

*"I am the
resurrection
and the life."*
JOHN 11:25



THE PILGRIM HERALD

March 2016

PILGRIM EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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West Bend, WI 53090

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**MARCH: THE LORD OPENING AND CLOSING
WOMBS**

*No nice and neat quote here, just simply two phrases,
“He Remembers, He Resurrects”*

I write this newsletter mindful of my vocations as husband and father, as your pastor and as a child of God with you in the trenches of this suffering life. Some of you know the whole story. Some of you have come to know it's full weight of sorrow through various newsletters, words addressed to the congregation and personal correspondence. Some of you have similar stories of suffering. The story is a sad one, with many tears and unanswered questions. Yet in the midst of death my family has been comforted by you, the saints in this place and by servants of the Word, dispensers of eternal gifts that have allowed us to moderate our grief and focus on the joy of the communion of saints and the promise of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

By this *tentatio*, this affliction, I have learned a biblical truth that is shrouded in mystery: *The Lord opens and closes wombs*. The wombs that never opened and the breasts that never nursed, barrenness, is an ocean of emotions that only find its waves resting in Christ. Katie Schuermann has written an honest and comforting devotional book entitled “*He Remembers the Barren*” for husbands and wives who suffer this heavy and enigmatic cross. There are wombs that were opened for a time and then for reasons only known to the Lord, were closed in death. This we label, “miscarriage,” a word that tries but fails miserably to express the devastation that occurs. There are wombs that the Lord opened and brought forth life, a child born of His Word, a gift born from the one flesh union of husband and wife, a gift given so that we would see life as it was created to be, flesh and bone, heart and soul. Flipping through the pages of Scripture we see these different narratives. Abram and Sari,

watched as the years went by and the Lord's promise seemed hallow. Just words, no newborn flesh. Desperate, and with Abram at 86 years of age, Sari takes matters into her own hands and insists that her husband lay with her maidservant Hagar, and she bears a son, Ishmael. Yet, Abram and Sari still remained childless. At 99 years of age, again the Lord speaks to them and promises that they will be the root of a family tree that will bear multiple nations. By the promise the once closed womb is opened, and Sari gives birth to Isaac. Related to this was when Abimelech took Sarah into his harem [when Abraham told Sarah to say that she was his sister and not his wife], Abimelech returned her upon learning the truth about who Sarah really was, Abraham's wife. After this, “Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they born children. For the Lord had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.”

The son of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac also experienced the mystery of the Lord's opening and closing of wombs. Isaac prayed to the Lord on behalf of his barren wife, Rebekah. The Lord answered Isaac's prayer and opened Rebekah's womb and she gave birth to twins, Jacob and Esau. But this occurred after 20 years of pleading with the Lord. Their son, Jacob was embroiled in a secret web of opened and closed wombs. He married two sisters, Leah and Rachel. And while Leah had six sons, the Lord closed Rachel's womb. She often lamented bitterly to Jacob, saying, “Give me children, or I shall die.” Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel, and he said, “Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?” The barren womb is often the cause of great marital cross, whether spoken or unspoken. Time would pass, but the Lord would not forget Rachel. He had heard her lamentations, and “opened her womb. She conceived and bore a son and said, ‘God has taken away my re-

proach.’ And she called his name Joseph, saying, “May the Lord add to me another son.” Rachel would give birth to a second son, Benjamin.

There is Hannah and Elkanah. Hannah prayed in the temple year after year for a child. She was consumed with barrenness, so distraught she couldn’t even eat. Heartbroken, she wept uncontrollably to the Lord. While in the temple, Eli the priest, gazed upon her downtrodden body and soul. Hannah was weeping, and her lips were moving, but words didn’t come out. She had emptied herself of all sighs. Her voice was even barren. Eli had mistakenly thought she was drunk. Hannah explained to him that nothing could be further from the truth. She was a woman who had been pouring out her pain and lamenting before the Lord. Like Rachel, “God remembered” Hannah. She became pregnant with a son, Samuel. Even more, Hannah would give birth to three more sons and two daughters.

Yet not all closed wombs would open in due time. Michal was King Saul’s daughter, and the first wife of David. She was the princess, and became the wife of a king, yet had no children. The Scriptures tell us, “Michal, the daughter of Saul had no children to the day of her death.” Simply because she had no children and therefore no descendent of Saul ever reigned on the throne of Israel, doesn’t undo the sorrowful mystery that the Lord never opened her womb. Furthermore, just because the divine history of salvation seemed necessary for Michal to be barren, doesn’t undo the suffering, the questions, and the pain which lies heavy on the marital union of husband and wife, each suffering their own unique yet shared lamentation.

All our stories, though sad and mournful have a happy ending, for they all end in Christ. His birth, life, death, and resurrection, consumes all things and makes them new. A foretaste of this will occur on March 15 when our child will be born and then be baptized at our inaugural

Easter Vigil Service at 6:30 p.m. I can guarantee you that my mind will be enraptured by the gift of it all, of Easter, and that our Lord takes care us and gives us good gifts despite the fact that we still live in the valley of the shadow of death. I will think of my two children in heaven even as I wonder in amazement at this child on earth. It’s a joyous time, an Easter time, a time to confess, “He is Risen.” *The great truth of “He is Risen,” is this: He remembers. And in His remembering He resurrects.*

No one story can isolate us from the myriad mysteries of human life lived beneath sin and death yet also clinging to the promise filled Word. The Lord remembers everything, but not as if He simply logs it into some divine memory box. As the Lord remembers He redeems. The act of His remembering is also His act of redeeming all that has been lost. He un-does death in His death, and He re-does life in His life. Open or closed womb, He remembers. The “normal miscarriages,” the still-birth’s, He remembers. The barren womb and the budding womb, He remembers. His remembering is His saving and securing of life, the first fruits of all those who have been born in Him and who shall never die. His remembering is not equal to a bystander who simply sees everything and says, “I am sorry,” and then gives you a big hug. His remembering is far more than that. His remembering is His redeeming and His redeeming is known in His remembering of everything. In Him, “I am so sorry,” doesn’t exist, at least not in Christ who is the resurrection and the life. In His remembering He also resurrects and makes new.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear
him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
that he may deliver their soul from death
and keep them alive in famine.
Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and

our shield.
For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in
his holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you. Psalm 33:18-22
In the bonds of Christ's Easter peace and new life,
Pastor Raffa

Board of Elders Meeting Minutes
Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church
2/1/2016

The meeting began with prayer by Pr. Fisher at 6:30. Present at the meeting were Gary, Howard, Dave, Tanner, Brian, Ron, and Ken. Absent was Allen.

Schedules were made through mid-March.

A question concerning the bible study offering plate was addressed.

A question concerning the designation or creation of a dedicated diabetic aid station for use by the ushers was considered.

A question concerning web design was briefly considered. A date for a meeting concerning the same remains to be set.

Discussion concerning finances was held with an emphasis on the possibility of a fundraiser to address remaining addition debt.

The Pastors and Elders wish to confess that, concerning any estate and memorial gifts, the glory is wholly God's. Even as we deeply appreciate the kindness of the donors, we confess that ultimately the material goods of earthly treasure as well as the good intent of will are both gifts of God, to Whom glory must be given

Pr. Fisher notes that the church finances must be considered in light of the Gospel rather than the law.

Pr. Fisher notes both that he will be absent on the 22nd and 23rd and that his Concordia class begins this month.

At 7:20 Pr. Fisher began devotions with Pr. Mech's study video. Pr. Raffa led the elders in devotion, studying Pastors and Elders: Caring for the Church and One Another by Rev. Timothy Mech.

A suggestion was raised to softly introduce the elders to their respective parishioners by means of distributed photo-ID cards.

The meeting concluded with prayer by Pastor Raffa at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,
Tanner Schmidt

Pilgrim Ev. Lutheran Church, Council Minutes,
February 8, 2016.

Meeting was called to order by President Jerry Sommer at 7:01 PM.

Present were Pastor Fisher, Jerry Sommer, Fred Leffin, David Boehlke, Carolyn McAfee, Judy Frank.

Pastor Fisher opened with prayer and a short devotion.

President Jerry Sommer asked for any corrections to the last minutes of January 11, 2016. They were approved as printed.

President Jerry Sommer reviewed correspondence he had received. He received a donation request from a School for the Deaf in Michigan. It was referred to the District Office.

Elders Report: Pastor Fisher reported that the Elders have started a video and book study by Pastor Mech. They also discussed "God given

gifts" that come through Estate donations.

Trustees Report: David Boehlke stated that there are some problems with one of the older computers and they are looking into it.

Board of Education Report: Carolyn McAffe reported that there is a pre-Valentine's Day party scheduled for Saturday afternoon, Feb 13, with pizza, soda, and games. They are trying to restart the Youth Group. Suggestions are sledding, ice skating, bowling, volleyball, etc.

Pastor Fisher reported that Rev. Krueger will be installed in the Town of Scott. He will also be attending the Visiting Pastor Conference, Feb 22 -23 in Stevens Point. (No cost to our congregation.) Pastor also reported that Taylor Brown from the Deaconess program at Concordia University, Mequon, will be doing her practicum here at Pilgrim. She will be working with the Pastors and will be helping with the Youth Group.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Fred Leffin made the motion to adjourn at 7:35 pm and Judy Frank seconded it. All were in favor to adjourn.

We closed with prayer by Pastor Raffa.

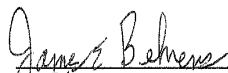
Respectfully submitted,
Judy Frank


Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church
Financial Statement for 2015

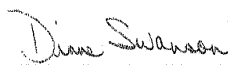
We the undersigned, as members of the Audit Committee, have reviewed the financial statements for the calendar year 2015 and are satisfied that they are true and accurate.

Dated February 20, 2016


Beverly Hanson


James Behrens


Gary Erdmann


Diane Swanson

JOSHUA BIBLE STUDY will resume on Thursday, April 14th at 9:00 am. and on Sunday, April 17th at 12:30 pm.

Sunday School News

We celebrated Valentine's Day during our music time by singing only songs and hymns that contained the words "heart" or "love".

During the month of March, we hope to sing during a Worship Service.

Reminder: No Sunday School on Easter Sunday, March 27th.

Our lessons for the upcoming weeks include the following:

"Jesus Preaches on the Mount" (Matt. 5:1-12)

"Jesus Teaches Us to Trust" (Matthew 6:25-34)

"Jesus Is Anointed" (Luke 7:36-50)

LADIES GUILD/LWML

The LWML Prayer Service was held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cascade. Beverly Hanson and Norma Benz represented Pilgrim (Zone 7) as they attended the service. The donations for the ingathering for the winter retreat in Oshkosh have been delivered. Many thanks to all congregation members that donated to this cause. Thank you to all who attended the Ash Wednesday supper.

Next month, we will meet on Tuesday, March 16. Our hostesses Norma Benz and Ruth Kohler will provide dessert and beverages. All ladies of the congregation are invited.

Baptisms

We welcome Oliver Samuel Rathke, grandson of Bob and Shirley Mayer was baptized on February 21, 2016.

CONFIRMATION

We welcome through the Rite of Confirmation. Sean Theusch. Sean was confirmed in his faith on Thursday, February 18, 2016. Welcome to Pilgrim Sean.

SAMUEL BOEHLKE and family would like to invite you to join them for a light luncheon following the Confirmation service on Palm Sunday. We thank God for this congregation by which He provides for His youth a place to learn God's Word in all its truth and purity. May God bless you all!

Spring "Reformation 500" Presentation

As part of its five-year celebration leading up to the 500 year anniversary of the Reformation in October, 2017, Concordia University Wisconsin professors Dr. Timothy Maschke and Dr. Gaylund Stone will co-present "*Lucas Cranach: Word and World*," on Tuesday, March 8 at 7 pm and Wednesday, March 9 at Noon. Their power point presentation will be held in Pharmacy 008. Dr. Maschke will offer an historical background and Dr. Stone will give an artistic perspective.

Dr. Maschke is a longtime theology professor at Concordia University Wisconsin, while Dr. Stone continues to teach after serving as Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences at CUW for many years.

This free event is open to the public. Questions from the audience will follow. This marks the

eighth presentation in a lecture series being held each semester leading up to the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, which honors Martin Luther and his nailing of the 95 theses to the door of a church in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517.

For more information, please visit the Reformation Page on Concordia University Wisconsin's website at: www.cuw.edu/Reformation500.

Next life conference planned for January 2017

Start making plans now to attend the 2017 LCMS Life Conference Jan. 27-29, 2017. Join fellow LCMS Lutherans for learning and fellowship at the Westin Arlington Gateway Hotel in Arlington, Va. The conference is open to all LCMS Lutherans and invited guests.

Conference highlights include:

- Marching at the 44th-annual National March for Life in our nation's capital;
- Listening to presentations from speakers like Dr. George Delgado, who pioneered a protocol to reverse the abortion pill, and the Rev. Jonathan Fisk, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Oakes, N.D.; and
- Attending daily worship and devotions, with Divine Service on Sunday morning.

Join LCMS Life Ministry as we proclaim God's truth that all life is sacred — from the very beginning until the natural end.

Westin Arlington Gateway Hotel group rate available until Jan. 6, 2017 >>

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1- Brandon Chapman
- 2- Matthew Barger
Andrew Dickmann
Manuel Pintor
Tom Zell
- 3- Leah Hoffman
Miranda Hoffman
- 5- Kyle Voll
Joseph Pajewski
- 6- Norma Krubsack
- 7- Christopher Becker
- 8- Neal Deffenbaugh
Dorothy Hinrichs
Neal Schleif
- 10- Gert Sullivan
Sarah Schnabel
Howard Glassel
- 11- Emma Haas
- 12- Sue Hausmann
Mark Selzler
- 13- Gertrude Raabe
- 14- Judith Spiegel
Alexander Held
- 18- Emily Svien
Nicholas Fry
- 19- Robert Mayer
- 21- Marion Videkovich

- 23- Dennis Gabor
- 24- Joyce Heberer
- 25- Jim Rosenthal
- 26- Lindsey Olig
- 28- Thomas Jahn
- 29- Stacy Knuth
Richard Dembski
Margaret Maffit
- 30- Jill Ortiz
Ginny Schober
- 31- Judith Belling
David Boehlke
Cayden Kleinke
Lanette Weber

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3- Brian & Angie Skrentny
- 12- Richard & Deborah Brathovde
- 15 - David & Olivemae Olson
- 20- Manuel & Elaine Pintor
John and Carol McKay
Conrad & Courtney Castro
- 21- Thomas & Arlyne Becker
- 23- Bernard & Brenda Doyle
- 31- Harold & June Fry
Paul & Amanda Taylor

This outline is a devotional reading plan that covers the entire Sacred Scriptures each year. The selections are based on ancient models and are generally in harmony with the liturgical church year. The average reading is three chapters daily. The lectionary is in accordance with Martin Luther's suggestions: "But let the entire Psalter, divided in parts, remain in use and the entire Scriptures, divided in lections, let this be "Preserved in the ears of the church". Also: "after that another book should be selected, and so on, until the entire Bible has been read through, and where one does not understand it, pass that by and glorify God."

MARCH'S READINGS –

March 1 - Isaiah 64:1-9
Numbers 16-18
March 2 - Psalm 85
Numbers 19-21
March 3 - Psalm 86
Numbers 22-24
March 4 - Psalm 87
Numbers 25-27
March 5 - Psalm 88
Numbers 28-30
March 6 - Psalm 89
Numbers 31-33
March 7 - Psalm 90
Numbers 34-36
March 8 - Psalm 91
Deuteronomy 1-3
March 9 - Psalm 92
Deuteronomy 4-6
March 10 - Psalm 93
Deuteronomy 7-9
March 11 - Psalm 94
Deuteronomy 10-12
March 12 - Psalm 95
Deuteronomy 13-15

March 13 - Psalm 96
Deuteronomy 16-18
March 14 - Psalm 97
Deuteronomy 19-21
March 15 - Psalm 98
Deuteronomy 22-24
March 16 - Psalm 99
Deuteronomy 25-27
March 17 - Psalm 100
Deuteronomy 28-30
March 18 - Psalm 101
Deuteronomy 31-34
March 19 - Psalm 102
Luke 1
March 20 - Psalm 103
Luke 2-3
March 21 - Psalm 104
Luke 4-5
March 22 - Psalm 105
Luke 6-7
March 23 - Psalm 106
Luke 8-9
March 24 - Psalm 107
Luke 10-11
March 25 - Psalm 108
Luke 12-13
March 26 - Psalm 109
Luke 14-15
March 27 - Psalm 110
Luke 16-17
March 28 - Psalm 111
Luke 18-19
March 29 - Psalm 112
Luke 20-21
March 30 - Psalm 113
Luke 22
March 31 - Psalm 114
Luke 23-24

TRINITY EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER Immediate Opening! Extended School Care Teacher

Trinity Lutheran-Freistadt's Childhood Center is looking a fun, energetic, self-motivated and friendly individual who is able to work Monday through Friday 2:00pm - 6:00pm (up to 20 hours per week) in our after school program (5K through 8th grade).

You will be responsible for executing the educational program in accordance with the purpose and goals of Trinity ECC. You will also be responsible for the general supervision and management of the classroom.

Compensation is based on education & experience.

Qualifications:

- possess the ability to communicate with parents and staff effectively;
- must be comfortable sharing the love of Jesus daily with children and adults;
- care for children in a positive, Christian manner; etc
- must be flexible with your schedule
- Must be 18 years old at the time of hire
- Experience preferred, but not required. Willing to train.

Please apply online by visiting www.trinityfreistadt.com.

SWD SINGLES RETREAT

The South Wisconsin District Adult Singles are sponsoring its Spring Retreat, April 9, 2016 (8:30am – 4:00pm) at the Cedar Valley Resort. The theme for the weekend is Caring. Our Key-

note speaker will be Rev. Jeff Schubert. The cost of the retreat is \$40.00. The registration fee includes all materials, fees, and lunch. If you want to come the night before – there are rooms available at Cedar Valley. The deadline for registration is March 9, 2016. For more information or to register, you may contact--

- o Online form is available at our Facebook Group Page at (Search SWD Lutheran Singles)
- o Linda Gerbitz, SWD Singles Coordinator (Evenings) 262-336-6631
email: gerbs3@aol.com

Docendi sunt Christiani! (Christians are to be taught!)

Wittenberg Academy delivers classical Lutheran education via the Internet to serve families, congregations, and schools. Wittenberg Academy offers a full grammar (elementary) school curriculum and junior and senior high school courses. Wittenberg Academy is a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and is accredited by the Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education.

Justin Benson of Wittenberg Academy will be visiting Pilgrim Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 6. He and his family are members of Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chatfield, Minnesota.

Check out their display in the narthex and their presentation during Bible Study to see what they offer and how you can help them with the important and worthy task of teaching Christians.



2-13-16

Dear members of Pilgrim Lutheran Church,
Greetings in Christ! Thank you for your
kind support of the mission work our family
will be doing in the Dominican Republic. We
appreciate it very much! We are excited to
settle into our new life in Santiago in His
good time.

God's continued blessings to you all this
winter season. In Christ,
Pastor David + Jenny Preus + children



~Mission and Mercy~
The Preus Family in the Dominican Republic

February
2016

A Lenten Meditation

The Soul:

'Tis I, Lord, Jesus, I confess,
Who should have borne sin's wages
And lost the peace of heavenly bliss
Through everlasting ages.

Instead 'tis Thou
Who goest now
My punishment to carry.
Thy death and blood
Lead me to God;
By grace I there may tarry.

Jesus:

O Soul, I take upon Me now
The pain thou shouldst have suffered.
Behold, with grace I thee endow,
Grace freely to thee offered.
The curse I choose
That thou mightst lose
Sin's curse and guilt forever.
My gift of love
From heaven above
Will give thee blessing ever.

The Soul:

What can I for such love divine
To Thee, Lord Jesus, render?
No merit has this heart of mine;
Yet while I live, I'll tender
Myself alone,
And all I own,
In love to serve before Thee;
Then when time's past,
Take me at last
To Thy blest home in glory.

From TLH (the old hymnal) # 150
"Lord Jesus, Thou Art Going Forth,"
Verses 3-5.



¡Saludos desde St. Louis...otra vez!

Dear friends, it's a pleasure to give you greetings from St. Louis...once again. Our life has taken some significant turns since last month. After coming home from a very rewarding week of missionary orientation, our departure was suddenly delayed. (Jenny will explain the details.) Of course, by God's grace, we are no less than ever before making our way to the Dominican Republic. We invite you to stay with us and read on for the latest details. We thank you for all of your prayers, encouragement, and financial support as our mission preparations continue.

Orientation Week

January 10-18, our family flew to Santiago for a week of field orientation with other newly deployed missionaries to the Latin American/Caribbean region. Throughout the week, we heard engaging and informative lectures from various seasoned missionaries, and we met with several professionals who will be helping us with language training and cultural adaptation during our first months there. We were even able to stay in our new house and sleep in our new beds, which the kids were very excited about. As you can see (below/left), the kids got straight to work!



David and Jenny at orientation.



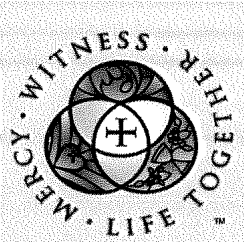
Little Lena sweeping the veranda.



The sanctuary in Palmar Arriba

We worshipped at two of the three Lutheran churches that have been established. One of these churches (above/right) is in Palmar Arriba. This is the church where David will serve as pastor along with Pastor Ijon who will be ordained this spring. Seminario Luterano El Refomador, where he will teach theology, sits at the top of the hill above this church. The sanctuary pictured is connected to a Lutheran school which serves as a mission to neighborhood children. The church and seminary is about a half hour drive from our home. We are looking forward to settling into our new life just as soon as God makes that possible!





Prayer Requests

Give thanks for the work that is already being done in the Dominican Republic by the grace of God.

Pray for the pastors, deaconesses, and the entire missionary team currently working in the Dominican Republic, along with their families.

Pray for the Preuses, and especially their unborn child, as they prepare for their mission work in the DR.

Pray for mission and mercy to abound in the Dominican Republic and throughout the world.

Support Our Work

Share this Newsletter with friends and family.



<https://www.facebook.com/Preus.Dominican> and check out the Latin American facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/LCMSLAC>

Support our mission work financially. (See bottom right.)



Reflections from Home...by Jennifer

"Be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord" (Psalm 27:14)

This past month has reminded us that our plans are not always God's plans. Our plans were that after orientation, we would return to the U.S. briefly to obtain our visas, pack final things, and then return mid-February to Santiago to settle into our new life as a missionary family in the DR. The fact that God was blessing us with a seventh child to be born this July was simply one happy aspect of the many adjustments we would face in our new life there.



So along with much of the world, we watched in disbelief as news reports began coming in about a mosquito-borne virus that most have never before heard of—"The Zika Virus"—which is now creeping through much of Latin American and the Caribbean. Our concern, along with OIM and Regional Director, Rev. Ted Krey, is that this virus may pose a serious risk to unborn babies. For this reason our departure is delayed, for now. We will continue to monitor the research and news reports until it is again deemed safe to travel there, or until after the

baby is born. We will keep you apprised of our on-goings as well as the littlest Preus's prenatal development in the months to come.

As with any turn of events, it has taken some time to regroup and refocus after pressing the reset button! Even with most of our bags still packed and travel documents in order, the kids and I are once again resettling into our homeschool routine for the remainder of the school year. David is using this time to complete his PhD dissertation, which is a key part of his work as a theological educator at Seminario Luterano El Refomador. We are also staying in regular contact with the missionaries on the ground about work being done among Christ's church there, and we still can't wait to be an integral part of it soon!



¡Que Dios nos bendiga a todos!

As always, we thank you for your continued prayers, encouragement, and support during this uncertain but hopeful time in our family's life. God is bringing us there! In Christ's love,

Rev. David Preus

To support our work financially, 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 or LCMS. Include "Preus-Dominican" in the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/preus.

LITTLE LAMBS

Make these cute treats as a reminder that Jesus our Savior is also the Lamb of God.



What you need:

- Vanilla cupcakes
- Vanilla frosting
- Butter knife
- Mini marshmallows
- Jellybeans
- Red licorice

What you do:

1. Bake and frost the cupcakes.
2. Place marshmallows around the edge of each cupcake.
3. Cut green or blue jellybeans in half and place two on each cupcake as eyes. Cut pink jellybeans in half and place one below each pair of eyes as a nose.
4. Cut thin strips of licorice, and place one on each cupcake as a mouth.
5. Enjoy!



Lamb of God

John the Baptist knew Jesus was the Messiah — and offered a special greeting when he saw Jesus.

Directions: Cut apart the squares and arrange them in a rectangle in numerical order, starting with #1 in the top left and going across to #7. Continue building four more rows of seven squares each, to reveal John 1:29, NIV.

