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Ready for worship at Safe Harbour Lutheran Church

DID YOU KNOW?

- By 1526, “Las Tortugas”, the name for the islands given by Columbus, was changed to “Caymanas” – meaning “the crocodiles” – found here at the time and to which Sir Francis Drake referred as “good eating” in 1586. Over time the Cayman croc disappeared but its name stuck and evolved into the current “the Cayman Islands”.
- We have created a 5-minute video – a snapshot of our experiences and ministry on the island. Ask your church about it if you don’t receive this newsletter by email – its link is included in the email.
- Current favorite Spanish word/phrase: “¡Cuéntame!” – meaning “Tell me!” Another way our Spanish teacher elicits more conversation.



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to gerald.paul@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

Giving thanks that our household goods have finally arrived!



Standing among our boxes that had been in transit from Montana since January 6th.



Brokers, Customs, Red Tape...

Relocating internationally is never boring – and this, our fourth time, proved this point again! However, despite it taking longer than expected and needing extra red tape, all arrived intact save one item. Rejoicing!

Getting the home ready for Sunday!

Our boxes were carried into the house on Friday. That gave us that afternoon and Saturday to unpack the boxes in the kitchen /dining/living area and get the items put away behind cabinet doors in time for Sunday’s Divine Service. We hustled and just got it done in time!

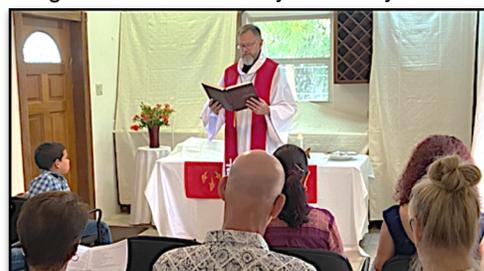
Unpacking is a little like Christmas

I wonder what’s in these packages... Hmmm, hard to guess...



Moving the service indoors...

A couple weeks later we were able to clear the room adjoining the pastor’s study of all clutter and move church from the porch into this space on Pentecost Sunday. Although this is a tight fit, it will tide us over until a larger space can be rented nearby. Negotiations are currently underway for this.



We might need to relocate again!

The owner of the house that Safe Harbour had been renting the last eight years, has let us know that he intends to sell the house. We don’t know yet when exactly this will occur. So, in the meantime we’ve started to search for a different house/apartment. It will be difficult to find one of the same size, location and price point. Please pray for us.



Does God send messages in bottles?



While exploring the north shore of West Bay, we found a bottle and some conchs washed up on the beach. Oblivious to our great finds, a kite surfer skittered by.

Please Pray for:

- Successful negotiations for a bigger worship space
- More to return to church
- Continued faithful attendance
- For us to find a different house to rent or possibly buy as the owner of this house wants to sell it.

Give thanks for:

- Every Sunday revealing more members returning to church
- The faithful few regularly attending the Divine Services
- Weekly Bible study and Sunday School offered
- That our household goods have finally arrived

Praise God for:

- The many congregations and individuals who encourage support and pray for us and the mission.
- We thank YOU personally for all of YOUR support, prayers and encouragement. We LOVE receiving your notes, messages and emails!

Thank God He does not!

Half hoping to find an old, albeit water-damaged message inside, we were a little disappointed to see there was not. The bottle obviously had been bobbing at sea for quite some time, judging by the clusters of shellfish clinging to the top and bottom of it. How many times had it been washed ashore, only to have the ocean reclaim it at high tide? – before a pastor and his wife had discovered it and pondered its significance?

How comforting to know that God does not send His message of salvation to us in a bottle to be found by happenstance only! He brings it to us in His eternal Word delivered into our eyes and ears, and by the sacraments through which He freely forgives our many sins and strengthens our faith. And, as a bonus, we can confidently find these gifts at the same place every single week and open them to receive the same message, intact and undamaged and as effective as the first time it had been given and received. No disappointments here!

Why are cemeteries at the beach?

Why would cemeteries occupy the most expensive real estate on the island? In centuries gone by, before tourism had fairly recently pushed up the value of oceanside property, the infertile, flood-prone land was deemed worthless and only good enough for cemeteries. The sandy soil, making digging graves easier, had sealed the deal.



Why did the rooster cross the road?

Why, to get to his family, of course! And to be a good dad! Happy Father's Day, everybody!



Soli Deo Gloria!

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

Christ crucified is the manner in which God loved the world. We are privileged to proclaim this love of God to the world.

*- Your partners in mission,
Gerald and Heidi Paul*



To support the LCMS through the work of Gerald and Heidi Paul, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and marked “Support of Gerald Paul.” Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on his online giving page at lcms.org/gerald.paul.

You can also send your gifts to our friends at Mission Central at 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, Iowa 51034

