THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



NEWS FROM GERALD AND HEIDI PAUL

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DID YOU KNOW?

- The three services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are traditionally one whole service, called the triduum.
- Consequently, there is no benediction and people leave Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services in silence.
- LCMS International Missions is developing another free VBS - Missions Unpacked 4 Kids. Please consider doing it this summer.
- Current favorite Spanish word/phrase: "El tesoro" meaning "treasure".



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The Treasures of Holy Week



Safe Harbour celebrated the solemn Holy Week services of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, culminating in the joyous Easter resurrection service.



Tangible treasure

Jesus says, "Take, eat. This is my body... Take, drink. This is my blood... for the forgiveness of sins..." We take His body and blood in the bread and wine and receive His tangible treasure in our mouths! We feel it, taste it, swallow it. Tangible. Real. Forgiving. Life-giving. Now. Forever!

Stripped chancel

While everyone read the words of Psalm 22 at the end of the Maundy Thursday service, the chancel area was stripped of any adornment: everything on the altar as well as the linens and paraments were solemnly taken down and put away. The banners were also taken off the wall and stored. This was done in preparation of Good Friday the next day and turning our thoughts to Christ's imminent suffering and death for us on that day.

Good Friday Treasure

The empty, hard, starkness of the black paraments, the veiled crucifix and the solemn readings of Christ's passion, hit home the gravity of what Christ has wrought for us for our salvation.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The new committee exploring ways to open an early childhood center
- We get permission to minister to the Cubanos
- "M" that a solution for her difficult life situation may be found. Still ongoing.
- "Y" that the Holy Spirit open her daughter's heart to having her two little daughters baptized soon

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- Continued Word and Sacrament ministry at Safe Harbour
- The faithful few that regularly attend divine services

PRAISE GOD FOR:

 The many congregations and individuals who support us with prayer, encouragement and with their generosity.

Easter Alleluia Treasures!



The new Easter paraments and the new Palm Sunday set on the left.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia! What a joy to be able to sing the alleluias with exuberance and confidence again! A great contrast to the solemn mood on Good Friday! Members and visitors filled our sanctuary to overflowing (fantastic!), celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death, the treasure of eternal life!

New Easter paraments

The new Easter paraments, matching the banners made new last year, helped proclaim the joyous Easter message!

New Palm Sunday Set

Heidi has also created a complete set for Palm Sunday: banners, altar and pulpit paraments and a stole for Gerald. The collection is growing.

Home Service - Jun/Jul '23

The only open parts in our schedule are weekday slots. Please reach out to Gerald to see if we have a slot available when we are in your area.

Soli Deo Gloria

"Therefore, my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol or let your holy one see corruption". Ps. 16:9

Gerald and Heidi Paul





There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at <u>lcms.org/service</u>. Click on "Service Opportunities.

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Gerald Paul. Make checks payable to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod P.O. Box 66861 St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central 40718 Highway E 16 Mapleton, IA 51034

On the memo line include Gerald Paul - Cayman Islands

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