

# LIFELINES

of

## LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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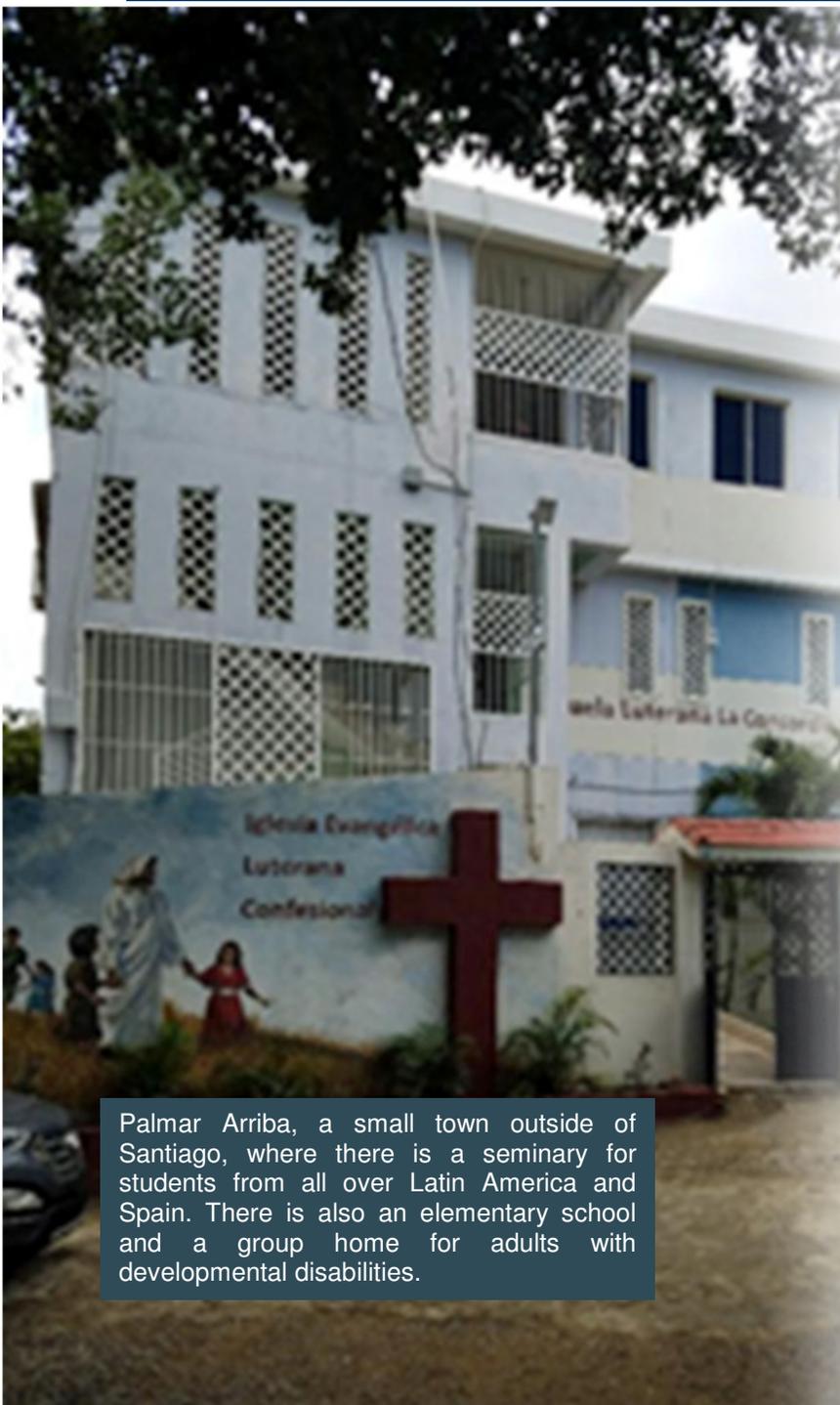
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Plano, Texas

April 2019

### Dominican Republic

For about four years, Lord of Life has supported my brother-in-law and dear friend, Rev. Joel Fritsche. Pastor Fritsche, you will recall, has preached for us several times over the years and is a missionary for the LCMS in the Dominican Republic. I have listened to his reports from the field over the years about the congregations he has helped to plant and more recently the seminary he is directing. Last month I was privileged to go and visit the mission and see for myself the wonderful ministry taking place in the Caribbean. The experience was moving. They have an excellent team of missionaries –pastors, deaconesses, support staff- and the growth that is happening there is truly a blessing from God. I am so proud to be supporting this important work and I want all of you to be as well. I will tell you all about my trip and the exciting ministry happening there when I give a full presentation during the Bible Class hour in a few months. (Pastor Fritsche will be in town in July, and I thought I would present on the work while he is in attendance, so he can answer questions and give you the full scope of what is taking place.) For now, I wanted to sincerely thank you for giving me the opportunity to go and to share with you a few pictures from the trip.



Palmar Arriba, a small town outside of Santiago, where there is a seminary for students from all over Latin America and Spain. There is also an elementary school and a group home for adults with developmental disabilities.

→  
 Seminarians from Peru, Venezuela, Spain and Mexico, along with a deaconess, and one of the residents of the group home at Palmar Arriba.



Pastor Fritsche speaks to our tour group about the ministry taking place at the little city church he pastors in Pueblo Nuevo, an inner-city location in Santiago. About 20 people from all over the US attended this conference to see the work taking place in the Dominican Republic. ↓



Speaking with a seminarian from Caracas Venezuela ↑

Worship at Palmar Arriba. All the services were in Spanish, but followed the very familiar orders of service from the Lutheran hymnal ↓



The seal of the "Evangelical Confessional Lutheran Church of the Dominican Republic" with John 8:32 "The truth will set you free" A member of one of the congregations works with pewter and makes these and other similar seals. I would have brought one back but for the weight limit on my luggage!

## Holy Week and Easter

Our midweek Lenten services have been well attended and well-received. The first person sermon series, "Voices of the Passion," has been a nice change of pace and afforded us a different way to contemplate our Lord's suffering and death for the redemption of the world. If you haven't made it out to any of these services, you have two more opportunities to do so on Wednesday April 3rd and Wednesday April 10th at 1:00 PM or 7:00 PM.

Please also plan to take advantage of the Holy Week and Easter services coming up April 18, 19, and 21. We will offer both afternoon services at 1:00 PM and evening services. On Maundy Thursday, the 18th, we will meet at 7:00 PM, celebrate the Lord's Supper, observe the stripping of the altar, and then leave the church in silence. On Good Friday, the 19th, a service will be held at 1:00 PM and the church will be available for prayer that afternoon for any and all interested in coming to pray. That evening at 7:30 PM (Not 7:00! -We start later so the service ends after sundown) we will celebrate our traditional Tenebrae service, or "service of Darkness." Easter Sunday will be a day of joy as we thank God again that: Christ is risen! - He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Service times are 8:00 AM and 10:45 AM with a brunch in between services.

See you there!

### prepare for worship in april

#### Wednesday, April 3, Services, 1pm & 7pm

##### Sunday, April 7: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Texts: Is. 43:16-21; Phil. 3:8-14; Luke 20:9-20

Hymn of the Day: "My Song is Love Unknown,"  
430

#### Wednesday, April 10, Services, 1pm & 7pm

##### Sunday, April 14: Palm Sunday

Texts: Deut. 32:36-39; Phil. 2:5-11; Luke 23

Hymn of the Day: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor,"  
442

#### Maundy Thursday, April 18, Services, 1pm & 7pm

#### Good Friday, April 19, Services, 1pm & 7:30pm

##### Sunday, April 21: The Resurrection of Our Lord

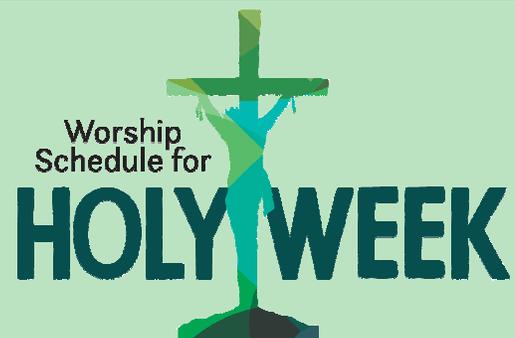
Texts: Is. 65:17-25; 1 Cor. 15:10-26; Luke 24:1-12

Hymn of the Day: "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's  
Strong Bands," 458

##### Sunday, April 28: Second Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 5:12-32; Rev. 1:4-18; John 20:19-31

Hymn of the Day: "O Sons and Daughters of the  
King," 470



#### **Palm Sunday Service**

April 14

8:00 AM & 10:45 AM

#### **Maundy Thursday Service**

April 18

1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

#### **Good Friday Service**

April 19

1:00 PM

#### **Tenebrae Service**

April 19

7:30 PM

#### **Easter Service**

April 21

8:00 AM & 10:45 AM

## Abortion

By the time you read this, we will have had Life Sunday at church. I wanted to provide you with a few updates regarding legal developments that relate to abortion.

New York recently passed a statute that allows for abortion up to delivery. The statute states that a health-care practitioner may perform an abortion—at any time in the pregnancy—if “the abortion is necessary to protect the patient’s life or health.” See <https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2019/S240>. “Health,” however, can mean just about anything. For example, the Supreme Court held that “health” can encompass “psychological” health. *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179, 191-92 (1973) (“That statute has been construed to bear upon psychological as well as physical well-being. . . . This conclusion is equally applicable here.”). It’s unlikely that a New York court would give a more restrictive meaning to “health.” Thus, in reality, there are very few restrictions on late-term abortions.

Moreover, an abortion is almost never necessary to protect a woman’s life: “the best medical evidence reveals that of the few women who die of disease while pregnant it appears there’s not even one cause of death abortion can prevent.”

<http://afterabortion.org/2016/no-medical-evidence-finds-abortion-can-save-a-mothers-life/>.

Further, “studies have proven that abortion is associated with a decline in overall health and increase in short- and longer-term mortality rates among women exposed to abortion.” *Id.*

While the state of New York was celebrating its new law, the United States Senate refused to pass a bill that would have required doctors to provide medical care to born-alive infants that survive an attempted abortion. That bill required any

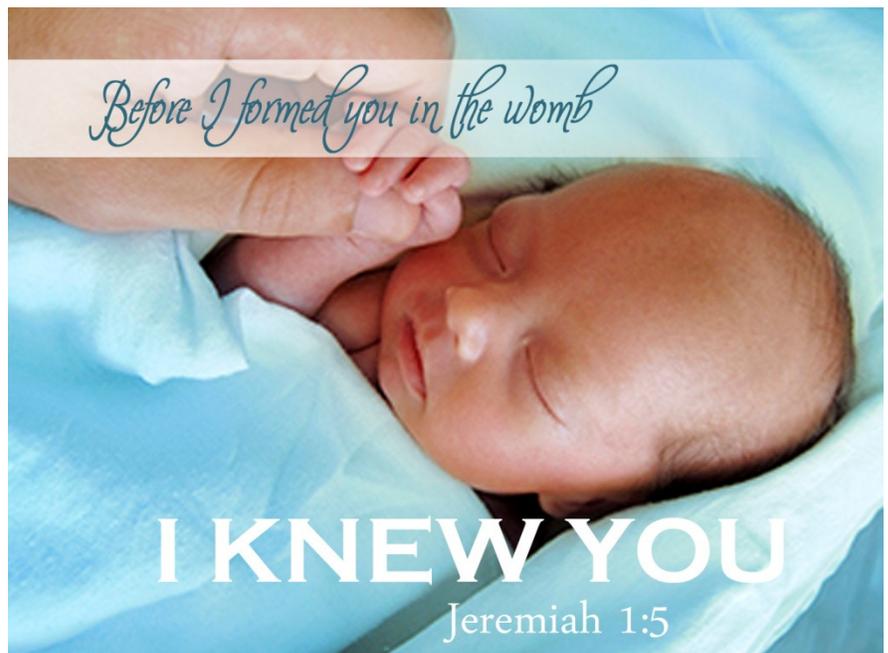
“health care practitioner present at the time the child is born alive shall”:

(A) exercise the same degree of professional skill, care, and diligence to preserve the life and health of the child as a reasonably diligent and conscientious health care practitioner would render to any other child born alive at the same gestational age; and

(B) following the exercise of skill, care, and diligence required under subparagraph (A), ensure that the child born alive is immediately transported and admitted to a hospital.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/311/text>. Apparently many senators did not want to mandate provision of health care to a baby that survived the attempt on its life.

Mark Ziegelbein,  
Board of Elders



# Board of Properties

From the Board of Properties,

God's blessings to all brothers and sisters in Christ at Lord of Life!

Last month marked the beginning of a new era for our congregation. Several months ago, the idea of forming a new staff position was brought up to address the need for a leadership role on the Board of Properties and to oversee the day-to day maintenance of our facilities and church property. After a proposal was submitted to the Board of Elders and the Admin Council, research was conducted to ensure it was financially feasible to create a part-time staff position of Director of Facilities and Property. I was approached about filling this role earlier this year and considering the gifts that God has blessed me with, along with the fact that I currently have a presence in the church office, I agreed to officially accept this role as of March 1. While my duties as Director of Youth Ministry will continue, I see this as another opportunity for God to use me in ways that best serve our congregation for His glory. The members of the Board of Properties will take on more of an advisory role when it comes to church facilities and maintenance while I oversee the day-to-day operations and take care of small projects that arise as needed. The board consists of four members whose insight and dedication is invaluable. They are Ernie Gromatzky, Jerry Parish, Karl Olsen, and Carl Carper. This does not mean that I will be "doing all of the work." My goal is to still have as much involvement from church members as possible. On that note, there is a congregation work day scheduled for Saturday, April 13. Anyone can attend as there will be plenty of things to do. As the Director of Facilities and Property, I wish to keep an open avenue of communication with all members at Lord of Life. If you observe anything in or around our church facilities that needs attention, please contact me via email at [speters@planolutheran.com](mailto:speters@planolutheran.com).

Please keep this new staff position and our Board of Properties in your prayers as we seek to do the Lord's will to the best of our abilities.

In His Service,

Scott Peters

Director of Facilities and Property

All Church



# WORK DAY

**Saturday, April 13, starting at 9:00AM**

Plan to attend and help spruce up our church in preparation for the celebration of Easter Sunday! There are several interior and exterior projects on the "to-do-list" including tree and shrub trimming, adding mulch, painting, general cleaning, and starting a new interior inventory list of church assets. Lunch will be provided and volunteers to help prepare that are needed as well. Contact Scott Peters if you have questions. A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex.



*Thank You,  
Lord of Life!*

**I want to thank everyone  
who helped support my  
Eagle Scout Project.**

**Samson Carter**

## Lord of Life Small Groups

### EMPTY NESTERS' CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Mike and Sandra Paradise at (972) 424-2951 or [itsparadise.inplano@verizon.net](mailto:itsparadise.inplano@verizon.net)
- † Will meet on Sat. April 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM

### EPIC PARENTING

- † For 30ish couples with kids
- † For info contact Ben Scarth [BenjaminScarth@yahoo.com](mailto:BenjaminScarth@yahoo.com)
- † Usually meet one Sunday a month in the afternoon or evening

### FRUITS OF THE VINE CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Scott Peters at 972-898-3351 cell or [speters@planolutheran.com](mailto:speters@planolutheran.com)
- † Usually meets one Sun. a month at 5:30 PM

### GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Chris Oltmann at (972) 727-6330 or Mike Kunschke at (847) 951-6974
- † Usually meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of each month at 6:30 PM for Bible study

### MIXED BLESSINGS

- † For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
- † Will meet the Sat. April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM

### TWENTY SOMETHINGS

- † For couples and singles in their twenties
- † For info contact Pastor Shaltanis at [PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com](mailto:PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com)
- † The group is currently in transition, but has usually met on Sundays after late service



## Save the Date!

Take me out to the ballgame!

### Frisco Rough Riders Game vs Amarillo Sod Poodles

Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019. 7:05 pm game, \$20 per ticket includes premium seating, premium meal basket, bottomless snacks and Dr. Pepper drink products. Parking is not included-- \$5-\$10 depending upon where you park. See signup sheet in Narthex.

2 Brandon Lund  
 2 Teresa Strecker  
 3 Kathy Hite  
 5 Rick Pittson  
 8 Jon Chumbley  
 8 Brian Wolf  
 11 Grant Kostrzewa  
 14 Bob Helms  
 14 Cadence Tischler  
 15 Dudley Hall  
 15 Mallia Surdyk  
 15 Carl & Jan Carper (43)  
 15 Brooks & Joanna Smith (24)  
 16 Karen Lund  
 17 Jeff Berger  
 17 Luke Reinert  
 19 Lynda Abbott  
 22 Scott & Christine Messinger (24)  
 22 Rhonda Tabor  
 25 Kathy Helms  
 25 Rix Scarth  
 25 Laurie & Tom George (32)  
 26 Bon & Becky Padgett (22)  
 27 Mike & Sandra Paradise (56)  
 28 Amanda Coon  
 28 Katie Short  
 29 Gideon Selvaraj  
 30 Earl & Karen Lund (31)

## Serving in Worship in April

	April 7		April 14		April 21		April 28	
	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Elder</b>	D Peters		Moudy		Lutek		Ziegelbein	
<b>Common Cup</b>	Read	Hite	S Peters	Kunschke	Read	Ziegelbein		
<b>Altar</b>	Lynda Abbott and Bette Martin							
<b>Acolyte</b>	Josh		Sebastian	Nate	Kaitlyn	Jonah	Ashley	Mallia
<b>Greeter</b>	Martin	Dorak	Schrank	George	Hampton	Manning	Vess	Abbott/Moore
<b>Sound</b>	N Moudy	Wolf	J Hacker	Shaltanis	Wilkerson	Reinert	G Hacker	Wolf
<b>Usher</b>	Bunger Shaltanis Scarth	Loewecke	Frnsko Read Paradise	Moudy Carter Cruz	Prescott D Ozlowski Messinger	Parish Oltmann Berger	Schrank E Hacker C Hacker	Short Strecker Buckmeier

## Midweek Services

	April 3		April 10		April 18		April 19	
	1:00 PM	7:00 PM	1:00PM	7:00 PM	1:00 PM	7:00 PM	1:00PM	7:30 PM
<b>Elder</b>	D Peters	Kunschke	D Peters	Moudy	D Peters	Hite	Read	Read
<b>Elder Assist</b>					Read	Kunschke		
<b>Sound</b>		J Hacker		Reinert		Wolf		Hite
<b>Usher</b>						Oltmann Prescott Shaltanis		Frnsko E Hacker C Hacker

## FINANCIAL REPORT January - February, 2019

		ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>	<b>Regular Offerings</b>	\$97,422	\$89,682	\$7,740
	<b>Other</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	\$97,422	\$89,682	\$7,740
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$78,576	\$87,901	(\$9,325)
	<b>RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES</b>	\$18,847	\$1,781	\$17,066

### OTHER INFORMATION

1. General Operating Fund Balance	\$130,143
2. Dedicated Funds Balance	\$147,383
3. Building Note Balance	\$261,323