

## Hortencia

When Pastor Pablo Dominguez began as a Central Illinois District missionary in Moline and East Moline during 2002, his son Pablo II would sometimes accompany him as they distributed Christian literature house to house. A little boy at one house recognized Pablo II. It turns out that they had been schoolmates in Monterrey, Mexico!

The lady of that house was Hortencia. Like many Hispanic people, she was raised in Roman Catholicism. But now she and her family found themselves in a new place. She was glad that her children knew the Dominguez children from school in Mexico.

Pastor Dominguez invited Hortencia to the new mission where he was serving. She and two of her children turned out to be the first family, besides the Dominguez family, to attend Spanish services and Sunday School at St. John Lutheran Church in East Moline.

At length, not only Hortencia but also her husband Jose Luis and all three of their children came to church activities and participated in ESL (English as a Second Language) classes. On August 10, 2008 Hortencia and her family were present when the mission, Cristo Rey (Christ the King) moved into its present facilities in East Moline.

Eventually Hortencia and her daughter Yesenia received catechism instruction and joined the church. When Cristo Rey Lutheran Church became an official member congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and of the Central Illinois District on April 8, 2018, Hortencia signed the documents as Secretary of the congregation.

The Lord used your congregation's gifts to the Central Illinois District to put Cristo Rey Lutheran Church in place and maintain its ministry, for folks like Hortencia and her family. Thank you!

*"I thank my God . . . because of your partnership in the gospel"* (Phil. 1:3-5).

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