



Pastor Hannan  
St. Mark Lutheran Church



## UPDATE FROM THE MISSION FIELD

### Missionaries On The Road

Pastor Jay Dass and Julie landed in Florida on May 29th. They traveled through many states over the months of June and July to share God's work in Pakistan and also to thank the many partner congregations for their prayers and support. They returned safely back to Pakistan on August 27th via 17+ hours of air travel.

*Christ Lutheran Church  
- Brooksville, FL*



*Iowa West District Convention - Lutheran Women in Mission*



### Word and Sacrament

In addition to Jay and Julie's presentations, Pastor Dass also preached the Word of God and celebrated Holy Communion at several churches including Living Faith Lutheran in Cumming, GA and Bethlehem Lutheran in Johnson City, TN.



## Confirmations and Day of Pentecost

What better day than the Day of Pentecost to be filled with Holy Spirit and receive God's rich blessings for His people! God's promise to all who are baptized is confirmed through study and prayer. 17 children publicly confirmed their faith and recited their confirmation verses by heart. We thank God for the opportunity to share and teach the Word of God and for these precious baptized children.

## Summer at Concordia Lutheran School

While Pastor Dass and Julie were stateside, things were moving smoothly back home as was discussed and planned beforehand. Pastor Hannan and team took care of 39 Children who attended Summer Liturgy/Music Camp, and Computer Courses to keep them up to speed and well nourished.



Worship at St. Mark's



Food distributed among families of workers

### A Note from Pastor Dass

I am humbled and tearful to see the progress of the congregation, church workers and a faithful pastor Hannan Paul. We are becoming a strong church, Glory be to God. The children are practicing Service Setting III and all memorizing it by heart. There might be a time that we don't have access to Bibles and Hymnals but we will still be able to conduct the service. This is the first Lutheran Generation in Pakistan and they will pass it on. Thanks be to God.

*Pastor Dass returned to Pakistan –  
Divine Service on September 1st*



## Pray for Peace in Pakistan

Political rallies in Islamabad have had the whole city in a lock down situation for 3 out of the past 6 weeks. The most recent protest was the hardest, lasting for 3 days. No telephone signals, spotty Internet, and road blocks presented challenges. Families had to walk more than 5 miles to get to church as many roads are closed by the government due to safety and security reasons. With no through traffic, these families carried their children on their shoulders to receive Word and Sacrament. This is The Church.



Even with fewer people, Divine Services were held and the Good News was preached at both Grace and St. Mark Lutheran Churches in Islamabad. Thanks be to God for freedom of Worship. One week, we worshipped as a small household with our live-in family at Grace Lutheran Church Islamabad Pakistan. (photo above)



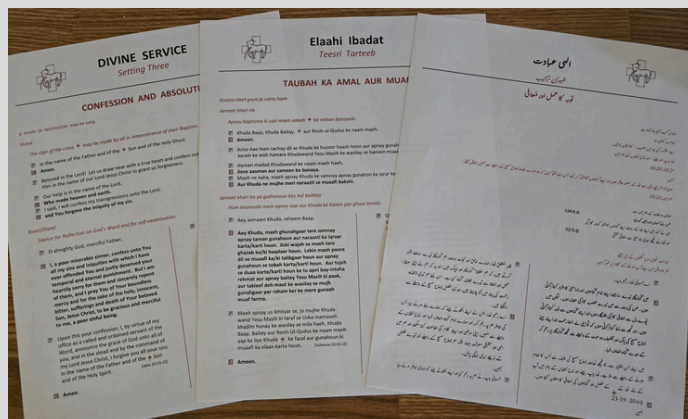
Pastor Hannan is offering Word and Sacrament at St. Mark Lutheran Church and in the evening, he will go to serve a small group 9 miles away which is not able to come for morning service.

Now the motorcycles become a must for Pastors to travel in narrow streets.

We thank God for all the blessings.  
We pray for peace and protection.

# Music Update – Hymnal Translation

Work continues to advance painstakingly on the translation of the Divine Service III into Urdu Script. The challenge has been the formatting of a right-to-left language into a Word document that has similar spacing and appearance to the left-to-right Roman Urdu version that we have already completed. The software in the Urdu Script version is dissimilar in terms of indentation, line spacing, print size, italics, etc., which makes correlating the pages rather difficult.



*The ultimate goal is to produce a hymnal that will show the Roman Urdu version on the opposing page from the Urdu Script.*

European music notation ceased being used following the exit of the British from the country in 1947, but it remains the only useful tool to help individuals understand the direction of tones when singing or playing a keyboard. Roman Urdu (phonetic English characters) was needed to help Pakistanis connect syllables of words to specific notes. Hyphenated depiction of syllables doesn't exist in Urdu Script, so entire words under an inverted staff of music will be the method used (similar to what is done in Israel – see insert). The culture has trended in a more backward direction with the disappearance of the British influence, now relying on rote memory for training instrument and voice performance. Orchestras are virtually nonexistent in this country of over 250 million.



*First line of Gloria Patri reversed*



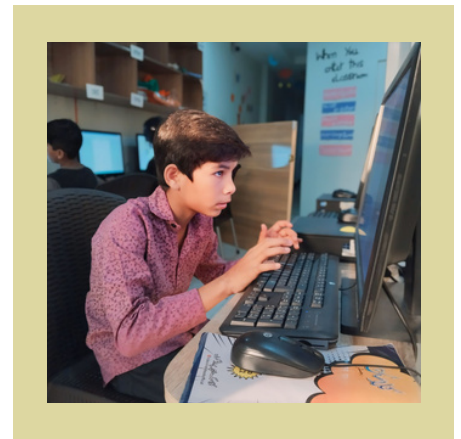
*The children gather for hymn and liturgy practice every Friday*

We believe that this hymnal will be revolutionary in advancing Lutheran Worship in Pakistan. The children in Concordia Lutheran School have performed Divine Service III for visiting Pentecostal pastors, some of whom now want Lutheran seminary training. The singing of God's Word has a unique way of imprinting the faith on hearts and minds!



# CONCORDIA LUTHERAN SCHOOL

The school is thriving and we thank God for His many blessings; the St. Mark Lutheran Church building, Concordia Lutheran School, our teachers, our precious children and you all who make it possible to run this mission. The impact on these children’s lives is immeasurable and we extend our sincere gratitude to God, the ultimate guide and mentor. We are thankful beyond words. This is our future. Please pray for them.



Pastor Hannan and our hardworking staff had a fun day at Concordia Lutheran School. The children lined up to try out “solar glasses” which are safe for direct solar viewing. These glasses were sent by a generous supporter. While there was not a Solar Eclipse observed in Pakistan, the children are still aware as the media hypes it up. There are many superstitious believes/myths in Pakistani culture so it’s good to teach them about The Creation but also The Creator, our Lord Jesus Christ.



*Our live-in adopted family (we call them our grandchildren now). This family was at one time slaves and now they are free in Christ. They are called children of God by adoption through baptism. Thanks be to God!*

*The children draw beautiful homes as they imagine a home for themselves. We pray that one day they will have their own home.*

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*We are blessed by you all who made it possible for us to afford our Nissan Van for our children. Just think about the safety of these children to and from the school, late evening liturgy and music classes, transporting these precious little children means a lot to our team and to the parents. Especially for the girls between 11-14 years of age, where parents will rather have them illiterate than being snatched by a stranger.*

*All your gifts mean a lot to us, may God bless you all for everything you do for this mission.*