



¡SED BIENVENIDOS!

Queridos hermanos y hermanas, pastores, profesores y misioneros, bienvenidos a este Foro 2026 y a España, un país en el que la fe luterana tuvo raíces vivas en el siglo XVI, que fueron arrancadas por la persecución civil y religiosa de la época y en la que hoy, la fe luterana vuelve de nuevo a nuestro país con el deseo de quedarse en la cotidianidad y el corazón de algunos españoles que la aprecian, junto a muchos hermanos venidos de todo el mundo. En este encuentro queremos darle una nueva oportunidad a España para reforzar su misión y a quienes trabajamos diariamente para que la fe llegue allí donde quiere ser bien recibida e incluso donde, en ignorancia, no lo ha sido todavía.

Especialmente, quiero darte a ti la bienvenida y a tu congregación, distrito o región eclesial, sabiendo que nuestro trabajo y lucha nos es común portando en las manos el Evangelio y la Confesión que nos une mientras transitamos dejando la buena semilla a un lado y otro del camino.

Venimos a este Foro 2026 en España para edificarnos en unidad en el deseo de saber plantar mejores iglesias, ministrar la Palabra y los sacramentos y ejercer la misericordia que de Cristo hemos recibido, administrando y gestionando debidamente el fruto de Cristo aquí. La misión está en un momento clave, si retrocedemos corremos el riesgo de perderlo todo, si avanzamos veremos los frutos. Nuestra Iglesia confesional necesita espacios visibles públicos dignos más allá de los medios digitales, y también la organización de la estructura eclesial que nos dote de seriedad ante nuestros conciudadanos.

Quiero dar las gracias al Rev. Dr David Preuss por su amor a España y su trabajo apreciado entre nosotros, por permitirnos tener este encuentro y a todos los ponentes que vais a participar juntamente con él desde nuestra región de Eurasia y USA y a todos los que anteriormente lo hicieron posible. También al Rev. David Warner y al Rvdo Dr. Arthur Just, entre otros, por su liderazgo en la misión, en especial, de los últimos 10 años aquí.

Tenemos mucha ilusión en recibirlos y en que conozcáis nuestro país y cultura estos días para que llevéis en el corazón la visión de que es necesario hacer perdurable nuestro testimonio luterano en España.
¡Sed bienvenidos!

Bishop Felipe Lobo Arranz (IELE)



WELCOME FROM THE BISHOP

Dear brothers and sisters, pastors, teachers and missionaries, welcome to this 2026 Forum and to Spain, a country where the Lutheran faith took root in the 16th century, only to be uprooted by the civil and religious persecution of the time. Today, the Lutheran faith is returning to our country with the desire to remain in the daily lives and hearts of some Spaniards who appreciate it, along with many brothers and sisters from all over the world. At this meeting, we want to give Spain a new opportunity to strengthen its mission and those of us who work daily to bring the faith to places where it is welcome and even where, through ignorance, it has not yet been received.

In particular, I would like to welcome you and your congregation, district or ecclesiastical region, knowing that our work and struggle are common to us all, carrying in our hands the Gospel and the Confession that unites us as we journey along, sowing good seed on either side of the road.

We come to this 2026 Forum in Spain to build ourselves up in unity in the desire to know how to plant better churches, minister the Word and the sacraments, and exercise the mercy we have received from Christ, properly administering and managing the fruit of Christ here. The mission is at a key moment; if we retreat, we risk losing everything; if we move forward, we will see the fruits. Our confessional Church needs visible public spaces beyond digital media, as well as the organisation of an ecclesial structure that gives us credibility in the eyes of our fellow citizens.

I would like to thank Rev. Dr David Preuss for his love for Spain and his valued work among us, for allowing us to have this meeting, and all the speakers who will be participating with him from our region of Eurasia and the USA, and all those who made it possible before. Also to Rev. David Warner and Rev. Dr Arthur Just, among others, for their leadership in the mission, especially over the last 10 years here.

We are very excited to welcome you and to introduce you to our country and culture over the next few days, so that you may carry in your hearts the vision that it is necessary to make our Lutheran witness in Spain enduring.

Welcome!

Bishop Felipe Lobo Arranz (IELE)



WELCOME FROM LCMS EURASIA

Welcome to this 2026 FORO in Spain—a country where the Lutheran faith first took root 500 years ago, only to be uprooted by religious persecution as soon as it was planted. Today, by God’s grace, the Lutheran confession has returned and is taking firm hold in the lives and hearts of Spaniards who have heard the gospel, along with many brothers and sisters from around the world, especially from Latin America.

Spain offers a rich historical background—once the heart of global Catholicism, it now presents exciting opportunities for gospel proclamation in a land that largely missed the Lutheran Reformation. For example, our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Toledo—one of the great capitals of the Inquisition in the Middle Ages—began holding divine service in 2020, starting with a small community mostly of Venezuelans and Peruvians.

The Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Española (IELE), a mission of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), serves as your spiritual home for as long as you are in Spain. In our IELE churches, the pure gospel of Christ is proclaimed to over 120 members gathered in regular divine services and outreach in key locations across the country, including Madrid (Emanuel congregation), Seville, Alicante, and Cartagena, with preaching outposts and outreach extending further, including Toledo, Barcelona, Logroño, Galicia, Asturias, and beyond. These congregations and communities are served by 9 faithful deaconesses, and 3 deaconess students are currently being trained to serve the church at large. The IELE adheres faithfully to the Book of Concord of 1580, holds Scripture as the inspired Word of God, practices closed communion, and upholds biblical theological positions—sharing the same confessional foundation as the LCMS. Our church bodies are connected through the International Lutheran Council (ILC).

Contemporary Lutheran Reality: Challenges and Opportunities

Spain presents a challenging spiritual landscape marked by significant secularization and decline in traditional Christian affiliation. Catholicism, historically dominant, has seen steady losses, and overall religious practice remains low. Many Spaniards identify as non-religious, atheist, or agnostic, with practicing believers forming a minority. Church attendance is minimal, and projections indicate continued decline in institutional Christianity amid a highly secular society.

Mission Work: Bright Spots in a Challenging Landscape

Despite these realities, the LCMS—through alliance missionaries and partners—is actively supporting the IELE in proclaiming the gospel and planting churches. God has begun a great work among us, drawing lost sinners to the pure teaching of repentance and remission of sins.



PILLARS OF LCMS MISSIONS

The three pillars of our mission strategy are:

- Spreading the Gospel in constant and creative ways to the Spanish-speaking communities of Spain.
- Planting and strengthening Lutheran churches in cities like Madrid, Toledo, Alicante, Cartagena, Barcelona, Logroño, Galicia, Seville, and beyond.
- Showing mercy through compassionate service in church and community.

In Madrid, the Emanuel congregation (over 50 members) has faced itinerancy after losing a stable meeting space in 2025. Partners are urgently needed to secure leased premises for improved collaboration, liturgical stability, ongoing evangelism, pastoral care, Bible studies, and more—they build on the foundation of Christ (1 Corinthians 3:11).

In Alicante, the congregation (averaging 12-19 attendees, with potential growth to ~27 in 2026) meets in an overcrowded home space (“Crystal Church”). A larger public venue is essential for safety, family ministry, fellowship, and outreach to locals, expatriates, and vacationers in this high-density foreign resident area.

Additional pillars include theological education (Bible institute, diaconal training), English Bible camps, community outreach, and social media efforts to raise awareness and build support.

Our confessional Lutheran church needs a visible public space for worship, study, library, and community outreach activities beyond digital media, as well as visibility and legitimacy among Spanish citizens. The FORO unites U.S. congregations, individuals, and overseas partners like ours in Spain to coordinate resources, foster church planting, strengthen Lutheran communities, promote mutual learning, and build lasting relationships—all rooted in Lutheran doctrine—to build a bold confession of Christ and advance a vibrant Lutheran church culture.

We come to this 2026 FORO (our first gathering in the LCMS Eurasia region, April 23–28 in Madrid) to maintain the spirit of unity: to explore ways to reach the lost, build relationships, administer the word and sacraments faithfully, and exercise the mercy we have received from Christ. The mission is at a key moment; if we retreat, we risk losing ground; if we move forward together, we will see the fruits.

Dear brothers and sisters, pastors, teachers, missionaries, and friends from your congregation, district, or ecclesiastical region: we welcome you warmly, knowing that our work and struggle are common to us all. We carry in our hands the gospel that saves us and the confession that unites us as we journey together, sowing good seed on either side of the road.

Over the next few days, you will hear more about this vital work, meet those whom God has called and planted by his grace, see the mission up close, and explore partnership opportunities. We invite you to prayerfully consider how you might join us in this exciting opportunity to support and strengthen Christ's people in Spain. Come see God's work in missions firsthand!

Rev. Dr. David Preus, Regional Director LCMS Eurasia



BIOGRAPHY- REV. LOBO



Rev. Felipe Lobo Arranz. Se graduó en Teología en la Facultad de Teología Protestante SEUT de Madrid, tiene un grado en Educación en la Universidad Complutense y está a punto de concluir sus estudios en la facultad de Derecho, UNED. Su familia conoció al Señor en su adolescencia y durante 18 años y se dedicó como laico comprometido en tareas relacionadas con la evangelización, plantación de Iglesias y enseñanza bíblico-catequética por varias regiones de España y en el mundo musulmán. Tras años de trabajo en el sector secular, principalmente en el sector comercial y asesoría, trabajó en el ministerio, inicialmente, como coordinador regional en Sociedades Bíblicas Unidas en España (1998-2000), hasta ser llamado al ministerio pastoral a pleno tiempo en la IEE (sección luterana) durante 16 años donde fue pastor ordenado en la Iglesia de San Pablo en Granada y sus misiones hasta 2000-2006 y en País Vasco y Cantabria (2007-2016) en la Iglesia de Jesús y la Iglesia de Cristo y sus misiones.

Fue vocal en el Consejo Evangélico de Andalucía y Vicepresidente del Consejo Evangélico del País Vasco vinculados a la FEREDE (Federación de Entidades Religiosas Evangélicas de España) el órgano de relación entre entidades evangélicas y el Estado español. Actualmente es pastor misionero ordenado en la IELE desde 2018, realizando su trabajo pastoral y misionero en la congregación de Alicante y presta servicio a las demás congregaciones de España, part time. Trabaja como profesor y predicador en Centro Sarepta (misión luterana noruega) en Alfaz de Pí, Alicante desde 2018, en programas formativos para personas que quieren descubrir la Biblia y mejorar su formación bíblico-teológica en su sección de habla española con alumnos españoles y en toda América del Sur. A su vez, es el Obispo/presidente de la IELE.

Rev. Felipe Lobo Arranz. He graduated in Theology from the SEUT Protestant Theology Faculty in Madrid, has a degree in Education from the Complutense University and is about to complete his studies at the UNED Law Faculty. His family came to know the Lord when he was a teenager, and for 18 years he devoted himself as a committed layman to tasks related to evangelism, church planting, and biblical-catechetical teaching in various regions of Spain and in the Muslim world. After years of working in the secular sector, mainly in commerce and consulting, he initially worked in the ministry as regional coordinator for the United Bible Societies in Spain (1998-2000), until he was called to full-time pastoral ministry in the IEE (Lutheran section) for 16 years, where he was ordained pastor in the Church of St. Paul in Granada and its missions until 2000-2006 and in the Basque Country and Cantabria (2007-2016) in the Church of Jesus and the Church of Christ and its missions.

He was a member of the Evangelical Council of Andalusia and Vice-President of the Evangelical Council of the Basque Country linked to FEREDE (Federation of Evangelical Religious Entities of Spain), the body that liaises between evangelical entities and the Spanish State. He has been an ordained missionary pastor in the IELE since 2018, carrying out his pastoral and missionary work in the congregation of Alicante and serving the other congregations in Spain on a part-time basis. He has been working as a teacher and preacher at Centro Sarepta (Norwegian Lutheran mission) in Alfaz de Pí, Alicante since 2018, in training programmes for people who want to discover the Bible and improve their biblical-theological training in its Spanish-speaking section with Spanish students and throughout South America. He is also the Bishop/President of the IELE.



BIOGRAPHY- REV. PREUS



El **Reverendo Dr. David Preus** obtuvo su Maestría en Divinidad en el Concordia Theological Seminary de Fort Wayne, Indiana, y su doctorado en Teología Histórica en el Concordia Seminary de St. Louis. Su formación doctoral incluyó una beca de investigación en el Instituto de Historia Europea de Maguncia, Alemania, en 2011. Fue ordenado al Ministerio de la Predicación el 28 de agosto de 2011 en la iglesia luterana Mount Olive en Billings, Montana, donde sirvió como pastor desde 2011 hasta 2015.

En la actualidad, David vive con su esposa, Jenny, y sus nueve hijos en Braşov, Rumanía, donde se desempeña como director regional de LCMS Eurasia. Como director regional, supervisa a los misioneros de LCMS, coordina las operaciones misioneras y colabora en la plantación de iglesias y la educación teológica con las iglesias asociadas de LCMS en toda la región euroasiática. También sirve como pastor asistente y plantador de iglesias en Braşov. Antes de mudarse a Rumanía, David fue plantador de iglesias y profesor en el Seminario Concordia, El Reformador, en Palmar Arriba, República Dominicana (2015-2021).

Rev. Dr. David Preus earned his Master's of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana and his PhD in Historical Theology from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. His doctoral education included a research fellowship at the Institute for European History in Mainz, Germany in 2011. He was ordained into the Preaching Office on August 28, 2011, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Billings, Montana, where he served as pastor from 2011 to 2015. Today, David lives with his wife, Jenny, and their nine children in Brasov, Romania, where he serves as regional director of LCMS Eurasia. As regional director, he supervises LCMS missionaries, oversees mission operations, and cooperates in church planting and theological education with LCMS partner churches throughout the Eurasian region. He also serves as assistant pastor and church planter in Brasov. Before moving to Romania, David was a church planter and professor at Seminario Concordia, el Reformador in Palmar Arriba, Dominican Republic (2015-2021).



BIOGRAPHY- REV. MACHADO



El **Rev. Isaac José Machado Valladares**, nacido en Caracas, Venezuela, forma parte del programa de Misioneros Alianzas desde 2019. Curso estudios universitarios en el Taller de Arte Sonoro en 2007, obteniendo el título de Ingeniero en Audio, y en 2010 en la Escuela de Cine y Televisión de Caracas, obteniendo el título de especialista en audiovisual. En 2009, cursó estudios en el Instituto Teológico Juan de Frías, en Venezuela, y en 2015 empezó su bachillerato en teología con el Seminario Concordia en Argentina, para luego trasladarse en 2017 al Seminario Concordia el Reformado en la República

Dominicana y graduarse en 2019 con el título de Bachiller en Teología. Actualmente, cursa estudios de maestría en el Församlingsfakulteten en Göteborg, Suecia. Su trabajo en España lo lleva a viajar y visitar diversos puntos misionales casi todas las semanas, llevando el evangelio a todos aquellos que necesitan escucharlo.

Rev. Isaac José Machado Valladares, born in Caracas, Venezuela, has been part of the Missionary Alliances programme since 2019. He studied at Taller de Arte Sonoro in 2007, earning a degree in Audio Engineering, and in 2010 at Escuela de Cine y Televisión de Caracas, earning a degree in Audiovisual Studies. In 2009, he studied at the Juan de Frías Theological Institute in Venezuela, and in 2015 he began his bachelor's degree in theology at the Concordia Seminary in Argentina. In 2017, he transferred to the Concordia Reformed Seminary in the Dominican Republic and graduated in 2019 with a Bachelor's degree in Theology. He is currently pursuing a master's degree at the Församlingsfakulteten in Gothenburg, Sweden. His work in Spain takes him to travel and visit various mission sites almost every week, bringing the gospel to all those who need to hear it.



BIOGRAPHY - REV. HENN



El **Rev. Alisson Jonathan Henn** está unido en santo matrimonio con Katherine Stübbe de Souza Henn, y el Señor ha bendecido su hogar con dos hijas: Lauren y Stephany. Posee el título de Licenciado en Teología por la Universidad Luterana de Brasil (ULBRA), obtenido en 2014 en la ciudad de Canoas, Estado de Río Grande del Sur, Brasil. En 2016 concluyó el Posgrado en Teología y Pastoral, también por la ULBRA, ampliando su formación teológica y pastoral. Fue ordenado al santo ministerio pastoral por la Iglesia Evangélica Luterana de Brasil (IELB) en 2016.

A partir de su ordenación, ejerció fiel y diligentemente el ministerio pastoral en la ciudad de Caxias do Sul, Estado de Río Grande del Sur, donde sirvió a la Iglesia de Cristo entre los años 2017 - 2024. Actualmente cursa la Maestría en Teología en el Seminario Concordia, en São Leopoldo, Brasil profundizando sus estudios en el ámbito teológico académico. En el año 2024, tras discernimiento y oración, recibió y aceptó el honroso llamado para servir como Misionero Alianza en Madrid, España, dedicando su vida y vocación al anuncio fiel del Evangelio, al fortalecimiento de la Iglesia y al cuidado pastoral de las almas confiadas a su ministerio.

Rev. Alisson Jonathan Henn is married to Katherine Stübbe de Souza Henn, and the Lord has blessed their home with two daughters: Lauren and Stephany. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Theology from the Lutheran University of Brazil (ULBRA), obtained in 2014 in the city of Canoas, State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. In 2016, he completed a postgraduate degree in Theology and Pastoral Ministry, also at ULBRA, expanding his theological and pastoral training. He was ordained to the holy pastoral ministry by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brazil (IELB) in 2016. Since his ordination, he has faithfully and diligently exercised his pastoral ministry in the city of Caxias do Sul, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil where he served the Church of Christ between 2017 - 2024. He is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Theology at the Concordia Seminary in São Leopoldo, Brazil deepening his studies in the field of academic theology. In 2024, after discernment and prayer, he received and accepted the honorable call to serve as an Alianza Missionary in Madrid, Spain, dedicating his life and vocation to the faithful proclamation of the Gospel, the strengthening of the Church, and the pastoral care of the souls entrusted to his ministry.



BIOGRAPHY- REV. SUÁREZ



Rev. Antonio Suárez Proviene de la ILV, específicamente de la Iglesia Luterana Fuente de Vida, Puerto Ordaz, Estado Bolívar - Venezuela, que junto con su esposa Loisy formaban parte del grupo de jóvenes de la iglesia. Fue nombrado presidente, desempeñando el cargo por un año. En el año 2007, junto a su esposa y sus dos hijos se mudan a Tarragona - España, gracias a su trabajo secular.

A finales del año 2008, empieza a servir como catequista en San Sadurn de Noya - Barcelona. Para octubre del 2010, se establece su residencia familiar en Cartagena - Murcia, donde se han venido reuniendo para servicios y estudios bíblicos presenciales. Gracias a la digitalización también se ha estado compartiendo la Palabra del Señor con miembros e invitados a través de Skype y que posteriormente se comparte por Zoom. Con el formato establecido para pastores trabajadores, como el FPH, se forma en el Seminario Concordia en la República Dominicana, recibiendo el título de diplomado en teología en mayo de 2023 Ordenado como Pastor en el año 2021, actualmente está sirviendo en la Región de Murcia, con miembros en Cartagena, Lorca y Murcia capital, extensivo a comulgantes y miembros de la IELE en Sevilla, La Rioja y esporádicamente en Madrid.

Rev Antonio Suárez He comes from the ILV, specifically from the Fuente de Vida Lutheran Church, Puerto Ordaz, Bolívar State, Venezuela, where he and his wife Loisy were part of the church's youth group. He was appointed president, serving in that role for one year. In 2007, he moved to Tarragona, Spain, with his wife and two children, due to his secular work. At the end of 2008, he began serving as a catechist in San Sadurn de Noya, Barcelona. In October 2010, he established his family residence in Cartagena, Murcia, where they have been meeting for in-person services and Bible studies. Thanks to digitalisation, he has also been sharing the Word of the Lord with members and guests via Skype and later via Zoom. Following the format established for working pastors, such as the FPH, he trained at Concordia Seminary in the Dominican Republic, receiving a diploma in theology in May 2023. Ordained as a pastor in 2021, you are currently serving in the Region of Murcia, with members in Cartagena, Lorca, and Murcia capital, extending to communicants and members of the IELE in Sevilla, La Rioja, and sporadically in Madrid.

GOD'S MISSION IN EURASIA

LCMS Mission Work in Eurasia

Regional Director, Rev. Dr. David Preus (LCMS)

Our Mission

Is to

SHARE the GOSPEL of Jesus Christ wherever we are called, and

PLANT LUTHERAN CHURCHES wherever He directs us to do so, and

SHOW His MERCY, throughout the Eurasia region.



Planting Lutheran churches is the keystone of our mission work, for the church—the body of Christ—is the essential center that unites and sustains everything we do. The heart and soul of mission work is missiology, which grows out of the Means of Grace—God's Word and Sacraments. The Word builds the church. Thus, the Word of God preached, and the Word in Baptism and the Lord's Supper must be central to the church's mission.

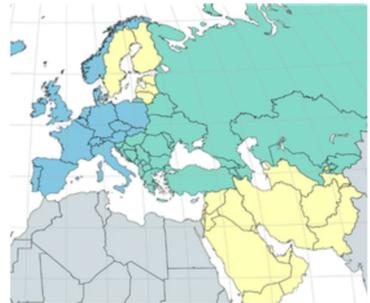
Wherever the Means of Grace are given, God makes Christians who then desire to go forth and spread the Gospel and show mercy. As His people spread the Gospel and show mercy, our Lord moves His people to plant more Lutheran churches. Thus, it sits as the keystone that holds everything in place.

Our main purpose is to share the message of His redemption with the world.

LCMS EURASIA

Our Region:

- Western Europe-British Isles (France, Belgium, England, and Ireland)
- Central Europe (Confessional Lutheran Alliance, the Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia)
- Southwestern Europe (Italy, Switzerland, and Austria)
- Southeastern Europe (Romania, Hungary, Moldova, Bulgaria, Greece, and Turkey)
- Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, and Pakistan)
- Spain and Portugal
- Germany (Persian Project, Expat Project, Muslim Outreach, Ukrainian Refugee Outreach, Wittenberg Project)
- Norway and Iceland
- Nordic Dioceses (Sweden and Finland)
- Baltics (Latvia and Lithuania)
- Russian-Speaking Churches (Ukraine, Russia, and Georgia)
- Israel and the Middle East





LCMS EURASIA IN NUMBERS

- 28 Missionary Families in 2026
- 2 Alliance Missionaries
- 12 Regions
- 14 Church Bodies
- Four Luther Academy students ordained (one through colloquium)
- Eight deaconesses commissioned in Spain

37+ Church Plants and Preaching Stations:

- Czech Republic (2 church plants, 1 seminary student)
- Hungary (1 church plant, 2 seminary students)
- Ireland (1 church plant)
- Israel (1 church plant)
- Italy (7 church plants, 3 seminary students (2 ordained))
- Germany (6 church plants; 4 seminary students: 2 German, 1 Iranian, and 1 Russian; 3 Iranians applying for next semester at seminary)
- Greece (1 preaching station)
- Pakistan (3 seminary students with future church plants)
- Poland (1 church plant, 1 seminary student)
- Romania and Balkan Region (6 church plants, 1 seminary student, 1 new seminary applicant)
- Spain (12-plus churches (active plants and preaching stations))
- Turkey (1 seminary student)
- 2,000+ Baptisms of Persian (Iranian and Afghan) converts in recent years in Germany (Persian Ministry)
- 43 Riga Luther Academy (pastoral candidates and others)
- First Germany Mission Summit (FORO) in September 2025 in Hamburg, Berlin, Wittenberg, next one in September 2026, Spain FORO in April 2026
- Translation projects of Lutheran Resources in six languages: Romanian, Russian, Italian, Greek, Persian, and Hebrew



MADRID PROJECT

Maximiliano Hiller, Júlia Hoerlle and Erica Griebel

For more than 20 years, Lutherans in Madrid and the surrounding area have sought to gather faithfully to share the Word. After a period of relative stability thanks to the hospitality of another denomination, in 2025 the situation changed, forcing us to return to a period of itinerancy. This proposal seeks to establish a strategic partnership for the lease of our own premises in Madrid, which is vital for stabilizing a congregation of more than 50 members and allowing the mission to have a base from which it can continue to grow.



Having our own space would allow us to:

- 1. Identity and visibility:** A place that represents us as a Lutheran church, without depending on the availability of other denominations or secular uses.
- 2. Liturgical stability:** A permanent temple for the administration of the Word and the Sacraments.
- 3. Continuous evangelism:** A visible open door in the city and the neighborhood, allowing us to carry out the following activities in addition to Sunday services: pastoral care, Bible school, women's, men's, and family meetings, community services, and weekday Bible studies, which are impossible to do in rooms rented by the hour.

The Emanuel congregation in Madrid is looking for partners, friends, and brothers and sisters so that together we can overcome this infrastructure challenge.

"For no one can lay a foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 3:11)



ALICANTE CONGREGATION PROJECT

Rev. Felipe Lobo

Our work in Alicante began in September 2019 and was the result of a desire to have a confessional Lutheran congregation for the spiritual care of the members of the Centro Sarepta mission and its visitors in communion with the IELE.

This has been joined by family members of missionaries and migrant brothers and sisters from America and, recently, Spaniards who have been attending our activities with some regularity.



Although we are still few in number, we average 12 per service. If we add members and attendees, we would currently be at 19, with the possibility of expanding to about 27 people in 2026, if we include those who visit us.

We are meeting in a small "greenhouse" that we jokingly call the Crystal Church, inside a house in the Escandinavia neighborhood of Alfaz del Pi, in Alicante.

The truth is that the space is already too small for us. More than 20 people in a dining room for our religious activities would mean that we would be bordering on legal irregularity for many local councils, for safety reasons. This makes it necessary to start thinking about a larger, public space, for two reasons: we need more space for adults, children, and the practice of koinonia, and secondly, because we want to be in a public space so that more people can come to us, as we live in a region of the province with a high density of foreign residents throughout the year and vacationers who may be Lutheran and wish to attend.



DIACONIA PROJECT

Rev. Isaac Machado (LCMS alliance missionary)

The Church does not exist for itself. It exists because Christ gathers it together through his Word and Sacraments, and sends it out to serve the world.

Our emphasis is based on three pillars:

- Spreading the Gospel.
- Planting Lutheran churches.
- Showing mercy.

We believe that the greatest need of human beings is the forgiveness of sins and new life in Christ.

That is why this project includes:

- Pastoral and diaconal accompaniment.
- Visitation.
- Prayer and spiritual comfort.
- Invitation to congregational life.
- Classes on evangelism.
- The Gospel is not imposed or conditioned: it is offered as a free gift.
- Seeking out those in need.
- Create and develop Christian education programs for all levels.
- Basic support for vulnerable people.
- Accompanying the elderly or people living alone.
- Practical guidance for migrants.
- Spaces for listening and care.



One of the things we intend to do is to run training courses with the organization Diaconía España and establish bonds of mercy with them. At the same time, we will continue to use the diaconal training program to run workshops that help us strengthen each pillar.



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT PROJECT

Rev. Isaac Machado (LCMS alliance missionary) and Jorge Paruta

We propose hiring a part-time administrative assistant (20 hours per week) to strengthen the church's organizational structure and free the pastoral team from administrative tasks.

Currently, much of the document management, accounting, and organizational work falls to the administrative council in the form of the secretary or treasurer and the pastoral staff.

This:

- Reduces the time devoted to ministerial work.
- Increases the risk of disorganization.
- Leads to non-compliance with regulations or delays in compliance.



With this project, we seek to increase operational efficiency, reduce administrative errors, and update legal compliance. This will allow more time for pastoral work and church projects.

Expected job functions would include:

- Documentation and file management.
- Basic accounting support.
- Telephone and email support.
- Organization of the agenda.
- Support for events and internal coordination.
- Compliance with data protection regulations (General Data Protection Regulation).
- Social media management.
- And more

LANGUAGE SPANISH

SURVIVAL

hello	hola (<i>o-lah</i>)
goodbye	adiós (<i>ah-dyohs</i>)
please	por favor (<i>pohrfah-bohr</i>)
thank you	gracias (<i>grah-syahs</i>)
you're welcome	de nada (<i>deh nah-dah</i>)
yes	sí (<i>see</i>)
no	no (<i>noh</i>)
nice to meet you	mucho gusto (<i>moo-chohgoos-toh</i>)
excuse me	perdón (<i>pehr-dohn</i>)

Practice with a video on the LCMS International Youtube channel.

RELIGION

church	iglesia (<i>ee-gleh-syah</i>)
God	Dios (<i>dyohs</i>)
Jesus	Jesús (<i>heh-soos</i>)
Holy Spirit	Espíritu Santo (<i>ehs-pee-ree-too sahn-toh</i>)
Bible	Biblia (<i>bee-blyah</i>)
God bless you.	Dios te bendiga. (<i>dyohs teh behn-dee-gah</i>)
Jesus loves you.	Jesús te ama. (<i>heh-soos teh ah-mah</i>)
Let us pray.	Oremos. (<i>oh-reh-mohs</i>)
You are forgiven.	Eresperdonado/a. (<i>eh-rehs pehr-doh-nah-doh/dah</i>)

QUESTIONS/PHRASES

My name is _____.	Me llamo _____. (<i>meyah-moh</i> _____)
Where is the bathroom?	Dónde está el baño? (<i>dohn-deh ehs-tah ehl bah-nyoh?</i>)
How much does it cost?	Cuánto cuesta? (<i>kwahn-toh kwehs-tah?</i>)
I need help.	Necesito ayuda. (<i>neh-seh-see-toh ah-yoo-dah</i>)
I am learning.	Estoy aprendiendo. (<i>ehs-toy ah-prehn-dyehn-doh</i>)
I am from _____.	Soy de _____. (<i>soydeh</i> _____)
I am a _____.	Yo soy _____. (<i>yosoy</i> _____)
How do you say _____?	Cómo se dice _____? (<i>koh-moh seh dee-she</i> _____?)

BONUS

Greetings!	Saludos (<i>sah-loo-dohs</i>)
It's okay./No worries.	Está bien. (<i>ehs-tah byehn</i>)
Lutheran	Luterano/a (<i>loo-teh-rah-noh/nah</i>)



HOW TO PARTNER



EXPERIENCE,
WITNESS,
PARTNER WITH A
FORO.



**GOD'S
MISSION
IN
SPAIN**

www.lcms.org/givenow/spain-foro

Checks should be made out to *LCMS*
Memo line: Spain - Project ID: ES0001-65013

Mail to either of the following:

LCMS Mission Advancement
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Mission Central 40716
Highway E-16
Mapleton, IA 51034

Contact: David.Preus@lcms.org