

SERVING THE LORD IN

BELIZE



Jordan, Justin & Malachi Logston

J⁴ April 2024 Newsletter

¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡Aleluya!

And [the angel] said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.”

Mark 16:6-7

Greetings dear friends in Christ,

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

We are still in awe about our wonderfully stuffed Holy Week and Easter celebrations. This year, we asked our two northern congregations in San Roman and Orange Walk if they would like to travel down to Camp Concordia for a couple nights over Easter weekend to join our congregation in Valley of Peace for Holy Week and Easter services.

Nineteen people made the two-hour trek south to Camp Concordia. It was an awesome blessing being able to help host during their stay!



We pray you and your family had wonderful Holy Week and Easter celebrations! Malachi did a great job waving palm branches on Palm Sunday. Thanks for checking out our latest newsletter!



Pastor Micah Wildauer (top) leading service on Good Friday.



Pastor Roldan Rios reading from the Bible during Good Friday service.

Good Friday was celebrated using the Tenebrae Service, or Service of Darkness. Lit candles filled the sanctuary at the beginning of the service but were slowly distinguished as the story of Christ's Passion neared its conclusion.



Pastor Roldan (far right) and Pastor Micah led the Easter Vigil service on Saturday evening.

On Easter Sunday, we celebrated our Risen Lord's resurrection, both in English and in Spanish. Between the services, our English-speaking congregation and Spanish-speaking congregations had the chance to meet one another. It was an awesome visual seeing the different languages and different cultures coming together as one body in Christ!



¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡Aleluya!

At Camp Concordia, we had fun coloring Easter eggs, playing volleyball, and going down to the Belize River. Sharing meals together was also a blessing, as the conversations blossomed into new friendships.



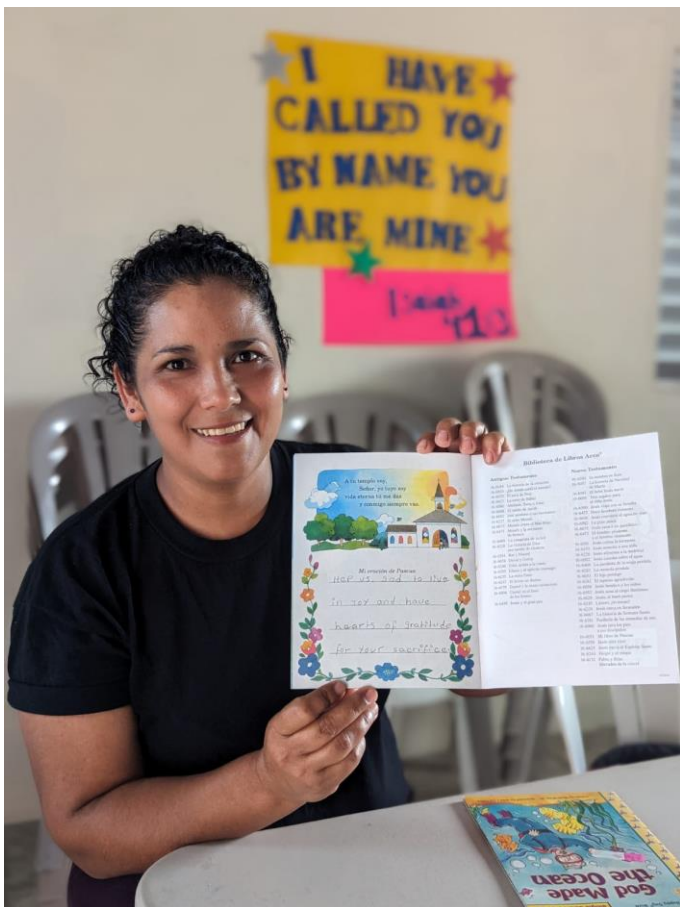
Enjoying Easter egg coloring at Camp Concordia on Saturday afternoon.

Jordan's ESL classes are going well! She has fifteen students, split between three different levels: basic, intermediate, and advanced (ages 12-60, as shown in the picture above). Each class begins with a devotion and, this year, the students have been very responsive to her bilingual Christian songs that she has been sharing.

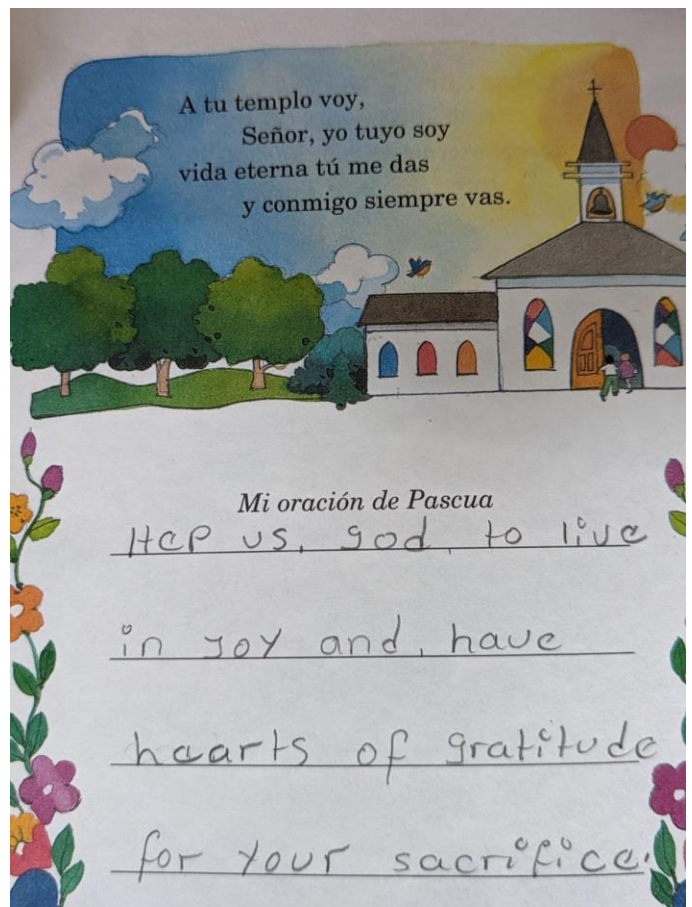
Jordan has decided to incorporate several book studies, emphasizing the reading to her students. Jordan showed one of her classes how to dye eggs for the first time. Her students were very intrigued by the process. Several of the students wanted to eat their hard-boiled egg only a few minutes after drying! The best part for Jordan was being able to share how eggs symbolize Easter: New Life in Christ!



Jordan's ESL students colored Easter eggs and learned why eggs are used to symbolize Easter!



ESL student Lilian with her completed Easter workbook.



Lilian's Easter Prayer!

Above is Lilian Rodriguez, one of Jordan's ESL students. Jordan gave one of her classes a children's book in Spanish explaining the Easter story. The homework she assigned with the book was to write all the words that they knew in English. Jordan was amazed that students brought pages of words to share in English, but Lilian went above and beyond. At the end of the book, there is a space for the book owner to write a prayer and a poem. Lilian wrote this beautiful prayer: Help us God to live in joy and have hearts of gratitude for Your sacrifice.

Some big words, right? It is awesome to see God's fruit blossoming through this ESL program in Valley of Peace!

Update On Mateo Flores

Thanks be to God! After two, one-month long stays in Mexico City, Mateo and the Flores family are back at Camp Concordia! The first trip, in January, was filled with appointments, exams, and trying to find specialists to help little Mateo. During the second trip, in March, Mateo had surgery on his back to remove the liquid-filled cysts on his spine. The surgery was a success, and now Mateo and his parents are doing physical therapy to build up the muscles in his left arm and fingers.

Prayers

- Continue to pray for the Flores family, that Mateo continues to heal and strengthen after his recent surgery, and for the family to get back into a routine here at Camp Concordia after their hectic travel schedule.
- Pray for Jordan's family in Florida as they continue to navigate their new routines and help them in their search for a new church home.
- Continued prayers for Jordan, Justin, and Malachi as we near the end of our service here in Belize.
- Pray for our dear missionary friend, Gary Thies, who is grieving the loss of his wife, Maxine, here on earth.

Thank you for taking the time to hear how God is working through our family in Belize. Keep celebrating our Easter victory in Christ!

Vivit,

J4 - Jesus, Jordan, Justin & Jamie Malachi



To support our work financially, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

PO Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

(Please include Logston on the Memo line)

And also, you can send your gifts to our friends at:

Mission Central

40718 Highway E-16

Mapleton, IA 51034

(Please include Logston on the Memo line)

