



Companion Synod Program

Cushamen, Argentina

Cushamen is a remote village in the middle of the Patagonian desert. It's 600 inhabitants are mostly of Mapuche origin.

It is largely an agriculturally based community focusing on the raising of sheep, goats and some cattle. Most farmers live like our pioneers of long ago with no power, water or sewer and use a woodburning stove to heat and cook with.

Cushamen has a school for students ages 6-12. Older children attend residential schools 1-2 hours drive away. There is a resident doctor for minor treatment. Ambulance trips are often 2-4 hours over very rough roads.

The Lutheran presence brings the **cup of milk** program for school children, **flood relief, worship and children's clothing.**

Congregational goals include:

- To strengthen and establish the participation of new members.
- To create a diaconal group to coordinate efforts in the Cup of Milk program, community garden, sewing workshop, etc.
- To improve the condition of the meeting room.
- To strengthen work with Aboriginal people, helping them to strengthen their identity and rescue their values and traditions.
- To work towards the dream of building a new church.

Want to get involved?

- **pray**
- **donate**
- **write**
- **visit**

**Contact ELCIC Mission
1-888-786-6707**



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