

LCR Weekly

May 1, 2022



**This Sunday is
Guatemala Sunday**

**Traditional Worship
8:30 am**

**Praise Worship
11:00 am**

**The Altar Flowers this
Sunday are given to
the Glory of God by**

Sigrid Thies-Smith
In celebration of the birth
of my newest
great-nephew
Karl Frederik Lamberty



LCR [YouTube Channel](#)

This Sunday, we as a congregation as well as others within our Synod will celebrate our partnership with our sister congregation in Guatemala Iglesia Luterana Augustina de Guatemala, (ILAG). For LCR this relationship dates back more than a decade and has focused on ILAG ministry and the Milagro Girls school. Both are housed on the ILAG campus in a suburb of Guatemala City. For LCR members this has proved to be a living partnership, as we marvel at their accomplishments on so many fronts. It is outreach as Christ intends.

ILAG was founded in 1991. Its ministry addressed those living on the margin of society, the indigenous poor. Guatemalan peoples lived in a state of civil war from November 13, 1960, until the peace accord was signed December 29, 1996 (36 years, 1 month, 2 weeks, and 2 days). The Maya people especially suffered greatly with genocide wiping out whole villages. Over 200,000 individuals went "missing", targeted as enemies of the regime in power. As refugees were most often not resettled in their communities. There were largely no services, minimal if any infrastructure provided for them. Those in Guatemala City might at best have plastic or wooden self-fashioned homes. Largely an agricultural society, they were unable to produce food for their families much less their livelihood.



95% of the population are Christian, so church plays an important role in communities and is the focus of social gatherings. The Lutheran Church in Guatemala has 2,000 members and 18 congregations. They stretch from the lowlands of Petan to the ravines of Guatemala City. Pastor Karen Castillo leads ILAG's ministry. She travels to all these congregations each month, conducting baptisms, weddings, confirmation, and pastoral duties needed, so a service may be 3 hours long when she is there. Within a week's time she will visit four or more congregations. Travel from Guatemala City to the initial congregation may be 8hrs by car, the next destination another 5 hours. Some require an additional 30minutes by boat and/or a 30-minute walk. Ultimately the return trip to Guatemala City may be 13 hours. Covid halted all public transportation for more than a year making a difficult journey even more so.

[Continued on page 3](#)

Regular Groups

Children

Hi Guys!

We are still in the Easter season, this week our Bible story comes from Acts 9:1-20 “**Saul to Paul.**” Go ahead and find the story in your Bible and then watch this [video](#).

Questions:

- ✦ What are your plans?
- ✦ What do you think God’s plans are for you?

Try this!

Paul traveled to the city of Damascus, located in modern-day Syria. A popular snack in that area of the world is Syrian bread topped with honey and sesame seeds. Ask an adult to help you make a version of this for your snack, lightly toast a piece of pita bread. Spread butter, honey, and sesame seeds inside the pocket. Enjoy while the bread is warm.

Prayer:

God, Help us to make plans this week and remember you in our plans. Amen.

Have a great week and hope to see you on Sunday.

-Ms. Sharon



Summer Camps

 



 



For more info or to register, click [here](#)



LCR Fellowship Hour Sign-Up

Last Sunday we enjoyed Fellowship Hour in between our two worship services as we are making our way back to pre-pandemic activities.

This Sunday, the Guatemala team is hosting our Fellowship Hour in celebration of Guatemala Sunday! And you can host Fellowship Hour as well by signing up on our [Sign-Up Genius](#) page. Sign-up as a ministry team, bible study or just by yourself. Questions? Contact [Cristi Minard](#).

Make a plan to stay after the 8:30 am worship service or come a bit early to the 11 am worship service to enjoy the light refreshments and to be in fellowship with each other.

Worship



Worship Volunteer [Sign-up Link](#)

[Altar Flower Sign-Up](#)

[Send a Prayer Request here](#)

Regular Groups

Guatemala—Continued from page 1

Guatemala has 22 different Mayan groups each with their own language so it has been vital for ILAG to focus on education, enabling local leaders to assume communication roles for their congregants as well as understand Lutheran identity and theology that some might become ministers of the Word, or even ordained to give sacraments. Education is supported by ILAG on many fronts. We at LCR have supported those leadership initiatives both financially as well as with our physical presence simply preparing meals for the rural pastors on retreat at the ILAG campus in Guatemala City.

Of the 18 million population, 50% are children. The government provides only a small portion a public education. Most that attend school do so in private institutions. With the cost at \$50 per child per month the vast majority cannot afford that especially if there are multiple children in the family. Three years ago, ILAG purchased a building within Guatemala City to house an elementary school. Our ILAG team toured it as it was being transformed in February 2020, Colegio Luterana Augustina de Guatemala. It was an exciting glimpse of things to come. Now 173 children are in attendance, encompassing 1st through 6th grades. There is a graduation party at the end of 6th grade since this is often the maximum education that is attained.

Girls especially in the rural communities have little or no access to education. They are often needed at home for house keeping or childcare while the mother works. Girls are frequently married off to older men by age 13 never realizing an alternative future. Milagro, “miracles,” was a dream ministry for Pastor Karen. Milagro School houses girls from the rural congregations, ranging from 10-20yrs in age. This year attendance has grown to fifteen. The goal is for each to attain an education, learn a trade that they might have independent productive lives. They return to their community as leaders sharing their faith, knowledge, and self-worth.

Teachers, lawyers, doctors, nurses, accountants, architects, chefs, and bakers...

dreams that us on our visit. They articulate, and as they shared their us. It was a very hopeful that beyond



these are their family and community. Please know that with a portion of LCR's outreach budget the partnership team in 2021 was able to purchase much needed computers for the Milagro school in addition to our annual pledge of support. Each year in September a GALA raises significant monies to support the Milagro ministry. Save the date for September 10, 2022 GALA. We hope to see you there, in fact we extend an invitation to each of you to join us in personally walking in this ministry with ILAG. There are many within LCR that have participated, building latrines, and stoves in the rural villages, teaching sewing, knitting, gardening to the Milagro girls. Share their stories Sunday, better yet, come make your own.

-Suzanne Demosthenes

Outreach

MUST

[donation link](#)

CAC

[donation link](#)

YELLS

[donation link](#)

**Meals on Wheels
Volunteer Sign-Up:**

Contact [Ron Jolly](#)

**MUST Wednesday
Lunch**

Volunteer Sign-Up:
[Sign-up Genius Link](#)

**SE Synod
ILAG Guatemala**
[link](#)

Youth Events



**Register for
AFFIRM** [here](#)

Announcements



Please join us for our Town Hall meeting

TODAY, April 27 at 7:00 pm
via [Zoom](#)

to discuss topics covered at our Annual meeting, such as our proposed 2022-2023 financial budget, and how we will continue to live our LCR mission to deepen people's relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.



Then join us for our Annual Meeting on

This Sunday, May 1 at 12:30 pm
in the Sanctuary or via [Zoom](#)



Knitters for Peace
1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month
Next Meeting: May 7
6:30 pm in the Library

Our Mission statement is "Our desire to knit the world into a better place, through handmade gifts of love and peace." We invite you to join our knitting / crochet group. No knitting or crocheting experience is required. We will help you learn! While we meet twice a month, regular attendance is not required. We are a casual small group where we come together to enjoy fellowship and crafting time. Any donation of yarn is greatly appreciated. We always are making hats and scarves for MUST. Questions? Contact [Sandy Brosch](#).



Life Line Health Screenings
Saturday, May 7

Life Line Screening will be back to perform screenings to detect stroke and cardiovascular disease risk and osteoporosis risk here at LCR. Interested? See this [flyer](#) for more info. You must pre-register for a time slot. Three ways to register and receive the special discount for all 5 screenings of \$149 are:

Call toll free: **1-800-679-5192**

Online: <https://lsa.social/HS>

Text: the word **circle** to **797979**

Events

LCR Women's Bible Study-Virtual
Thursdays at 8:30am
Email [Allison](#) for Zoom link

Men's Group (with breakfast)
Wednesdays at 7:30 am
In-Person (with Zoom option [Zoom link](#))

Women's Bible Studies
Mondays at 10:30 am
Tuesdays at 10:00 am
at LCR

April 27 Town Hall
7 pm via [Zoom](#)

May 1 Annual Meeting
12:30 pm in the Sanctuary & [Zoom](#)

Knitters for Peace
May 3 at 7 pm
LCR Library



Register for AFFIRM
[here](#)

SAVE THE DATE
LCR Food Truck Festival
June 25, 9 am-Noon

Synod e-News
[Link](#)