SERVING THE LORD IN

THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



NEWS FROM GERALD AND HEIDI PAUL

DECEMBER 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

- Safe Harbour Lutheran Church is on Facebook! Please "like" our page! https://www.facebook.com/Sa feHarbourLC
- These Cubans are asylum seekers and have more freedom to move around the island. They could still be deported though.
- Remembrance Day, like the US Veterans Dav. is observed on November 11 and is a public holiday.
- Current favorite Spanish word/phrase: "arbolitos" meaning "Christmas trees".



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.

Permission to minister to Cubans



A thankful group of Cubans during one of Gerald's visits. This group is housed at the Bodden Town Civic Center (below).



An answer to prayers!

Persistence has been rewarded! After continually returning to the Cayman Immigration authorities, Gerald has finally been granted permission to minister to the Cuban refugees! Thanks be to God! He's been there a few times already - a Sunday evening works best for them. A little group of 6-10 individuals have been thankful for his devotions and prayers in Spanish and for the Spanish materials he has given them. They continue to want him to return, which is encouraging! Please continue praying for this ministry.

Regional chaplain visit

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Naumann, the LAC

regional chaplain stationed in the DR, spent the All Saints Day weekend with us. We had wonderfully encouraging conversations while enjoying some of what the island has to offer. He also enjoyed visiting with church members, especially about his Cuban heritage. He was also thankful to acquire a book about Caymanian Cubans written by a Safe Harbour! member of recognized several names in the book!

Gerald a CI marriage officer

Gerald is now a certified marriage officer of the Cayman Islands and may officiate at weddings. So, if you know of anyone who'd like a Lutheran wedding on the island, please let us know!



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The parsonage that we will not lose this house that serves as home and church. The new owner wants to increase the rent significantly
- "M" that a solution for her difficult life situation is found.
- That more may be invited / drawn to the church to hear the saving Gospel

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- Cayman authorities granting permission to minister to Cuban refugees
- 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.

Remembrance Day observed





Remembrance Day on November 11, 2023

receives Safe Harbour exposure in the community

What does one do when one is invited to lead the community in the Lord's Prayer and to give the Aaronic Blessing? One graciously accepts and delivers God's Word at this solemn event. A side perk was for Safe Harbour to receive positive exposure on TV. Several wreaths were laid by government officials, military personnel and school children. Had we known that churches could lay wreaths too, we would have had someone from Safe Harbour do the honor. Next year!

New paraments

Heidi is continuing to make paraments to match the banners she'd made last year. The blue Advent paraments are her latest creation - next will be the white Christmas paraments.

Beautiful Christmas Lights

Caymanians love putting up their lights at this time of year! They remind us of our coming Savior, Jesus.

Blessed Advent & Christmas Soli Deo Gloria

"Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory! ". Psalm 24:9-10

- Your partners in mission, 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 Give securely from any device: Icms.org/givenow/gerald.paul Call a donor care representative: 800-930-4438