

GRADUATION CEREMONY

In December and June of every year, we hold a graduation ceremony at the Theological Community of Mexico. This year on Dec. 19, we had a total of 24 students graduate from our various programs, including our Diploma programs in Bible, Pastoral Psychology, and Music and Worship, as well as in our Licentiate in Theology program. The students came from over 10 different church bodies, including Lutheran, Presbyterian, Mennonite, Baptist, Church of God, Reformed and various Pentecostal churches.



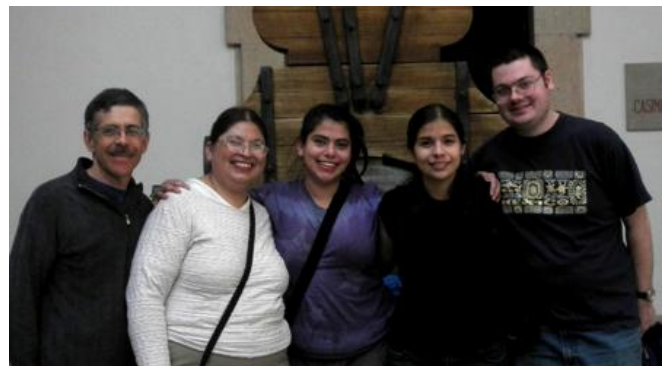
The Theological Community of Mexico also awarded an honorary Doctorate in Theology to Rev. Dr. José Alcántara, who has served as Professor and President of the Administrative Council at the Theological Community for over 20 years. I have worked closely with Dr. Alcántara, a fellow Lutheran pastor and professor, since 1984, and thus was very pleased to see him acknowledged in this way.

**FAMILY NEWS**

We hope you had a very blessed Christmas and New Years celebration. Alicia and I got to see both of our daughters—Monica was here for Christmas, before flying to Amsterdam to spend a couple of weeks there, and Elizabeth for New Years. This coming May, Monica will be graduating from Augsburg College in Minneapolis with a double major in Sociology and Women's Studies. Elizabeth is in the second year of a PhD program in Statistics Education at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Her husband Matt continues to work from home in his engineering position for a company based in Columbus, Ohio. The girls have enjoyed seeing one another frequently—they had not lived in the same city since 2002, when Elizabeth went off to college.

Alicia continues to teach in English at the Westhill Institute, a primary school here in Mexico City. And of course David continues at the Theological Community of Mexico and Augsburg Lutheran Seminary. This past year has been especially busy with the online course program which David coordinates for the Lutheran Seminary.

We didn't get to take a family picture this year, since the four of us were only together for about an hour at the Mexico City airport—we actually picked Elizabeth up as Monica was checking in to fly out. However, here is a family photo from last year. We pray you have a wonderful 2013!



**FOR MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION,
VISIT: sites.google.com/site/dbrondos**

(Or go to www.aokelca.org, the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod website, and click on "Links")

E-mail: david.brondos@elca.org