

SYMPOSIUM ON WORSHIP: LITURGY, INTERCULTURATION AND LITURGICAL DANCE

This past 13-15 of June, the Theological Community of Mexico held its Third Symposium on Christian Worship around the theme of Liturgy and Interculturation—which involves bringing different cultures together rather than adapting the faith to one culture in particular. Participants came from across Mexico as well as several other Latin American countries. I gave a workshop on the topic, as did speakers from Brazil, Argentina, Costa Rica, Uruguay, El Salvador, and, of course, Mexico. One of the pleasant surprises that took place was that, a few days before the workshop began, one of the students in our Seminary's online program named Roberto Lara shared with us a link to a video from his church, St. Peter's Lutheran in New York, where he directs their liturgical dance group (see video [here](#) or on my website). Thinking that he was in New York, I wrote to him to mention how much I appreciated the video and briefly shared some information with him about our Symposium, thinking he might be interested in hearing about it. To my surprise, Roberto—whom we had never met face-to-face—wrote back that he was here in Mexico City visiting his family, so we were able to work things out for him to come share a liturgical dance for us at one of the worship services we were having at the Symposium. None of us had ever seen this type of liturgical dance, and everyone there was very enriched by what Roberto shared with us, both by dancing and speaking afterwards.



OUR RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE

In early May, Alicia and I traveled up to Minneapolis for the graduation ceremony of our younger daughter Monica, who finished her Bachelor of Arts program at Augsburg College. Monica did a double major in the areas of Sociology and Women's Studies. We were able to stay with our older daughter Elizabeth and her husband Matt at their apartment. Elizabeth is working on a PhD degree in Statistics Education at the University of Minnesota, while Matt recently began a new engineering job in Minneapolis. It has been wonderful for the girls to live close to each other for the last couple of years.

Unfortunately, the Minneapolis weather had been beautiful until the day we got up there, and then it turned freezing and snowed! Of course, the day after we left, it got up in the 70s again!

What's next for Monica? She is back with us in Mexico for a month or two, enjoying some time off, and then wants to take a year off from school to work and perhaps do some traveling. In the meantime, she will also explore the possibility of doing a Master's program in Sociology.



2013 ELCA CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

I will be attending this year's ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from August 12-18 in my capacity as Chair of the Steering Committee of the ELCA Association of Teaching Theologians. If any of you will be there, I look forward to seeing you!

FOR MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION,

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