

## **WORLD MISSIONS: Short-Term Assistants (STA's)**

### **Continued from Emily Olson's from page 3**

As you think of me, would you also pray for me? I thank you for caring! Please pray that I would be able to learn enough Spanish and about the culture to minister in ways that impact people's lives. That I would continue to grow in my faith in Jesus and creatively express His love for the people that I meet. That God would protect and encourage me day by day; that God would bless and guide Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church and Pastor Milton Flores; that God would provide the funds needed for me to live and minister in Celaya.

"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I; send me.'" Isaiah 6:8 (KJV)

Sincerely in Jesus Christ,  
Emily Olson

## **RUTH PETERSON**

Thank you so much for your support and prayers as I traveled to Paraguay and Brazil this summer as a short term mission assistant. My time was split between learning about Paraguayan culture with Mafu and Ednay Abel and helping at the Miriam Home in Campo Mourao with Jonni Sliver. I want to share an experience with you that took place while I was serving with a team of young adults from Paraguay. This mission group is called JAHA, which means "Let's go!" in the Paraguayan language of Guaraní. Their vision is to work with indigenous tribes in Paraguay translating the Bible into their native language and starting churches in their communities. During the time that I was with the group we were specifically working with the Ache community. One day while we were there a few of the women had noticed that their neighbors were no longer coming to church and these women were feeling burdened for them and asked if we could go with them to visit their homes. In the morning two of my teammates, myself, and 3 other women from the tribe walked through the village visiting families. We sat outside under the shade and talked with them, sang hymns, read scripture, and prayed. Our time together usually ended in tears as the Lord was working in the lives of the women we visited. As we met with each family I was blown away by these women who cared so much about the souls of their neighbors that they went door to door to ask them why they weren't able to come to church. My heart recognized the burden these women carried for their fellow neighbor and the Holy Spirit nudged me to ask myself, "Do I care that much about my fellow neighbors' relationship with the Living God that I would not be able to rest until I checked on them?" I had to be honest with myself and say "No, Lord please change my heart to be like Yours." That is my prayer for you and me that the Lord would work in us to see those in our own lives who don't know Jesus or are drifting away from Him and that He would give us the words to speak the truth to them.



## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Free Lutheran Seminary**

### **The Continual Call to Proclaim continued from page 5**

the Free Lutheran Seminary, I have been stretched, challenged, and broken by the demands of the ministry and preparations for it. Yet, I am continually comforted and encouraged here by God's Word, my peers, and my professors. This struggle holds true for my wife as well, who is simultaneously working through the difficult realities that will come with supporting a pastor husband.

Thankfully, we are not alone. The support, prayers, and love from a myriad of people have strengthened us along this journey. God has been faithful to His promises, using those who understand the difficulty of the ministry (including our parents) to encourage and guide us while we train. As we start this new decade, we find a new generation of souls being raised that also need the Gospel of Christ. Like our fathers before us, the Scriptural training of seminary will equip us to proclaim the full counsel of God faithfully to every generation. God's Word indeed endures forever.