

Missionary Prayer Page

DIVISION FOR GLOBAL MISSION/EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



PRAY FOR

**Kathryn Lawler and David Wunsch
Emily and Matthew**

Kate and David are regional representatives, serving as liaison between the ELCA and Lutheran church bodies in the South American region. They will coordinate the Young Adults in Global Mission program in Argentina and Uruguay.



BIRTH DATES

Kate - June 6
David - November 17
Emily - April 7
Matthew - April 4

ANNIVERSARY

August 23

COUNTRIES OF SERVICE

Argentina,
Uruguay, Bolivia,
Chile, and Peru

Prayer Concerns

- ‡ Pray that our hearts and minds may be open to the many gifts of the Spirit that will be offered to us by the people of South America.
- ‡ Pray that the message of Jesus Christ's saving grace may offer hope to and lift up the many people in South America who are living with economic insecurity, social injustice and lack of opportunity.
- ‡ Pray that we can be a channel of God's peace, patience and love in the world and develop relationships of trust with our Lutheran brothers and sisters that will lead to Christian fellowship, spiritual growth, and service done to God's glory.
- ‡ Pray that we may find schools, friends and a neighborhood for our children that will allow us to call this new land "home".
- ‡ Pray that each of us may be watched over and kept safe as we undertake extensive travel to Lutheran churches in Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Bolivia and Peru.
- ‡ Pray that our families and friends who will be missing us in the U.S. will feel connected to our work and our sense of call.



Argentina

(see letter from the Kate and David on the back side of this page)

As a sponsor of Kate and David, you are asked to remember them with your prayers and your financial support. Gifts of any size are welcome; a gift of \$ 130 supports a family for one day. Please send support gifts to:

Missionary-for-a-Day
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 71764
Chicago, IL 60694-1764

Make check payable to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Latin America it is common to say upon welcoming a guest into your home, “mi casa es su casa”, or “my home is also yours”. In the same way, our family would like to welcome you into our global mission service in South America. We want this incredible experience of mission to also be yours.

2005 has been a grace-filled year for our family, one in which we have heard and accepted God’s call to pull up our roots in New York City and move to Argentina as long-term mission personnel for the ELCA. We are both now serving as the regional representatives for five countries in South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Peru and Uruguay). We will also be coordinating the Young Adults in Global Mission program in Argentina and Uruguay. We will arrive in our new home of Buenos Aires on October 16th with our two children, Emily (5) and Matthew (2).

Becoming long-term mission personnel is certainly a radical life change and serious commitment that we have come to after many years of discernment, reflection and prayer. During the past few months as we have entered deeply into the intensity of this transition – selling our home, leaving our jobs, and saying goodbye to family, friends and our church community – we have been awestruck by the clarity and calm that has been with us. We have felt God’s spirit within us and gentle hand upon us.

As we look to the future, we are tremendously excited about embracing our new life. One of our first tasks as regional representatives will be to sit with the leaders of each of our companion churches in Argentina, Bolivia, Peru and Chile to learn more about their histories and their hopes and challenges for church growth, evangelism, leadership development, peace and reconciliation, and responding to the broader context in which each church is carrying out its mission (for example, sustainable development, social and health issues). As we immerse ourselves in the diverse realities of our companion churches, together with them, we will develop a vision for how the ELCA can share its gifts with our companions and how we can receive the gifts that they have to offer the ELCA.

Over the course of the next year, we will assume responsibility for the Young Adults in Global Mission Program in Argentina and Uruguay. This program offers the opportunity for young adults from the U.S. between the ages of 19 and 30 to spend a year overseas living with a family and volunteering with a church or social service agency. We hope to grow spiritually together with the young adults through the faith development component of this program.

As missionaries, we believe that just as important as going out into the world is our coming back and sharing the story with those at home. We will be sending newsletters with pictures that aim to bring our experience to life for you. Maybe some of you will be inspired to visit and experience life in South America for yourselves. Every 22 months, we will return to the U.S. on home assignment and will have the opportunity to share our experience more intimately and directly through visits to you and your congregations.

We know that our mission service will be rich and life-giving for us, and we pray for the ability to share this experience in a meaningful way with others. We hope that you will indeed feel that you are “en su casa”. You are welcome and God is our host.

Peace,

Kate, David, Emily and Matthew