

The Next Chapter...

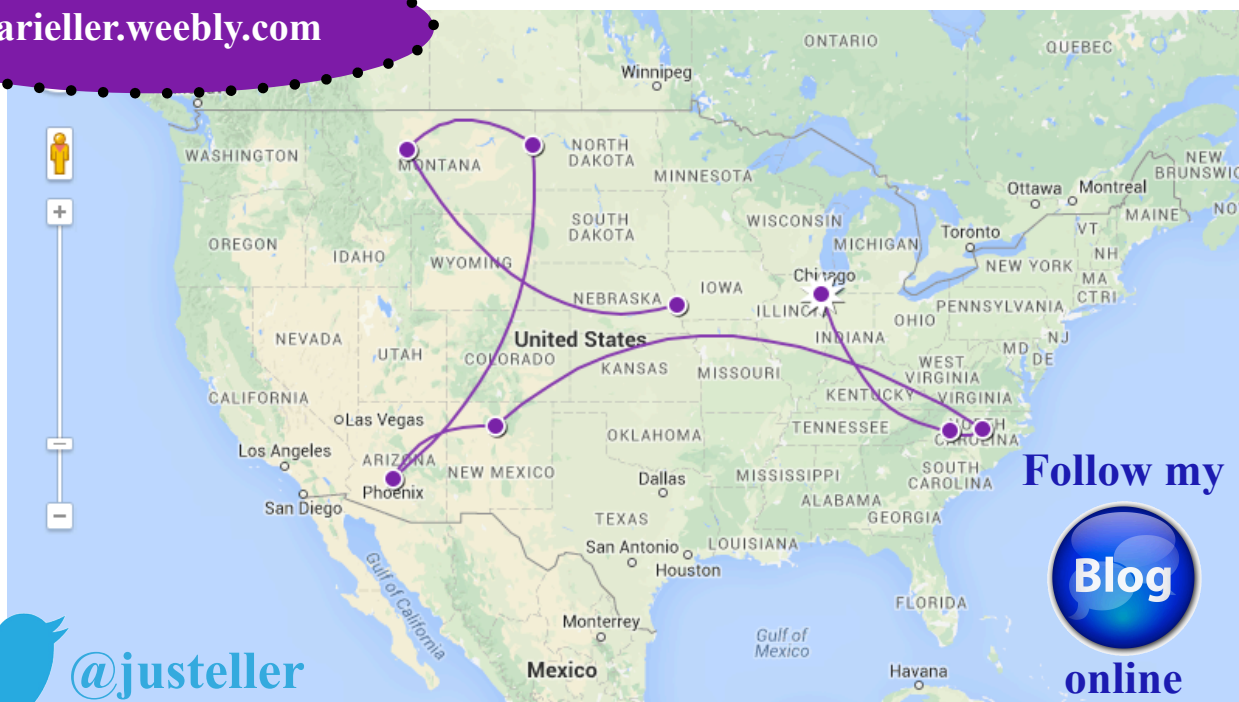
by Kari (and Justin) Eller

Global Mission Personnel - ELCA



February - April, 2015

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During these last few months, we have been in planning mode, preparing for our 3rd Home Assignment. Finally, with much excitement, we can say...Here we come! We can't wait to see you!

May 31
June 7
June 14
June 21
June 28
July 5
July 12
July 19
July 26

[Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church](#)
[MT Synod Assembly](#)
[Pella Lutheran Church](#)
[Prince of Peace Lutheran Church](#)
[Bethlehem Lutheran Church](#)
[Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church](#)
[St. John's Lutheran Church](#)
Summer Missionary Conference
[St. Mark Lutheran Church](#)

Omaha, NE
Great Falls, MT
Sidney, MT
Phoenix, AZ
Los Alamos, NM
Raleigh, NC
Salisbury, NC
Naperville, IL
Worth, IL

February, 2015

- Everette went to Colonia (summer camp)
- CPD Skype conferences- Global team
- Justin traveled to the north of Argentina
- Carnival!
- Participated in the IELU Participatory Strategic Planning for our congregation

Strategic Planning- IELU

All year long, the IELU has been involved in a process of strategic planning— performing diagnostics, working with congregation members to determine strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and thinking together with them toward the future of the church. May 16-17, they will summarize all of the results, thinking critically about the church's direction and focus for the next several years.



Resistencia, Argentina

Justin visited the north of Argentina (Chaco and Misiones) to visit IELU projects that mostly focus on women and children in various aspects of their lives.



Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.

—Proverbs 16:3

He learned more about the serious reality of human trafficking, violence against women, and programs that feed school-age children daily with the help of four volunteer mothers from the neighborhood. Justin also led various worships and bible studies.

Colonia (Summer Camp)!

Since school ends in December here in Argentina, but we continue to work, we needed to find something productive and fun for Everette to do. (Most families here take two weeks to even an entire month and go to the beach!!) Fortunately, we discovered that we are not the only parents in this situation and that a fabulous summer camp exists specifically for this reason. Both January and



February, Everette went to summer camp with other 3 and 4 year olds in our neighborhood! They had a blast swimming and playing soccer and basketball. He also participated in special workshops for theater, music, art and of course dancing! He came home everyday singing a new song. Our favorite was "[El Auto Feo de Papá](#)" (Dad's Ugly Car)!!



(pic translation) "If we work and make an effort it is because we have placed our **hope** in the living God."

Las Cañas Community Center

Justin traveled quite a lot in March, visiting many projects, one of which gave him an opportunity to meet with youth leaders accompanied by EPES working in the Las Cañas Community Center; the only remaining structure that turned into a food distribution and shelter for many people left homeless by the mega fire in Valparaíso earlier in the year. Justin said, "I saw in the young adult leaders a fighting spirit always in favor of a dignified life, which is liberating."

"The Day of Remembrance for Truth and Justice

is a public holiday in Argentina, commemorating the victims of Dirty War. It is held on 24 March, the anniversary of the coup d'état of 1976 that brought the National Reorganization Process to power.

* http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Day_of_Remembrance_for_Truth_and_Justice

March, 2015

- Everette started school
- CPD Skype conferences- IELCO, 2015 Gathering, Global team
- CPD-IELU meeting
- Truth and Justice Day (March 24)
- Residency paperwork
- Justin visits projects and churches in Chile and Peru
 - EPES
 - CLAI meeting
 - Centro Comunitario Las Cañas– Valparaíso
 - IELCH, ILCH and CILCH
 - Huch'uy Runa

The CPD-IELCO Team



The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO) officially formed a local team with the Equipping God's People Project (CPD, acronyms in Spanish) and is currently producing in collaboration with other Lutheran educators in the church, Vacation Bible School materials using Popular Education methodology in Spanish. These materials will be shared within the church as well as available for download, free of charge, from the CPD website later on in the year!!



Zulma Ineyda Ojeda Fernández– IELCO Christian Formation and Leadership Coordinator



Katie Andert Kline– ELCA missionary accompanying IELCO Christian formation and integral health and youth prevention programs



Atahualpha Hernández Miranda– Pastor and director of the Lutheran School of Theology in Colombia



Last year on the first day of school, climbing was not even on Everette's radar!!



April, 2015

- Good Friday Procession in Belgrano
- Easter workshop with children in Caseros
- CPD Skype conferences— IELCO, Global team
- CPD Website work
- CPD Book translation (from Spanish to English)
- Justin traveled to Chile and Bolivia for national assemblies

- Justin traveled to Peru for a follow-up visit
- A Trip to the Holy Land Theme Park!
- Residency paperwork

But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves.

-Luke 22:26



Good Friday Procession

Eight churches with about 100 participants from different denominations walked in this year's Good Friday Procession through Belgrano. It was quite a lovely experience and when the speakers on truck following us went out, Justin grabbed a stool and preached from it!

IELCH National Assembly

"The directive council will continue to prioritize accompaniment and strengthen the IELCH's internal communion, developing strategic plans to express faith and hope through inclusion, solidarity and prophetic actions in context. Also [the council will work to] strengthen connections with our sister

churches in Latin America and the Caribbean and with the Luther



world communion," indicated Izani Buch", [newly elected Pastor President of the IELCH].

*Translated from LWF source

IELB National Assembly

"Re-elected Pastor President Emilio Aslla said 'the assembly was very positive more than anything because it was calm, peaceful and the people practiced patience and understanding. The big advantage

is that we left united.' The themes of unity, reconciliation, and healing were a priority of the previous IELB Directive Council and the fruit of this work was celebrated as the assembly was both open and participatory. In this light, newly elected leaders have confirmed their dedication to continue working for unity of the church on a local, regional and national level."

*Translated from LWF source



Prayer requests



We pray for the planning and preparation of the CPD Gathering in 2015; that the Gathering continues to inspire the development of new Lutheran educational resources and give educators an opportunity to connect and support one another.

We continue cry out "how long oh Lord" as we watch and experience the tensions of race relations in the U.S. while injustice continues to prevail.

We pray for the synods of the ELCA who are holding their assemblies. Especially, we give thanks for the 18 years of dedicated service of Bishop Leonard Bolick of the NC Synod (who is retiring in May, 2015) and that the Holy Spirit moves in the synod during this transition.

We pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ affected by the earthquake in Nepal and the volcano eruption in Chile.

We pray for peace throughout the world knowing that the answer to our prayer may require that we transform to be active peacemakers not only in words, but also in deed. In being agents of peace wherever we are, may we understand the power of forgiveness and reconciliation.



We pray for new and continuing leaders of ELCA's companion churches in Bolivia, Chile and Peru- that they may serve wisdom, compassion, and vision.

We pray for missionaries around the world. Especially, we pray for those returning to the U.S. for home assignment (See the next page for links to fellow missionary websites/blogs!).



Thank you for your support and prayers!! If you know of another congregation or individual interested in supporting us as well, please feel free to share with them the following information...

Congregations may include their gift in their remittance to the synod office, clearly marked with our name and 7-digit code [\[Kari and Justin Eller \(MSG0682\)\]](#) **OR** congregations and individuals may write their checks directly to "ELCA Global Church Sponsorship" and write our name and 7-digit code in the memo line.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

In addition, sponsors may also arrange for gifts by credit card, or for automatic monthly withdrawals from their bank account, by contacting 800-638-3522. Please let us know if you have any questions!

The Next Chapter..

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Also, check out the ELCA's *Hand-in-Hand* newsletter and the *Global Links* newsletter <http://www.elca.org/Resources/ELCA-Global-Church-Sponsorship>

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

-Matthew 5:16

Also, be sure to check out fellow global personnel websites/blogs:

Cameroon	Elisabeth Johnson	http://camerooniangrace.wordpress.com/
Central African Republic	Susan Smith	http://susan-car.blogspot.com/
Colombia	Curtis and Katie Kline	http://8000feetandcounting.blogspot.com/
Egypt	Kirsten Fryer	http://kirstenincairo.com/
India	Megan Ross	http://megsthewanderer.wordpress.com/
Japan	Laura Fentress	http://30monthsinjapan.blogspot.com.ar/
Japan	Caroline Keenan	http://carolinekeenand.blogspot.com.ar/
Japan	Tauna Roth	http://etinjapan.blogspot.com.ar/p/elca-global-missions.html
Jerusalem	Carrie Smith	http://knitpurlpraypreach.blogspot.co.il/
Jerusalem	Danae Hudson	http://hummusnotwalls.com/
Jerusalem	Angela and Martin Zimmann	https://www.facebook.com/ZimmannsInTheHolyLand?notif_t=fbpage_fan_invite
Liberia	Brian Palmer	http://tryingsmall.wordpress.com/
Madagascar, West/Central Africa	Morsal Collier	http://westafricabound.org/
Malaysia	Wendolyn Trozzo	http://flungforthanew.wordpress.com/
Mexico	David Brondos	https://sites.google.com/site/dbrondos/home
Nigeria	Mary Beth Oyebade	http://www.marybetho.blogspot.com.ar/
Papua New Guinea	Ann Klavano	http://newguineacall.blogspot.com.ar/
Russia	Bradn Buerkle	http://www.russiancorrespondent.blogspot.com.ar/
Tanzania	Randy and Carol Stubbs	http://s421181158.onlinehome.us/
Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda	Joe and Deborah Troester	http://africanwaterlog.blogspot.com.ar/