

Talea and Lucca in Venezuela



YMCA Margarita



CHILDREN AND MISSION GROUP

¿Cómo vamos en el YMCA?

HOW ARE WE DOING AT THE YMCA?

Personally, we are doing **very well**, but Talea in particular is already longing for Germany and we are looking forward to the time we will soon be spending there.

God is providing for us very well here, we have been able to take on more tasks and feel more and more integrated into the school and everyday life of the YMCA. Before the **mission trip of the YMCA Munich**, which was here from April 2 to April 14, we struggled a bit with the question of how we could better fulfill our spiritual tasks. Therefore, it was very **enriching** to learn from them and share experiences with them.

Our ministry is currently focused on **providing practical education** to the children and young people, but should focus even more on **leading them spiritually to Jesus** and helping them to get to know Him better. This task was a great challenge for us, as we lacked the guidance of a person as well as the knowledge of cultural adapted ways of telling the children about the Gospel. However, the mission group helped us a lot to get to know them and to see how to use them properly. The **culture and children** here are **very lively** and particularly enjoy dance and worship. It is impressive to see how much joy they have.



You can find in our Newsletter:

How are we doing at the YMCA?

Visit of the missionary group

Easter week

The island in transition

Personal prayer requests

Contact details and donation account

Visita del grupo misión

VISIT OF THE MISSIONARY GROUP



Grupo Misión

MISSIONARY GROUP

When the **group of eight** (including Johanna ;) visited the YMCA for **10 days**, we experienced an intensive time with them, during which we had a **lot of fun** and were able to **learn**. We shared with them our love for Jesus and his love for us with children and young people. The **varied program** included time with families, exploring the island and supporting the YMCA.



Devociones

DEVOTIONS

A **highlight** was the work with the children: Through **lively worship, theater** and child-friendly **devotions**, they conveyed the message of God's love, sin, Jesus' sacrifice and the decision to live with him over four days. This moved some of the **children** to **consciously follow Jesus** and also moved us.



Comida

FOOD

Edgar and Margie, a teacher at the YMCA and her husband, spoiled us with **delicious Venezuelan food** (although Lucca unfortunately didn't tolerate the somewhat greasy food so well on two days and the **stingray at breakfast** in particular was a bit too much for some ;).



Diversión y juegos

FUN AND GAMES

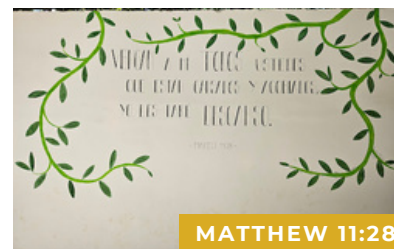
After the spiritual part, there was **fun and games in various workshops**, such as: Baking, board games, Bible stories, Olympics, dancing.



Sillas y mural

CHAIRS AND MURAL

In the mornings, we explored the island or worked in two groups at the YMCA on **repairing chairs** or **creating a mural**.



Viaje a la playa

BEACH TRIP

A trip to the **beach with the children**, where they spontaneously sang the songs from the last few days, which were new to them at the beginning, completely by heart, was a special experience.

Visita del grupo misión

VISIT OF THE MISSIONARY GROUP



Visitar a las familias

VISITING THE FAMILIES

We **visited families** in the evening and gained an insight into their often **difficult living conditions**. It was also new and good for us to see how the children live with their parents and it was impressive to see how mature and **hungry** people are **for God**.

Unemployment is a big problem and time and again the **father is missing** because he doesn't feel up to the task of supporting a family or is looking for a job abroad. The **mothers** are often still **very young** and the **conditions** of the families are **very poor**: families of four live in one or two rooms (even though we were not in the living room of many of them, we could guess at the sparse furnishings).



Jóvenes

TEENAGERS

On the two Saturdays we met **young people** who normally attend the computer courses here. A spontaneously created **Bible study** time, which was **very good** thanks to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, showed the young adults in an accessible way **how easy the Bible can be to understand** and **how God** still **speaks to us** and guides us through it today. At both meetings there was the opportunity to decide for a **life with Jesus**, which was gratefully **accepted** by many of those present. We were very impressed by the openness, the joy of understanding and profound thoughts of the young people. On the **afternoons** we spent valuable **time with them on the beach**, and the first time there was also a small outreach.



Resumen

SUMMARY

Our time with the group was characterized by **much joy** and **laughter, deep encounters, sharing God's love** and **experiencing the local reality** - an experience that had a lasting effect on us and hopefully also on the local people.

Semana Santa

EASTER WEEK

Semana Santa brought **many tourists from the Venezuelan mainland** to the island, which **created jobs** for a week, but also put a **heavy strain** on the island's **resources**. We ourselves had **no gas** for cooking **for about two weeks**. Thankfully, we were able to cook with Vanda's electric stove (much to the amusement of our neighbors as we crossed the street every day with pots, pans and food).

In case anyone is wondering, the predominantly **Catholic population** celebrates Easter by attending **mass on Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday**, while the **Protestant community** holds a **long Easter Vigil on Good Friday** and a **church service on Sunday**.

La isla en transición

THE ISLAND IN TRANSITION

We are currently experiencing a **significant price increase**, which is due to **political events** in the USA and the **local currency**, the bolívar (which loses value almost daily). The exchange rate rose from around **61 to 88 VES per US dollar** during our **almost 3 months** on the island.

During our first time surfing, we **met a Venezuelan** who was born on the island but **has been living in Germany for around 10 years**. He and his sister described the last few years as a **"rollercoaster ride"** with a very bad Corona time, but also with **remarkably positive developments in the last 3-5 years**: modern supermarkets, good private hospitals and cashless payment methods have emerged. However, the poorer sections of the population hardly benefit from this. They also spoke of an earlier time of great insecurity on the island.



Visita a Alemania

VISIT TO GERMANY

In a week's time, we'll be on our way to **Germany**. We will be in Munich for a little over a week, which we are really looking forward to.

On Sunday, May 18, 2025, we will **attend the service at the GLC** and share a few words about our ministry with the congregation. We would be happy to see some of you there ;)



Peticiones de oración

PRAYER REQUEST

- **Good and safe journey** to Germany and back
- **Spiritual care** of the YMCA during our absence
- Improve **Spanish** skills quickly
- Care for the **children of the YMCA** and their families
- **What are yours?** - Write to us!

Thank you very much for your support, no matter in what way. May the Lord bless you and repay you a hundredfold!

¡Un saludo y hasta la próxima!



Register for the newsletter via the website: [Lucca and Talea Herrmann](https://luccaandtalea.com)



@[@luccaherrmann](https://www.instagram.com/luccaherrmann) and @[@taalea](https://www.instagram.com/taalea)



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DONATION ACCOUNT:

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