



Day 5 – Saturday, June 23

Rain, rain, rain! We started our Saturday morning with the ritual of team devotionals at 7am led by Eli and Reed. Eli began with a quote from Mother Teresa, “When a poor person dies of hunger it has not happened because God did not take care of him or her. It has happened because neither you nor I wanted to give that person what he or she needed.” He reminded us that even though we see so much need and may feel like we can’t



do enough, we are still pleasing God. We are feeding kids, we are giving them clean water, and we are putting smiles on their face. Reed then read from Mark 12, and reflected on his first experience going to Crossroads. He remembers being taught to love yourself, love your



neighbor, then share His word – and he hopes that by loving the community we are teaching them to love themselves, and we all agreed!

We loaded up on our normal breakfast of pancakes, eggs, and fruit, then headed to the church of one of our missionaries, Reina. The church is Seventh Day Adventist, which observes Saturday as the Sabbath. We were warmly welcomed into the church and took our seats. The program begun with a skit paired with music portraying the death and resurrection of Jesus. We also saw a series of musical performances from different church members, as well as one of our missionaries – Rosalia. A couple hours later, after a fantastic morning praising God, we hopped back in the bus to head to lunch.

Lunch in El Almirante was chicken and veggies, rice, potato salad, and tres leches for dessert. Delicioso! At lunch, it started pouring rain – so we tried to wait it out, but it persisted, so we had to cancel our plans for baseball and community clean-up ☹️. We instead decided to head to the community library to organize and sort the suitcases full of materials we brought down from Wisconsin.



Once we organized all of the materials, we headed back to the hotel, but not before stopping at the local supermarket to stock up on chocolate, coffee, and vanilla for gifts for friends and family back home!

Back at the hotel, after some free time, we reconvened for team time. Team time was led by Kate and Claudia. Claudia read a few verses from Psalm 66 and reflected about how the trip has impacted her perspectives on prayer and life back home. Kate then closed us in prayer, and we headed to bed to rest up for our last day in the community!

