

More News from South America and Asia

An Asia-Oceania regional gathering of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (over twenty Lutheran church bodies worldwide in fellowship with ELS and WELS) was held in Seoul, South Korea in October 2015 in conjunction with the 10th anniversary of the Seoul Lutheran Church.

A South America regional gathering of the CELC was held in Medellin, Colombia following Easter. Representatives from Peru and Chile and the ELS Board for World Outreach (BWO) attended.

A class in Hermeneutics (Bible Interpretation) was taught at Seoul Theological Institute on April 4-8 by BWO Administrator, Rev. Steven Petersen. Students are preparing for ministry, and some will focus on the Korean-Chinese population in greater Asia.

Faith Mission Society (publisher of *Mission News*) and *Helping Hands* have been supporting ELS world mission programs for many years. We hope this “new look” for our publications will be attractive to our faithful contributors! Look for future bi-monthly issues, each one featuring a single aspect of mission work in South America and Asia.

Of course, we ask your continuing prayers for Gospel outreach around the world.



 Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Board for World Outreach

6 Browns Court Mankato, MN 56001
elsworldoutreach.org • facebook.com/ELSLutherans

MISSION NEWS & HELPING HANDS



Sharing the Gospel in South America and Asia

MAY 2016

American Volunteers at Chile Mission

“You are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household...with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.” Ephesians 2:19-20

Moving brings a lot of changes especially when that move is to a different country. In July 2015, our lives changed quite a bit when we accepted volunteer positions through Kingdom Workers and moved to Linares, Chile; however, the amazing hospitality and love shown by our church family here made the move easy for us. The connection we have, through Christ our cornerstone, instantly created a bond and relationship unlike anything else could. Although we may be seen as foreigners on the outside, with our church family we know we are home.



Missionary Erickson at Linares, Chile



Elise & Jon Gross and Jennifer Proeber

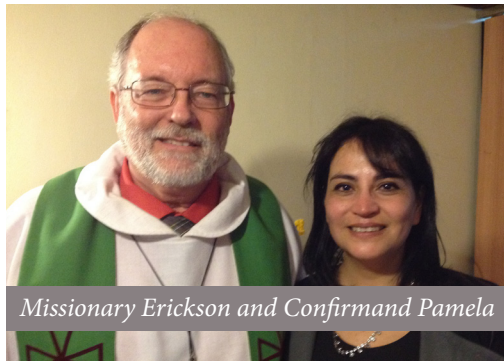
The Linares congregation is extremely special for many reasons, one being that they have continued to worship together even though they have been without a permanent pastor for several years. Pastor Erickson and Chilean vicars visit often; but since they are based in Santiago

a city 4 hours away), the Linares congregation operates with a lot of independence and reliance on the laypeople.

Because of this unique situation, our major role is to support and encourage the Linares church and the ELS mission here. We meet monthly with Pastor Erickson to discuss opportunities to best assist the congregation. This involves encouraging consistent Bible classes and youth group, being active in church activities, and building relationships with members to mutually grow in faith. We also teach English in the nearby public schools of Longaví in order to help with our cost of living and to make connections with members of the community. Every day brings opportunities to share God's grace!



Jennifer Proeber with Students



Missionary Erickson and Confirmand Pamela

God loves and blesses His children, and the Linares congregation is no exception! In the past six months there have been two confirmations and several serious prospects who come to Bible class or the church services. The benches in our small

worship space are quickly filled on Sunday; so much so that the congregation is hoping to build an expansion in the near future!

If you'd like to learn more about our lives here in Chile, you can read our blogs!

Jon & Elise Gross: amorchile.org

Jennifer Proeber: immeasurableriches.weebly.com

Will you join us in prayer?



Jon Gross at Longaví

“We ask that you keep us and your Chilean brothers and sisters in your prayers as we share the story of His love for us. Pray that we may proclaim the gospel clearly, that we will be wise in the way we act

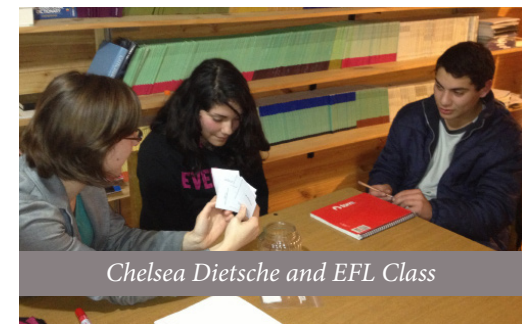
towards others, that we make the most of every opportunity, and that our conversations always be full of grace and seasoned with salt. (Colossians 4:4-6)” *Jon, Elise and Jennifer*

Would you like to help?

1. As noted, above, the congregation in Linares, “United in the Faith Lutheran Church,” is raising funds to expand and renovate its church building. Plans are drawn and the members intend to do as much of the work as possible, but financial contributions are welcome.

2. Chelsea Dietsche, a Bethany Lutheran College graduate, conducts the “English as a Foreign Language” program at the Linares mission. Her program draws 70 students to classes at the church each week, and some of them participate in Bible study or confirmation classes. Scholarship funds are needed to enable more Chilean neighbors to get involved.

To donate please use the attached envelope or visit els.org/donate.



Chelsea Dietsche and EFL Class