

Psalm 150:1

The Christogram

Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.

July, 2023
Volume 61 Issue 7



“Let
everything
that has breath
praise
the
LORD.”

Psalm 150:6, NIV

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cclakeland.org

Christ Lutheran Church
2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd
Lakeland, FL 33805
863-682-7802

Serving in July

CHRIST LUTHERAN STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Christopher Hazzard
(cell) 863-732-1322

Office Secretary

Terry Krum
863-682-7802

Council Officers

President John Freer
Vice-President Ted Nelson
Secretary Robin Fox
Treasurer Jon Lindstrom
Finance Secretary Emma Block
Christian Ed Annie Smith
Outreach & Missions Blake Albright
Stewardship Kim Kaniecki
Trustees Sandy Spanier
Youth Group
Communications Kris Welch

Board of Elders

Carlos Orellana (Head)
Lee Crapo
Steve Rosane
Fred Sterns

Committee Chairpersons

Fellowship Coordinators

Vi Zabel & Belinda Freer

Altar Guild

Barbara and Alfred Miller

Choir Director

Connie Timmons

Endowment Fund

Helen Borgwardt

Mary-Martha Guild

Belinda Freer

E-Mail Addresses

Pastor

pastor@clclakeland.org

Office

clcsecretary@gmail.com

Christ Lutheran Guiding Statement

Christ Lutheran Church is a growing family of believers who love, accept, and welcome all, so that we may share God's love in word and deed.

July 2

Elder..... Carlos Orellana
Lector..... George Czanko
Ushers.....
Greeters Joanne Shepker
Audio..... Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

July 9

Elder..... Lee Crapo
Lector..... Pierre Alexis
Ushers.....
Greeters
Audio..... Kyle Welch
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

July 16

Elder..... Carlos Orellana
Lector..... Kim Kaniecki
Ushers.....
Greeters
Audio..... Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

July 23

Elder..... Steve Rosane
Lector..... Charlotte Mantz
Ushers.....
Greeters
Audio..... Kyle Welch
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

July 30

Elder..... Carlos Orellana
Lector.....
Ushers.....
Greeters
Audio..... Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

ALTAR GUILD SERVICES

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP @ 5:30 PM

Elder..... Lee Crapo/Steve Rosane (7/8)
Lector..... Rick Smith
Audio..... Lee Crapo/Robin Fox



Christ Lutheran Church

2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd

Phone: 863-682-7802

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
2 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a Elders Meeting	3 Church Office Closed	4 Church Office Closed 4th of July Holiday	5 Bible Study @ Noon Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Youth @ 6:30p	6	7	8 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
9 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a	10 Council Mtg @ 6:30p	11 Trustee WD	12 Bible Study @ Noon Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p	13	14	15 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
16 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a Communication Board Mtg	17 9 AM Deadline for Newsletter items	18 Trustee WD	19 Bible Study @ Noon Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Youth @ 6:30p	20	21	22 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
23 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a Stewardship Meeting	24	25 Trustee WD	26 Bible Study @ Noon Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p	27 Paper Pumpkin Club @ 6:30p	28	29 4p Bible Study 5:30p Worship
30 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Bible Study @ 11:15a						

Bulletin announcements are due each Tuesday by 9:00 a.m.

**The Infirm
and
The Homebound**

*Remember to keep these
people in your daily
prayers.*

- Vi Bertsch
- Sen & Dale Campbell
- Ken & Joanne Ditton
- Donita Duncan
- Marilyn Gillette
- Hazel Gust
- Katherine Hamann
- Al Herman
- Judy Kargel
- Fran Klug
- Dorothy Lovelace
- Don & Nancy Matter
- Nell Morgan
- Fran Murphy
- Lois Smith
- Norma Tipton
- Amy Wilson



Arthur Walls.....	Jul 2
Jerry Swope	Jul 2
Gerald Frizzell	Jul 7
Beth Keating.....	Jul 8
Larry Nimetz.....	Jul 12
Ruth Cassens.....	Jul 13
Allison Henning Terrell.....	Jul 14
Trevor Peterson.....	Jul 15
Vi Bertsch.....	Jul 17
Caleb Hazzard.....	Jul 18
Allie Kaniecki.....	Jul 20
Garrett C. Timmons.....	Jul 22
Donna Grant.....	Jul 23
Cindy Cavanaugh	Jul 28
Carol Ceaglske.....	Jul 30



Cheryl and Charles Erwin.....	Jul 4 (45 yrs.)
Christopher and Andrea Hazzard	Jul 15 (28 yrs.)
Carlos and Stacey Orellana.....	Jul 15 (28 yrs.)
Richard and Mary Heinz	Jul 18, (25 yrs.)
Kent and Dawn Kahre.....	Jul 22 (45 yrs.)



Thank you to Cheryl Erwin and Charlene Rosane who served for the month of June. Sandy Spanier and Dawn Peters will serve for the month of July. Thank you for your service to the Lord and Christ Lutheran Church.

From the Pastor.....

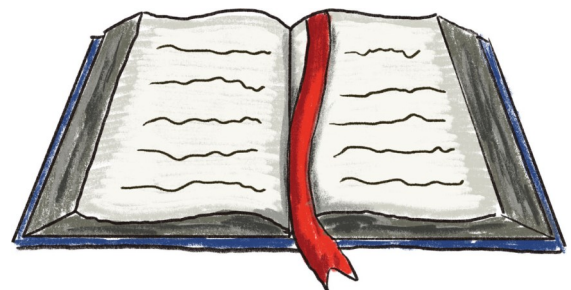
As humans, we tend to talk about what we know. Farmers talk about agriculture. Mechanics talk about cars. Teachers talk about things going on in the classroom. Parents talk about their kids. We talk about our hobbies, good books we have read, the amazing play during the last game we watched, what the politicians are doing, etc. As Christians, we can talk about what we know, and more importantly, the Savior who knows each of us and calls us by name. As we consume a steady diet of the Word, as we pray, as we have the music of the church in our head, we many times without thinking share our Trinitarian lives with others. Have you heard the phrase, “garbage in; garbage out?” By the power of the Holy Spirit, it is just the opposite for us. “Treasure in; treasure out.”

How is your life of discipleship? Where can it improve? Do you get a steady diet of healthy stuff (God’s Word), or is your spiritual diet made up of primarily the artificial, disease triggering and addicting junk food of social media, television, internet games, and the like? St. Paul admonishes us in Romans 12,

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

As our minds are transformed by the treasure of the Word going in, we can be sure that we are performing God’s will for us.

Pastor Chris



Praise the Lord!

Psalm 145 - 150

Most of the psalms are prayers, and most of the prayers include praise to God. Praise expresses admiration, appreciation, and thanks. Considering all that God has done and does for us, what could be more natural than outbursts of heartfelt praise?

As you read Psalms, note the praise given to God, not only for what he does - his creation, his blessings, his forgiveness - but also for who he is - loving, just, faithful, forgiving, patient. Note also those times when the praise of God is shared with others, and they too are encouraged to praise him. In what ways have you recently praised God or told others all that he has done for you? In Psalm 145, David tells us of his praise for God when he was standing at a bleak intersection of life's road and looked toward the Lord, the great burden-bearer.

As we follow David through this Psalm we find God is able to lift us up because;

- His greatness is unfathomable vs 3
- He does mighty acts across many generations vs 4
- He is full of glorious splendor and majesty vs 5
- He is righteous vs 7
- He is gracious, compassionate, patient, and loving vs 8 & 9
- He rules over an everlasting kingdom vs 13
- He is our source of all our daily needs vs 15
- He is righteous and loving in all his dealings vs 17
- He remains near to those who call on him vs 18
- He hears our cries and saves us vs 19 & 20

If you are bending under a burden and feel that you are about to fall, turn to God for help. He is ready to lift you up and bear your burden.

The last five psalms overflow with praise. Each begins and ends with "Praise the Lord." They show us where, why, and how to praise God. What does praise do?

Praise takes our minds off our problems and shortcomings, and focuses them on God.

Praise leads us from individual meditation to corporate worship.

Praise causes us to consider and appreciate God's character.

Praise lifts our perspective from the earthly to the heavenly.

So go ahead and praise the Lord!



Mary Martha



The Mary- Martha Guild of L.W.M.L. meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May each year. All women of Christ Lutheran are invited to attend.

While we are on hiatus for the summer, Mary-Martha will be available for Memorial services over the summer. Should you have any questions, contact the Church office and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

We will have a box available for our “Undies Sundays” in August! We are looking for new Undies in sizes small, particularly a need for toddlers, but sizes 2-14. Also children's socks. Carlos can send these to his Orphanages in Central America. Also, we will collect undies for Talbot house, all sizes are appreciated.



Mary - Martha is continuing to collect recipes for our upcoming CLC cookbook. A box is in the narthex. Please put your name on the recipe!

Mary- Martha will host an “Old Fashioned” potluck lunch on Sunday, Sept 17, after our morning worship. Any and all dishes are welcomed! We will post a sign up sheet closer to the date, but you can bring anything you want- It’s potluck!

Mary- Martha will be putting up a new tree this year in the Fellowship hall for our 2nd annual Family Ornament Christmas Tree. Last year was such fun! Perhaps you can make an ornament during this summer when your family is together! Please put your family name on the ornament! We will have a collection box available during the fall.

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Looking for Christ Lutheran in social media? Check us out at our website: www.clclakeland.org
Feel free to leave comments! We are also on Facebook at: Christ Lutheran Church Lakeland-LCMS. Please like, follow, and share on your Facebook page. You may also leave comments on our Facebook page.

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LWML



The Florida / Georgia LWML District retreat will be held in St Augustine, Florida; Friday, Sept 22-Sunday, Sept, 24, at the Renaissance World Golf Village. The speaker will be Sharla Fritz and the theme is "Enough for Now." A sign up sheet is on the board in the narthex.

Registration is available on the website of the "Evangel" newsletter. Go to <http://www.flgalwml.com>. In the upper right hand corner it says "retreat information." Click on that. It has three downloads. First is info, second is registration and the third is to register on line. The download of the Hotel information is included in these downloads. Unfortunately, the only way to make reservations for the hotel rooms is on line. Reservations by phone to the hotel or on their website will cost more money as the LWML books our rooms by volumes for discounts.

Mary Martha will be collecting baby items for the St Bernard maternity home in St Augustine, for our "Gifts from the Heart" Mission at the District retreat. A box is available in the narthex; diapers, wipes, burp pads, swaddling blankets, etc. Charlotte will take these to the retreat on Sept 22, so please turn your items in by Sunday, Sept 17th!



The District retreat early registration deadline is June 30. After that date, the fees rise in price. The deadlines are in the "Evangel."

Should you need assistance, call Joyce Munz @ 863-430-1130 or Charlotte Mantz @ 863-409-6270.

Stewardship



There was a sermon by Pastor Hazzard recently in which he talked about spiritual conversations Christians are (or are not) having. Did the statistics shock you as they did me? The low percentage of conversations that Christians are having with other people is absolutely shocking. To put God's Word out there in our casual conversations is probably one of the easiest things we can do as Christians. These only need to be simple comments about how God worked something out in our life this week; or how we felt better after praying on something; or how you'll remember that person in your prayers after they've shared a difficulty of theirs with you.

These conversations will rarely end with the other person giving their life over to Christ, however, it may just be the seed that will begin to grow within their heart, that may later result in salvation. We just never know! God works in mysterious ways sometimes, right?

Many studies that have been done share the fact that many people, when asked why they don't attend church, answer it by saying "Because no one ever invited me." We must all become more emboldened to speak God's words to others, to invite them to worship with us or sometimes to just let them know that we are Christians. Some of our friends or acquaintances may not even realize that we are Christians because we never speak of our faith.

As we move into summer and maybe doing some traveling or extra curricular activities within our own hometowns, let's all make a more determined effort to have these spiritual conversations with people. Let's all try harder to show our family and friends and even strangers what our God means to us. Just simple conversations. It's as easy as that!

Stewardship is typically focused on using our time, talents and treasures for God's glory and our good, but this month our focus is on using our voices, our words, our conversations. They can be as powerful and sometimes more powerful, than our time, talents or treasures!

May God bless you and your conversations this month. May He use your voice to bless someone else with hope and encouragement and even solutions and answers to problems someone else is having. Be bold!

In Christ,

Kim Kaniecki/Board of Stewardship



Share Your Stories

Starts Saturday, July 1st.

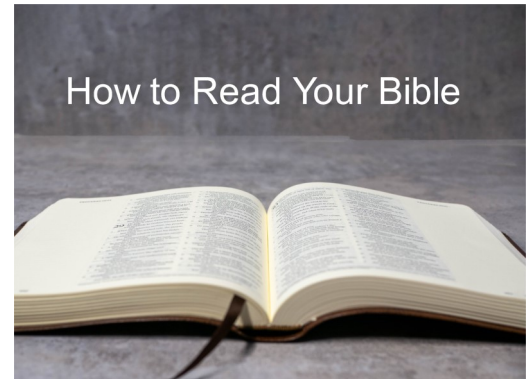
Still Time to Sign up

Christian Education would like to invite you to reconnect with your Bible in a class video series called “ How to Read Your Bible” hosted by Larry Nimetz.

The class will entail a few short series of videos followed by open discussion.

The Bible is God’s written word to humanity, written by different authors to help us understand and take part in His master plan for us.

Please join us by signing up. Class will begin Saturday, July 1, 2023 from 4 - 5 PM in the Fellowship Hall.



2023 Florida-Georgia District President's Equip Conference



70 YEARS
LIVING as Along-Siders
 DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLE MAKERS
President's Equip Conference
 September 28 - 30, 2023



WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
 Everyone in your congregation and school should attend this event — volunteers, church council and board members, elders, pastors, vicars, Directors of Christian Education, youth leaders, teachers, Bible Study leaders and administrators.

WHAT IS A PRESIDENT'S EQUIP CONFERENCE?
 A comprehensive conference that offers powerful keynote speakers, opportunities for practical workshops to equip servants of every walk for ministry and discipleship. **This happens just once every three years!** A wide range of workshop sessions will be offered providing practical, strategic and achievable ideas that will work in your congregations and schools alike.

WHEN IS IT?
 September 28-30, 2023
 Thursday, Friday & Saturday

WHERE IS IT?
 The Hilton Buena Vista Palace
 Orlando, Florida

WHAT IS THE COST?
 Registration for the event is \$149 per person until August 15th. After that date registration is \$199 to \$250 depending on registration date. Rooms have been discounted between \$165 and \$185 (see fgadistrict.org/pec for more hotel details) for all three days. Based on availability, conference hotel rates are available up to three days pre-conference and post-conference. Bring your family and enjoy the parks!

In addition to powerful keynote speakers, take a look at some of the breakout workshops that will be offered.

- ✘ What are the “Ways of the Alongsiders?”
- ✘ Why ‘Disciples Making Disciples’ is Currently a Pipedream and How to Fix It.
- ✘ The Rise of Identity and How to Broaden the Conversation Beyond Sex, Race and Gender.
- ✘ School Board Essentials.
- ✘ From One Pastor’s Wife to Another.
- ✘ Coming Alongside: Difficult Conversations.
- ✘ The World is Upside Down; It’s Not Too Late!
- ✘ Discipleship in an Age of Connected Loneliness.
- ✘ Communications – Community OUT-REACH and Church INREACH.
- ✘ Making In-reachers and Outreachers.
- ✘ Emotional Intelligence in Children and Youth.
- ✘ Making Disciples in Micro-Groups.
- ✘ Church Treasurer’s Toolbox.
- ✘ From a Stagnant and Dying Church into a Thriving and Life-giving Church.
- ✘ Cyber Security.
- ✘ How to Protect Your Ministry.

WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?
 All devotions and speakers plus the workshops and the exhibit hall with Christian vendors. It includes our 75th Anniversary banquet and festival worship and lunch on Friday. ☩

HOW DO I GET MORE INFO?
 Multiple workshop opportunities will be available to equip, empower and engage attendees to live as along-siders. Please visit the registration webpage for a comprehensive list.

fgadistrict.org/pec

or scan on this QR code:



Central America Missions July 2023

I was so glad to receive my passport and to be able to go on our June Surgical mission as planned. We were able to help a lot of poor people with some real detrimental health issues. We also had some new members in our team; we always hope that they will come back for another trip.

Our days usually start with a mass service since this is a Catholic mission, but its good to start our day with a reminder of the real reason we are there, and that is to do the work that the Lord allows us to do.

Last April, Christ Lutheran sent a shipment of 1600 lbs. with medical and orphanage items. The shipment also made it just a few days prior to our mission. It would have been ideal for me to deliver the donations for the orphanages, but we all were preoccupied, making sure to keep the surgical schedule moving.

I always like to talk to the patients before surgery to confirm their understanding, illness, and any other information I can gather to include social issues. It just happened that I found a distant relative. I didn't grow up close to my family, but I did know some of my mother's relatives.

You may see that in some of my pictures it shows some people with weight problems. In their diet there is a lot of corn and sweetness. That is something that we didn't have as much while I was growing up in Honduras. I noticed that most people have a Coca Cola with their meals.



This is a 14 years old whose medial growth plate is being restricted. His legs are growing in a bow. The surgeon placed a screw on the lateral growth plate; that will allow his lower legs to grow straight. I saw a similar case in Guatemala.

I was glad to be a part of this mission and I think that we used every minute to do our work. Time well spent being instruments for our Lord. Our hosts and the people we served were very grateful. Thank you Christ Lutheran for supporting this mission. Your donations and efforts go directly to the people who

need it the most.

Carlos Orellana



Main entrance at San Benito Jose

See more pictures on page 16

Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting in a Nutshell
By Robin Fox, Council Secretary, June 12, 2023



Treasure: Jon Lindstrom

For the month of May our actual performance is at a positive -- compared to the budgeted amounts. For YTD our actual performance is at a positive ---- compared to budgeted amounts. Our bank balance at Mid-Florida is ----, our balance with Thrivent is ---- and our balance with LCEF is ----. Total assets in all accounts is ----. Dedicated account balance is ---, and undedicated is ---. Stewardship report shows our total income is about 10% higher this year than in May, 2022. No noteworthy income items this month. There are three noteworthy expense or decrease in assets for this month; VISTE net proceeds of hot dog stand at baseball parking, ---, Shipment of boxes for Central American Mission, ----, One Write for 2024 offering envelopes, ---.

Pastor Report: Pastor Christopher Hazzard

Upcoming events are June 17th First Aid/CPR/AED Training, President's Equip Conference September 28th - 30th in Orlando, FLGA Missionary Pathway Cohort on the 2nd Wednesday of each month via Zoom is ongoing, Circuit Reformation Rally, October 29th - we are hosting. The Elders voted on a personnel issue. The Emergent Leader training was well worth the investment. PROBEM day camp and summer meal program were cancelled due to lack of attendance.

President: John Freer

Want to thank all the council volunteers for their time and effort in keeping the church going smoothly. The church is growing with new visitors becoming members. Please continue to make our visitors feel welcome. The Congregational Voters Meeting went well. Also passed at the Voter's Meeting was - previous voters meeting minutes will no longer be read at the meeting. They will be distributed in your boxes and via email prior to the meeting for your review. Passing of the immigration classes was approved, however due to lack of participation will not take place. No major issues at this time. There will be several openings on the council next year. If you know of someone that might be interested in serving, please let me know. Still working with the elevator company. It has been a struggle to get someone to come out.

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Vice President: Ted Nelson

Nothing to report.

Christian Education: Annie Smith

Nothing to report.

Board of Elders: Carlos Orellana

Attendances/new members /230 total people total in June, so far. Several new people have come in with members. Liturgy (Pat Calhoon and Caleb Hazzard will rotate every two weeks). Status on PJ.

Stewardship: Kim Kaniecki

Nothing to report.

Board of Outreach: Blake Albright

Out of town, nothing to report.

Board of Communications: Kris Welch

We have been working with MABE to begin using a new software program, Pro Presenter, and having a training class on Saturday, June 17th. I believe we have 9 people currently signed up. MABE is also reviewing our equipment and processes to make sure we are doing things in the best possible way. MABE will be looking at our audio setup to determine if we have best utilized our equipment. They will also be doing training on our soundboard, but that will be down the road.

Trustee Report: Sandy Spanier

Replaced the carpet in the lift/cry room area. Put in floor tiles & a gate to keep small children from entering the storage area. Cleaning door handles & kick plates. Cleaning out storage cabinets. Cleaned out the mailboxes in the narthex. A report on discontinued boxes will be given to Emma. Helped with prep for the summer programs. We have a few projects that are being worked on continually & several on our wish list.

Youth Board:

The youth went to the Flying Tigers baseball game last Wednesday.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Fox

REFORMATION TASK FORCE

Christ Lutheran Church will be hosting the 2023 Reformation Sunday worship for our zone on October 29, 2023. The Church council has approved the formation of a task force to plan a dinner to follow the Worship Service. Traditionally, about 200 + folks attend a post service meal at the hosting Church. We will need many able bodied CLC members to help with this joyous occasion! The first meeting of the task force will be held on Monday, July 17 @6:30 pm in the fellowship hall. For those vacationing or winter visitors who would like to assist, please email Charlotte Mantz clmantz@aol.com. to be kept up to date on the plans made. Any questions? Call, text or email Charlotte @ 863-409-6270. See you on July 17!



Reformation



Our Mission Remains the Same...

Living as Christ's Witnesses
Celebrating 75 Years of Mission



The Goal

Our GOAL is to raise \$1.5 million by September 2023. These funds will enable us to provide \$150,000 in grants to start ten congregations over the next five years.

For every \$2 given, \$1 will be matched.

Help us reach this goal to connect many more people to Jesus!

flgadistrict.org/give

"New starts reach more new people for Christ."



"Living as along-siders, means going to where people are!"

Celebrating 75 Years of Mission & Growth

The Florida-Georgia District began in 1948 with 22 congregations, today we are 192 strong. Less than 45% of the US is connected to the Body of Christ and the population of our states continues growing by nearly 2% per year.

God is calling us to "Go and make disciples" and planting new congregations is essential to reaching more with God's love and the only message of hope!



Living As Christ's Witnesses So That All People Come to Faith

- 192 Congregations walking together
- 59 Schools and Early Learning Centers
- Mission driven since 1948
- Sharing God's love with all people in an ever-diverse society
- Offering the only true and unchanging hope for this life and eternity

"For such a time as this!" God has brought us together to be His hands and feet to a lost and hurting world.

The people of the Florida-Georgia District are committed to being a beacon of hope through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to all people!

Our task is urgent! We ask for your prayers and financial partnership so that many more will experience Christ's love now and in eternity!



"Every congregation is a mission planting congregation. Start something new!"



Imagine... together, we can do this!

Imagine... if each person and every congregation gave a thank offering, we would reach our goal!

Imagine... the joy over lives transformed and each new believer.

Imagine... the renewed excitement and revitalization in our congregations.

Visit the FLGA District website to learn how you can be Christ's Witness with your financial support.



Scan the QR code or visit flgadistrict.org/celebrating75years

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Helping these beautiful kids keeps us coming back



A little patient with a local volunteer who helped us translate. We get some kids to volunteer as translators from the local bilingual schools.

