

Psalm 30:2

The Christogram

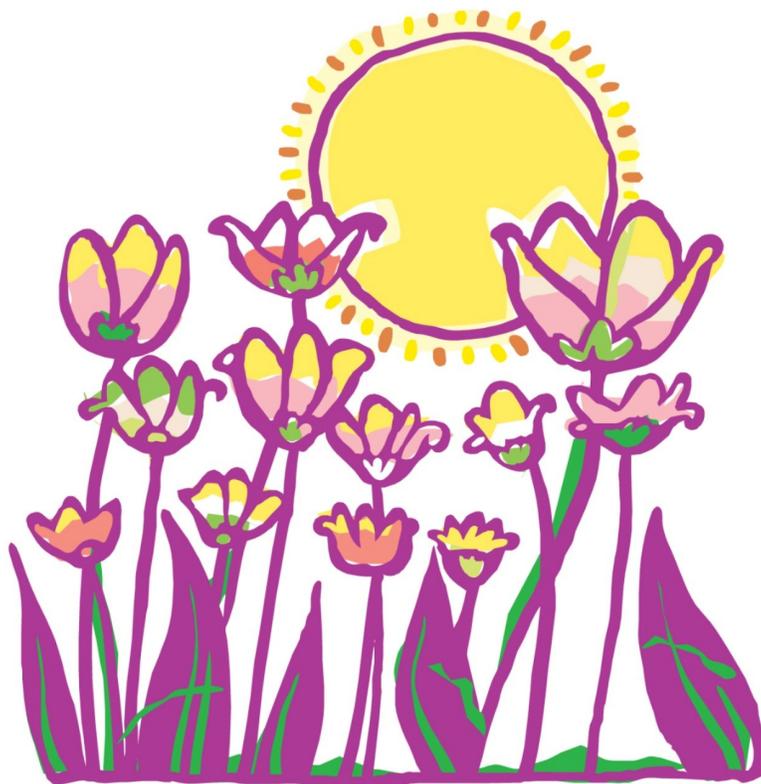
O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.

April 2025
Volume 63 Issue 4



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*Weeping may linger for
the night, but joy comes
with the morning.*

Psalm 30:5, NRSV

He is Risen



clclakeland.org



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scan this QR code
to go to the "Giving"
website page.

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

Serving in April

CHRIST LUTHERAN STAFF

Pastor

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

Office Secretary

Terry Krum
863-682-7802

Council Officers

President Kim Kaniecki
Vice-President Dawn Peters
Secretary Robin Fox
Treasurer Karen Crickenberger
Finance Secretary Emma Block
Christian Ed Rev. Thomas Block
Outreach & Missions Wendy Rogers
Stewardship Lora Wacker
Trustees Sandy Spanier
Youth Group
Communications Kris Welch

Board of Elders

Carlos Orellana (Head)
Keith Kallstrom
Steve Rosane
Fred Sterns
Dave Wacker

Committee Chairpersons

Fellowship Coordinators

Joyce Munz and Charlotte Mantz

Altar Guild

Dawn Peters and Charlene Rosane

Director of Music

Elena Miraztchiyska

Endowment Fund

Helen Borgwardt

Mary-Martha Guild

Charlotte Mantz

E-Mail Addresses

Pastor

pastor@clclakeland.org

Office

clsecretary@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.

April 2 - Lent

Elder Carlos Orellana

April 6

Elder Carlos Orellana

Lector
Greeters

Audio Kim Kaniecki

Video Video TD: Kris Welch

GFX/Stream: Roland Fieckert

April 9 - Lent

Elder Steve Rosane

April 13

Elder Steve Rosane

Lector Charlotte Mantz

Greeters

Audio Judy Rudolph

Video Video TD: Josiah Hazzard

GFX/Stream: Andrea Hazzard

April 17 - Maundy Thursday

Elder Dave Wacker

April 18 - Good Friday

Elder Keith Kallstrom

Audio Kyle Welch

Video Video TD: Kris Welch

GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

April 20 - Easter

Elder All Elders

Lector Kim Kaniecki

Greeters

Audio (7a) Maria Hazzard (10a) Kyle Welch

Video (7a) Josiah Hazzard (10a) Kris Welch

GFX/Stream: (7a) Roland Fieckert (10a) Robin Fox

April 27

Elder Steve Rosane

Lector

Greeters

Audio Maria Hazzard

Video Video TD: Josiah Hazzard

GFX/Stream: Cheryl Erwin

ALTAR GUILD SERVICES

Dawn Peters, Gwen Snook, Jonelle Butler

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP @ 5:30 PM

Elder Steve Rosane (4/5), Carlos Orellana (4/12)

No Service (4/19), Dave Wacker (4/26)

Lector Debbie Smith/ Gerie Slaten/

Carlos Orellana, Steve Rosane



Christ Lutheran Church

2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd

Phone: 863-682-7802

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Trustee WD 9a Quilters @ 10a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Jr. Conf @ 5:15 Choir @ 7:30p Lent Ser. @ 6:30 p	3 Bible Study @ 10a	4	5 5:30p Worship
6 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship Elders Meeting	7	8 Adopt a Block @ 11a Grief Share @ 1 pm Outreach @ 5:30p	9 Trustee WD 9a Mary Martha mtg @ 9:30a Quilters @ 10a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Jr. Conf @ 5:15 Lent Ser. @ 6:30p	10 Bible Study @ 10a	11	12 5:30p Worship
13 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship M/M Purse Sale	14 Council Mtg @ 6:30p	15 Adopt a Block @ 11a Grief Share @ 1 pm	16 Trustee WD 9a Quilters @ 10a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Jr. Conf @ 5:15	17 Bible Study @ 10a Maundy Thurs. Service @ 6:30p	18 Passion Service @ Noon Good Friday Service @ 6:30p	19 No Service
20 Easter Sunrise Service 7a Easter Break- fast 10a Worship Communication Board Mtg	21 9 AM Deadline for Newsletter items	22 Adopt a Block @ 11a Grief Share @ 1 pm	23 Trustee WD 9a Quilters @ 10a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Jr. Conf @ 5:15	24 Bible Study @ 10a	25	26 5:30p Worship
27 8:30a Bible Study 10a Worship	28	29 Adopt a Block @ 11a Grief Share @ 1 pm	30 Trustee WD 9a Quilters @ 10a Private Com. 1:30 - 2:30p Jr. Conf @ 5:15			

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.*

- Carolyn Calendar
- Betty Coombs
- Joanne Ditton
- Donita Duncan
- Gerald Frizzell
- Rosie Fyffe
- Helen Gavin
- Donna Grant
- Pam Hanson
- Bob Kossel
- Fran Klug
- Sally Martel
- Nancy Matter
- Rose McLauchlin
- Fran Murphy
- Don Rohrbach
- Paul Schierschwitz
- Natalie Thiele
- Norma Tipton
- Amy Wilson
- Fred and Marlene Yost



Robin Fox	Apr 4
Janet Beyer.....	Apr 9
Janette Williams.....	Apr 12
Andrew Partheymueller.....	Apr 13
Lynnette Newman.....	Apr 13
Frances Klug.....	Apr 13
Kent Kahre.....	Apr 14
Linda Poole.....	Apr 16
Cheryl Langanke.....	Apr 22
George Kilbertus.....	Apr 25
Belinda Freer.....	Apr 27



Gayle and Michael Thomas.....	Apr 4, (32 yrs.)
Bill and Kathy Siedenstrang.....	Apr 11, (48 yrs.)
Frank and Bette Decker.....	Apr 20, (57 yrs.)
Jon and Shirley Lindstrom.....	Apr 28, (58 yrs.)



Thank you Debbie and Rick Smith for serving for the month of March. Dawn Peters, Gwen Snook and Jonelle Butler will serve for the month of April. Thank you for your service to the Lord and Christ Lutheran Church. Are you interested in serving on an Altar Guild monthly team? Please contact Dawn Peters.

Baptismal Birthday Blessing

Gracious Lord, we give thanks that in Holy Baptism we receive forgiveness of sins, deliverance from death and the devil, and eternal salvation. On this baptismal anniversary, bless [name] continually by Your Word and Spirit that [he/she] may faithfully keep the covenant into which [he/she] has been called, boldly confess [his/her] Savior, and finally share with all Your saints the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- Roland Feickert Apr 1
- Steve Rosane Apr 1
- Judy Veal Apr 3
- Nancy Matter..... Apr 4
- Rita Czanko Apr 7
- Carol Kloha Apr 8
- James Kloha..... Apr 11
- Nancy Tyler..... Apr 12
- Tammy Raimondo..... Apr 14
- Gloria Nelson..... Apr 14
- Barbara Szymanski..... Apr 16
- Carol Stuckert Apr 20
- Lynnette Newman Apr 20
- Patricia Maxson Apr 22
- Frances Klug Apr 27
- Norma Miller Apr 27
- Arthur Walls Apr 28
- Gary Witte Apr 30

*First year Anniversary as
Member of Christ Lutheran Church*

- Traie Ward, III April 8
- Roland Feickert April 15

**DON'T FORGET BAGS FOR
TALBOT HOUSE —**



Thank you to all of you who continue to support this ministry! Talbot House does extraordinary things to help the homeless. We are blessed to share in that ministry! Their doors are open to both men and women and they provide meals, shelter, & clothing, and direct them to medical care as needed. We collect offerings of canned goods—meat, vegetables, fruit, soup, paper goods—paper towels, toilet paper, napkins; cleaning supplies; soap—dishwashing, personal soap, laundry; toothbrushes & toothpaste. We also collect gently used clothes—free from stains, and have working zippers and buttons. There are especially marked baskets in the mail room at the back of the church to place your offerings. Our pickup day is the second Tuesday of every month. We also have a box on top of the table where you may place unused medicines, empty pill bottles, and unopened bottles of over the counter medicines. Talbot House uses the empty pill bottles to measure out soap and shampoo for the residents. Please remove labels from the empty bottles. Large containers of spices, flour, and sugar are real blessings.



From the Pastor.....

Good Friday and Easter

Some folks love Easter Sunday, but they turn away from Good Friday. Every Good Friday, we hear again of Jesus' bitter sufferings and death. We hear the shouts, "Crucify Him!" We hear of him being humiliated, stripped, and made to wear the crown of thorns. We hear the crowd's declaration that "His blood be upon us and upon our children." We hear of Him being brutally flogged, leaving his back raw and bleeding. We hear of Jesus being affixed to the cross. We hear Jesus' words, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Like rubberneckers passing a grizzly scene on a highway, we imagine in our mind's eye all the trauma that happened to Jesus.

This focus on Jesus' death is well and good. But we miss something if we forget that He did it all FOR YOU.

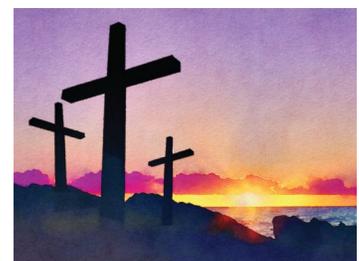
As we reflect on Jesus' death, we also reflect on ourselves: our sin, our unworthiness, our selfishness, our brokenness.

Martin Luther wrote, "The benefit of Christ's sufferings depends almost entirely upon man coming to a true knowledge of himself, and becoming terror-stricken and slain before himself. And where man does not come to this point, the sufferings of Christ have become of no true benefit to him." (A Sermon on how to Contemplate Christ's Holy Sufferings, 1519).

I pray that self-reflection leads you to call out to the Lord. I pray that you not only reflect on Jesus but reflect upon your old sinful self.

By reflecting upon yourself as you reflect on Jesus' suffering and death, the joy of Christ's Easter Resurrection is all the sweeter. Jesus' emergence from the tomb announces that you are forgiven, that your sins are atoned for, and that you are free. After the Law does its bitter and painful work within us, the Easter Gospel gives us new life and new beings.

Pastor Chris



WHAT SHALL I RENDER TO GOD?

“They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed. Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that He has given you” (Deut. 16:16b-17).



Holy Week Services

April 17th - Maundy Thursday Service @ 6:30 pm

April 18th - Good Friday Passion Service @ Noon

April 18th - Good Friday Tenebrae Service @ 6:30 pm

April 19th - No Saturday Worship Service

April 20th - Easter Sunrise Service @ 7 am

Easter Breakfast between Services

Easter Worship @ 10 am

****Note: No Bible Study Easter morning**



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.

A Word from the President

If you're a parent, then I think it's pretty safe to say that you have heard your kids ask you "Do we *have* to go to church??" Maybe even on occasion we ourselves grumbled about *having* to go to church. We know we should, but we think sometimes there are better things out there to be doing. Things that seem more important that need to be done. Sports, yard work, housework, sleeping, the list could and does go on and on.

Priorities. Most people realize the importance of setting priorities. Important things should come first. But sadly, we often get our priorities mixed up. What's important to us is quite often the wrong thing to hold such a high priority in our life. When God gave us the 10 Commandments it's obvious that the first one on the list emphasizes His desire of us having correct priorities. "You shall have no other gods before me." Lots of things can be 'gods' in our lives. Things that take priority over God in our lives are 'gods' for us. It is so important to recognize this and put God back into His rightful place in our lives. Matthew 6:33 is very clear in this: "Seek ye *first* the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

It takes a concerted effort on our part to put God first in list our priorities. But the payoff is always worth it! God honors His word and when we put Him first, He has a wonderful way a seeing to the rest of our needs.

I have a family member who loves worshipping God so much so that he got his car license plate specially made to read "I GET TO". He loves it when people ask him "You get to what?" He responds, "I don't HAVE to go to church, I GET to!" What a wonderful way of looking at it! We GET to, too! We should feel excited and privileged to GET to worship God, especially in this beautiful place.

So, the next time the thought arises "Aw, do I *have* to go to church" let us remind ourselves that, no, we don't *have* to, but we **GET** to! Jump on that opportunity and watch how God is more able to bless the rest of your day, week and month!

May God richly bless you in the coming month and we'll see you at church because we GET TO!

Kim Kaniecki
Council President



MARY MARTHA



The Mary Martha Fashion Show will be held on Saturday, March 29 in the Fellowship Hall from 1pm-4pm. The show will be presented by Bungalow Boutique!

Tickets are in advance and at the door \$10.00. We will have appetizers and door prizes. Partial proceeds will go to sending the Youth to the National Youth Gathering!

Mary Martha will have a second showing and sale of our Purse sale on Palm Sunday, April 13! After Worship in the Fellowship Hall. We can accept more purses and accessories if you missed the first sale! After the Palm Sunday sale, we will donate any left over items to Top Buttons!



Charlotte Mantz and Norma Miller will be attending the 42nd Biennial Convention of the LWML in Omaha, NE, June 26-29, 2025 representing the Mary Martha Group/ the Winter Haven Zone/ and the Florida/GA District. Charlotte is a voting delegate.

The theme of the convention is "Growing in God's Grace." We appreciate your prayers for safe travel and bringing home ideas for the future of Women in Mission in the LWML!

In His Service
Charlotte Mantz
President Mary /Martha Group of the LWML

Christian Education

If you remember from last month, I shared with you my format using the Portals of Prayers. I hope you are enjoying and growing in your faith using this devotional guide. Don't forget all the prayers in the back, especially the ones on each day of the week as well as Luther's Morning and Evening prayers in the front of the guide.

This month, I would like to share my other devotional guide, *Today's Light*, published also by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO. For many years I used a devotional study, the *Daily Walk*. Each year I read through the entire Bible. Sad to say *Walk Thru the Bible* discontinued the publication of this devotional guide. I remembered Concordia had a guide going through the Bible in two years. This is now what I use along with my *Portals of Prayers*. Each day you usually read 2-3 chapters of God's Word. Right now I am reading the Book of Ezekiel. On each page you will see this outline. First, you will "Get the Big Picture" of your required reading. This will give you a helpful overview of the day's reading. Secondly, will be the devotion of your reading called "Sharpen Your Focus." This helps you clearly understand the passage and see its meaning for your life. Finally, there will be at the bottom of your devotion a section called "Zoom In." This part of your devotion highlights interesting parts of the text you may not notice at first glance and gives practical suggestions for living according to God's Word daily. In addition there is also a reading from the Psalms which matches the content for the day and a reading from Proverbs each day. You will read the Book of Proverbs in one year. On the weekends you will read only one devotion.

In addition there is also a marking guide you can use in your study: Praise, yellow; Forgiveness, red; God's promises, blue; Ways to love God and others, orange; Giving, pink; Jesus' return, purple; The Church, green; and Sin and Satan, gray. I don't use the colors but it is a suggestion you can use in your reading of God's Word. For Old Testament promises of the Savior to come, mark it with a cross, and what God says about your heart, mark it with a heart.



Continued on page 11

Continued from page 10

After each month there is a quiz for you to take. It is multiple choice. The answers are at the bottom of the quiz.

Finally at the back of the guide there is a section on Prayer. Each day they give you suggestions on who to pray for and then you can conclude with the Collect appropriate for the season of the Church Year.

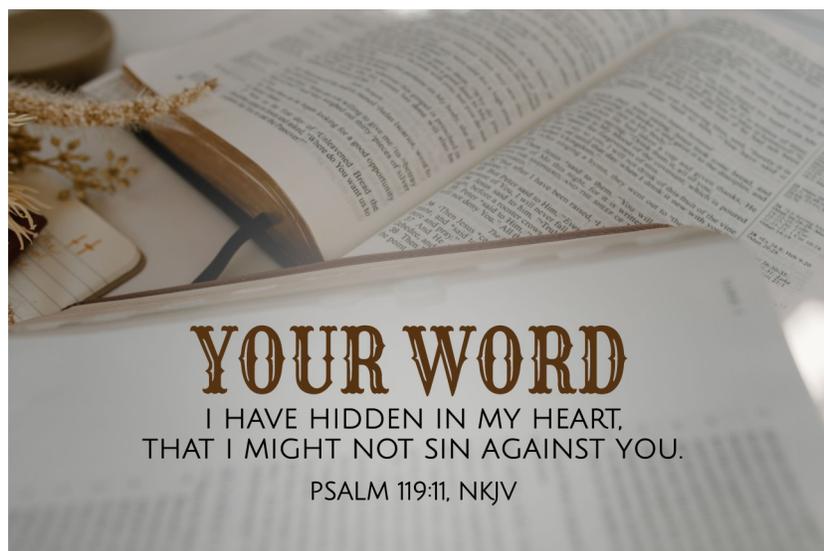
Is there a cost? Yes, there is. Subscription rate: 1 year, \$35.00; 2 years, \$61.00; single copy, \$9.50. To order call 1-800-325-3040 or visit cph.org/todayslight.

I will say it has been worth every penny using this guide. It has helped me to "grow in the grace and knowledge of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). I believe you will feel the same too.

Next month I will share a worship service I saw each week as I was recovering from my hip surgery.

A blessed Easter! Christ is Risen!! He is Risen Indeed!!

Pastor Block



Outreach

Senior Orphans received the February Fellowship. March donations are designated to Viste. Thank you to all who donate to fellowship's worthwhile causes. Each donation makes a difference in somebody's life.

2025 Fellowship Donations

April Central American Mission

May LCMS Youth Conference (2 youth and two chaperones will be attending. The cost will be approximately \$4000.

June/July/August Proceeds to benefit the Benevolent Fund and other Outreach efforts.

The Options for Women Baby Bottle Campaign ended March 2. A total of 74 bottles were filled by members of the congregation, and 74 bottles were returned. They were delivered to Options for Women on Tuesday, March 11. Thank you to all who participated. Who knows how many women and children have been helped because of your generous donations.

Lamar Stewart is our new Seminary student. I've reached out to him and I'm waiting for a reply.

We are serving anywhere from 70-80 people at Adopt-A-Block each week. One week we served 108 neighbors. If you haven't joined us for a meal, please do, and see what we're doing on Tuesday.

What a loving and generous congregation we have! Thank you for supporting our Outreach efforts.

Go Tigers! Baseball Spring Training is winding down. The car parking is going very well. Many days we have reached capacity. Contact Fred or Cathy, 989-595-2233, if you have a couple of hours to volunteer. It's a lot of fun and you get to know others from the congregation.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have suggestions, ideas for future outreach, or questions about volunteering at Adopt-a-Block.

Blessings

Wendy Rogers


 The logo for Outreach, featuring the word "OUTREACH" in a stylized font. "OUT" is in blue and "REACH" is in orange.

Civitan Club Fundraiser - Lakeland-Polk Civitan Club is holding a Butter Braid Pastry fundraiser. All the money raised will be designated to projects for the Lakeland Community and our friends with disabilities. If you've never had Butter Braid pastries, you're in for a yummy treat! Contact myself, Barb Szymanski, Pastor, or Robin Fox for information. We are selling until March 31. Delivery will be April 11, just in time for Easter Brunch.

STEWARDSHIP



The Stewardship committee is continuing to work on plans for the April 6th volunteer luncheon. Join us for good food, fellowship and door prizes!

We are pleased to welcome two new members:

Pamela Parrish

Virginia Fahrenholz

Did you see your mailbox note? Submit new pictures to me by May 1st. As always, I appreciate you all and remember to **let your light shine!**

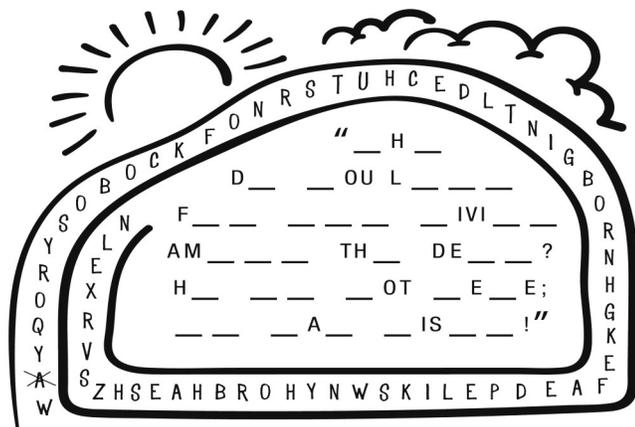
Lora Wacker



EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRIES PRESENTS

KEAGGY

11 APR

PHIL KEAGGY LIVE

An Evening of Music & Hope

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN
LAKELAND

WHITETHORNEVENTS.COM



Join us for our
Annual Fashion Show

PRESENTED BY:

 1026 S. FLORIDA AVENUE
LAKELAND, FL 33803

Join us for food (*hor D'oeuvres will be served*), fellowship, fashion and fun!
Proceeds to benefit local charities.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025
1-4 P.M. * COST: 10.00

Christ Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd., Lakeland

Hosted By: Mary Martha Group
See Charlotte Mantz for tickets
863-409-6270

Church Potluck
March 30th
After service in the
Fellowship Hall

Sign up sheet on the bulletin
board in the Narthex



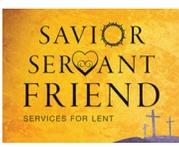
April Lenten Services @ 6:30 pm

April 2 – Protector

We acknowledge that Jesus protects us from the devil and from danger and keeps us safe in Him.

April 9 - Encourager

We recognize that Jesus encourages us in our faith to live our life for Him.

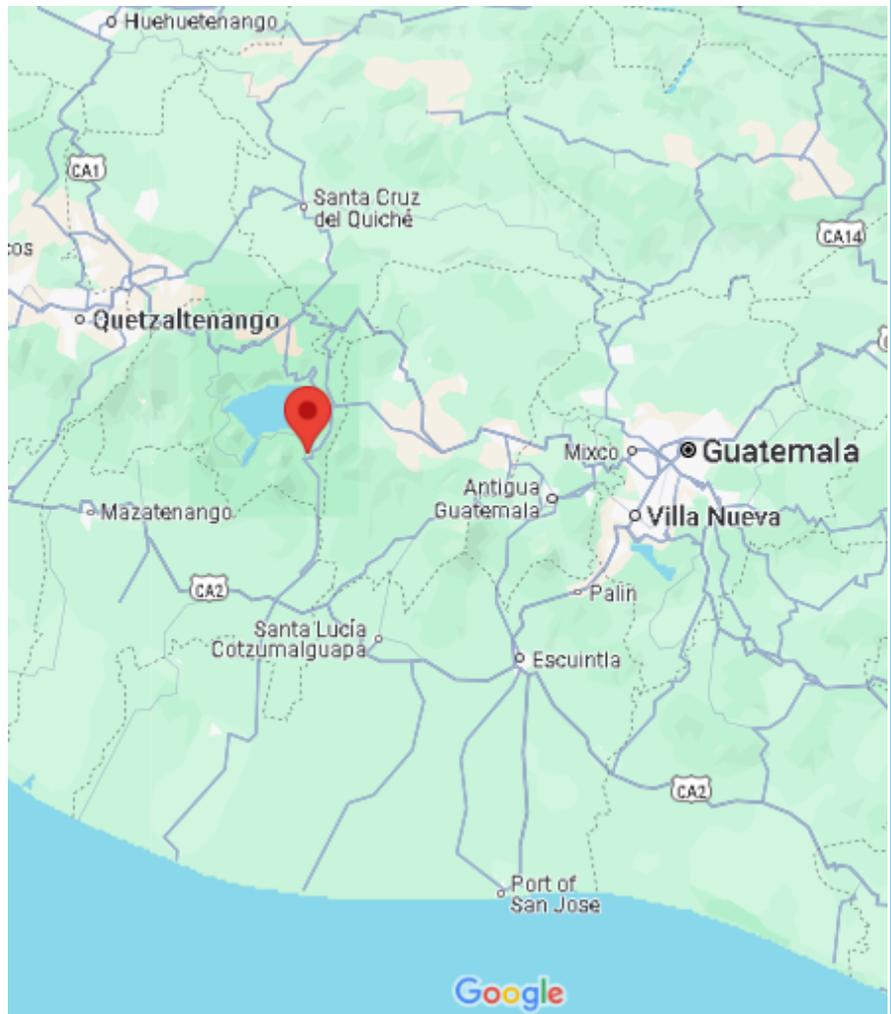


Central America Missions March, 2025



As of this writing, I am in San Lucas Toliman, Atitlan Lake in Guatemala. The whole medical group is here now and we had our patient screening day and preparations of our ORs yesterday. Today, the surgeons are working on scheduling the surgeries. We try to start on Monday with the cases that we may consider low risk.

This mission in Guatemala is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Anacortes, Washington. The volunteers come from all over the USA; although now I am seeing an increase of Canadians. I feel very fortunate to be a part of this mission. These professionals are very talented in their vocations and committed to helping the poorest of the poor. I love to be part of their results; coming back year after year and seeing kids finally able to walk. It is a very fulfilling work.



Christ Lutheran, we help to make life better for so many people; thank you for your support to the Central American Mission. Keep us in your prayers that we may continue to help the poorest of the poor.

Carlos Orellana

See pictures on Page 16

Central American Missions March 2025



We did this little girl's left foot last year. If God's will, we may have the same results on the right foot.



This time we also have a hand surgery team with us.