

Six confirmands and....a wedding! • Pastor Ted Krey



Vicar Gaspar preaching at the evening service in Las Americas

In Las Americas on September 12th we celebrated the birth of a church, as the first six members of the mission were confirmed and Holy Communion was celebrated for the first time! What a thrilling evening. And on top of all of these celebrations, there was also a wedding! One of the couples in the confirmation class, after studying God's word and learning more about the blessings of a Christian marriage, desired to exchange vows before God's altar, and so, joyously, we celebrated a wedding as well. Now, two of the groom's best friends are taking confirmations classes too. Thanks be to God!



The six confirmands...



...and the happy couple!



Special news from the mission field:

- Birth of a church in Las Americas with the Lord's Supper celebrated for the first time!
- Six workers hired for the group home
- Baptisms celebrated in Palmar Arriba
- Youth group and guitar classes begun in Las Americas
- Portuguese Bible class group meeting in Santiago
- 5 new confirmation classes begun
- School children learn Creed, Lord's Prayer and Commandments
- Vicar Gaspar working in Haiti building homes and clinics

Good Shepherd Lutheran Homes • Danelle L. Putnam

Progress continues to be made on the road towards opening the first group home this month. Six “aunts and uncles” (caregivers) have now been hired, 5 of which are Lutherans from the Palmar Arriba mission, and three weeks of training have already taken place. Church members are also helping to remodel the bathroom, kitchen, build a ramp outside and beautify the yard. We are still working on an agreement with the government for custodianship of the 7 children-youth who will be the residents. Please keep this agreement in your prayers, that all may go smoothly for receiving these orphans into the group home, in the community of Palmar Arriba, and most importantly, into the Body of Christ and our church family as we seek to show mercy to the Lord's needy ones.



La Concordia – School update • Vicar Adrian Solis



Electricity has arrived at La Concordia! At the second parent-teacher meeting, held on Sept. 29th, the school was just glowing in the darkness of the poorly-lit village. Inside, all reports were glowing as well, from all ends of the conversations – teachers, pastors, parents.

Over the past month the students have learned the first 6 commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, and three hymns. After the meeting, many of the parents and children remained in attendance for the Wednesday night worship service. The children sang together with great gusto the hymn - “Praise God from whom all blessings flow” – and then remained at the front of the church, with front row seats, to witness the baptism

of a classmate and his younger brother. What a wonderful picture of the little children being welcomed by Jesus into His family through His death and resurrection!



Other news • Pastor Walter Ries Jr.**PALMAR ARRIBA**

The mission in Palmar Arriba continues to grow, by the grace of God. On Wednesday, Sept. 22nd, 2 confirmations and 2 baptisms were celebrated. One of those baptized was Orlin Junior, a young, 2 year old boy with Down syndrome. In the photo, from left to right, Pastor Ted Krey, Ingrid (confirmed), Mirta (baptized and confirmed), Orlin Junior with his mom, and Pastor Walter Ries Jr. We continue to give devotions every Wednesday morning to our 50 baseball players who have studied the Small Catechism and are currently teaching them the liturgy of the divine service.

**LAS AMERICAS AND SANTO DOMINGO**

New confirmation classes in Las Americas have begun with 15 adults. Lord-willing, in the New Year, we hope to build a sanctuary on the property that was purchased in May. Vicar Gaspar continues to work here and in Haiti helping to build homes on behalf of LCMS World Relief and Human Care. Pray for him in his many travels as he works to build homes and establish four health clinics, and that the Lord's work would flourish amongst our Lutheran household of faith.

Recently, Josef de la Cruz, who has been studying with Vicar Willy Gaspar, began a new Sunday school near his business in Santo Domingo. Pray for this new work. We are encouraged that Josef has found time after opening two separate businesses to again begin work on behalf of the Lord's kingdom. Please pray for Josef that he would continue to be encouraged and that we would be able to support him.

Prayer Requests

- For the newly confirmed members of the mission in Las Americas
- For our continued conversations with the government, that we may reach a final agreement to open the group home this month
- For Kissayris, in her first year serving as principal in Palmar Arriba
- For our schools that Christ would be taught and His forgiveness be foremost in the lives of those whom we serve
- For the Amigos de Jesus clubs in Palmar Arriba and Licey
- For our new volunteer couple Brian and Jeanette Keller who are raising their support so as to work with us in building churches and a home in the new year
- For a music volunteer to be found to assist us in training musicians for the church
- For the CPH containers from VBS offerings that are to be shipped to the Dominican Republic
- For the upcoming birth of the Kreys' second child
- For health and strength for all of the Dominican Mission Team