

VIM Update

Carol Martin is a new Volunteer in Mission in Cameroon. For the first part of her one-year assignment, Carol will serve in a joint placement with Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada as a library assistant at Rain Forest International School in Yaoundé. Following this she plans to stay another six months working in cooperation with the ELCIC and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cameroon.

Christine Mattimoe has been appointed as a Volunteer in Mission. Christine is serving as a teacher of French at the Sahel Academy international mission school in Niger, West Africa. She is in Niger with her husband Tim who manages relief and development for Samaritan's Purse Canada. You can read about their experiences in <http://timchristine.blogspot.com/>

Rev. Jack Frederick and his wife Valerie will be Volunteers in Mission in Guyana from January to June, serving a congregation of the ELC of Guyana. This is their second volunteer trip to Guyana.

Invitations Are Welcomed!

Do you want to organize a world mission evening or highlight global missions on a Sunday morning? Please contact Elina Singh at elinasingh28@yahoo.ca or by phone at 778-893-1905, and she will come and visit your congregation. The presentation includes mission stories and a PowerPoint® slide show (20-45min).

Mind for Mission

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Find out more about the ELCIC Mission in the World program by visiting the ELCIC website:

<http://elcic.ca/In-Mission-in-the-World/default.cfm>

Mind for Mission

BC Synod World Mission News

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Sunzal--Salvadoran sea and surf, sand and stone, setting sun
Picture by Rev. Brian Rude, El Salvador

Excerpts from <http://fransadventures.blogspot.com>. More stories and pictures in the blog!

It's Official!

Dearest family, friends, and supporters...Greetings and peace in the name of Jesus Christ, our light and our life!



It was made official yesterday afternoon when Pastor Pedro Bullon, President of ILEP (*la Iglesia Luterana Evangelica Peruana*) installed me as the Pastor at San Juan Camino de Esperanza, I am now an ILEP pastor! More than thirty children and twenty adults (approximately) came to the service, and our little chapel was packed full! What an exciting time for all of us.

As the children gathered, there was much energy, noise, enthusiasm, hugs, and boisterous singing...what a wonderful way to begin!

Pastora Adita Torres preached an inspiring message linking our baptisms with that of Jesus Christ, while recalling that it was my cross-cultural trip here four years ago with the LTS (Lutheran Theological Seminary) and God's working in these years that led me to serve here. All of these activities, God's activities, are grounded in those baptismal, life-giving waters.

We sang "*Tu has venido a la orilla*", "*You have come down to the Lakeshore*", a reminder of our call as disciples, a call that begins at the "lakeshore", in the waters of our baptism.

As part of the Installation Liturgy, I received a chalice (cup), a paten (plate) and the Holy Bible, symbols of the office of Pastor: Word and Sacrament.

And with being given the official welcome, I presided at the Eucharist (in Spanish of course!) for the first time as their Pastor. It went pretty well considering it was [my first time presiding] as Pastor and in another language.

Plus, I was, and am still, very emotional when I consider all that has happened in recent years to bring me to this time and place to serve God's people in this partnership with ELCIC and ILEP.

Thanks be to God for this precious, holy time in which to be in ministry and partnership together...to share one another's joys and sorrows, talents and dreams! Thank you, ELCIC, supporters, ELW's, prayer partners, friends and family, for making all of these connections and relationships possible! We stand at the beginning of something incredible in this congregation of believers...as the Gospel text for this Sunday affirms, "Come and See" the

revealing of Godself through Jesus Christ. It is an invitation to all of us to be witnesses of Jesus Christ present with us. And surely, Jesus Christ was present with us in this beginning, in this Installation service, as Jesus will continue to walk with all of us. For this, our congregation is aptly named "*Camino de Esperanza*", "*The Way of Hope*"....



With peace, joy, and love,

Pastora Fran