.com titled "Here is your GLO missionary birthday greeting form"**. Of course, if you do not want to participate, you can opt out when you get the introductory email.

## Congregation in Peril!

Ministry in the big city is always challenging, especially in Latin America, and especially (or so it seems) for Lutherans. **That is why the church we started in Santiago, Chile**

**was so surprising!** Within a few short years, it had grown to become the largest of our Lutheran churches in the country. Even though the rent was high (around US \$2,000/month, or about double the average monthly wage in Chile), it "worked" because the property produced income by renting rooms to immigrants.

**That church is now in jeopardy. What changed?**

When the congregation called their own pastor, they needed to provide a place for him and his family to live. They didn't have the income to rent an apartment, so they converted the space used for immigrant housing to "pastor's housing" which means they lost the income from the immigrant program. Paying the \$2,000/month rent became a struggle, so the national Lutheran Church of Chile stepped in with some subsidy to help out for a while until a solution could be found. It was hoped that the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) would loan the money to buy a property which could house the church and the pastor's family, while also producing income to pay the loan.

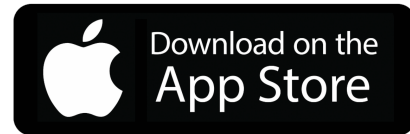
After nearly of year of study, the LCEF has not been able to extend a loan. Now the subsidy is expiring and the rental contract is ending. **The congregation and the pastoral family will soon be "homeless".**

This is a problem that is close to our hearts. Will join us in asking the Lord of all the earth to intervene? Perhaps He has His eye on someone, somewhere, who can solve the "property problem" in a creative way. **A suitable property in Santiago will cost around US \$450,000 for a basic building**, or US \$850,000 for one that can house the church and the pastor's family, while also having space for some income-producing activity. It's a lot of money for me - but not for God! Perhaps you know of a Foundation, congregation, or individual who wants to make a "kingdom investment". If so, let me know and GLO will get it done!



## 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!



## Together before the Throne

*Did you know that the GLO app is updated regularly? All of the following prayer and praise items were posted to the GLO app "Prayer Wall" recently! Download the app to keep your prayers up to date!*



\*Heather and Nathan Pittman (Kenya): *"Pray for us **as we continually learn together how to be parents...** and that we remember each day to rely on God and look to Him as the example of the perfect Father."*

\***Praise God for the financial support** that the Pittmans (Kenya) have received, and ask the Lord to continue moving people to support their ministry.

\*Valeria Bustamante (Uruguay): *"Pray for **those affected by the floods in Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina,** especially for our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Christ."*

\*Also from the Gbeanquois: *"Pray for our ministry as we focus on raising support for our Liberia and Nigeria project to send 200 children to school."*

\*Pray also for **Christiana's new position as 3rd grade teacher in St. Louis**, where she will work while husband Dixon completes his PhD studies. Pray for strength for Christiana as she experiences teaching in a new environment and troubled community.

\*David and Luz Maria Ernst (Venezuela): **Pray for peace to be restored to Venezuela** after what has widely been viewed as a fraudulent presidential election which maintained strongman Nicolas Maduro in power. Pray for the return of democracy to Venezuela.

\*Ben and Scarlett Tino (Guatemala): *"Please **pray for the musicians in Zacapa** as they take charge of leading music in worship while Ben is on furlough, that they would play with confidence and listen to each other."*

\*Ben and Scarlett: *"Pray also for our line of financial support to remain*



\*Jim and Liisa Tino (global): *"Divine Healer, we implore your mercies for GLO missionary Amos Otula (Kenya) and also Beverly Osier (Liisa's aunt), both battling cancer. Comfort them in their pain and remind them that You are beside them in this valley of affliction. Heal them according to Your will."*

\*Samuel and Grace Udofia (Nigeria to Tanzania): *"Guide the leaders of their host diocese in Tanzania to get everything in place **so that they can deploy to their call at the Bible College in Tanzania.**"*

Dixon and Christiana Gbeanquoi (Nigeria/Liberia): *"Praise God for Christiana's successful completion and graduation from the Master's program at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Pray that her work permit will be granted soon."*



*steady, that we may reach our goal of raising enough funds to buy a car (in Guatemala)."*

\*Victor and Belen Rivas (Guatemala to Guyana): *"We praise God for all the people who helped us return to Guyana - family, friends, and churches in Guatemala, and our new friends in Guyana. In the name of Jesus, we put them in your hands, and we bless all the people who helped us to be back in Guyana."*

\*Adrian and Cruz Maria Ventura (Venezuela to Chile): *"We thank God for allowing us to be reunited with our son Josué after 5 years of separation. Thank you, beloved God the Father!"*

\*Lord of the Harvest, **show your blessing on the upcoming GLO mission conference in Paraguay.** Bless all of the presenters with your power and grace, and especially bless each and every one of the participants, so that they may be imbued with your mission passion to reach the lost!

## 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.

## **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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