

# Inside Guyana

Newsletter of Rev. Richard L. Young, ELCA / GM Companion Pastor in the

## Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

<u>Mailing Address:</u> 120 Hibiscus Street West Ruimveldt Georgetown Guyana	<u>Phone:</u> Country Code 592 (line) 231-0276 (cell) 646-3742	<u>E-mail</u> revdocguy@usa.net
--	---	------------------------------------

Wednesday, June 23, 2010



The Color Was Red

Greetings Friends!

The color was definitely **RED** at the opening service of the Annual Convention of the ELCG last month. The over four hundred people present were sure too that the Holy Spirit was in attendance as we witnessed the ordination of a new pastor and the commissioning of seventeen new deacons / deaconesses in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana.

The new pastor, pictured at left, is the former deacon Sugrim (Joe) Gobin. Standing with him are two long term friends. His wife Zebeida is in purple in the background. Further back are the new deacons / deaconesses having their picture taken.

Pastor Gobin has been called by St. Matthew parish and is already hard at work. His path to ordination began with study inside Guyana leading to being commissioned as a deacon several years ago. This was followed by many years of faithful service in the parish, and finally an oral examination by the Executive Council of the ELCG. The new deacons / deaconesses are also hard at work in their parishes and many of them have indicated interest in ordination at some possible future date. The local training of church leaders will hopefully help the chronic shortages Guyana has experienced over the years as pastors leave Guyana for the U.S. and Canada.

### Sunday End: Waiting on 4 P.M. Boat

I am happy to report that as my time in Guyana moves close to the nine year mark, I continue to be challenged and uplifted by my work. Sunday is my favourite day of the week. As I travel around to the various congregations, the whole human story comes spilling out and is placed at God's feet. God meets this story with the gospel; confirming what is good and healing what is ill. Ministry and Medicine are alike in many ways. The servant reaches out to help and God does the healing.

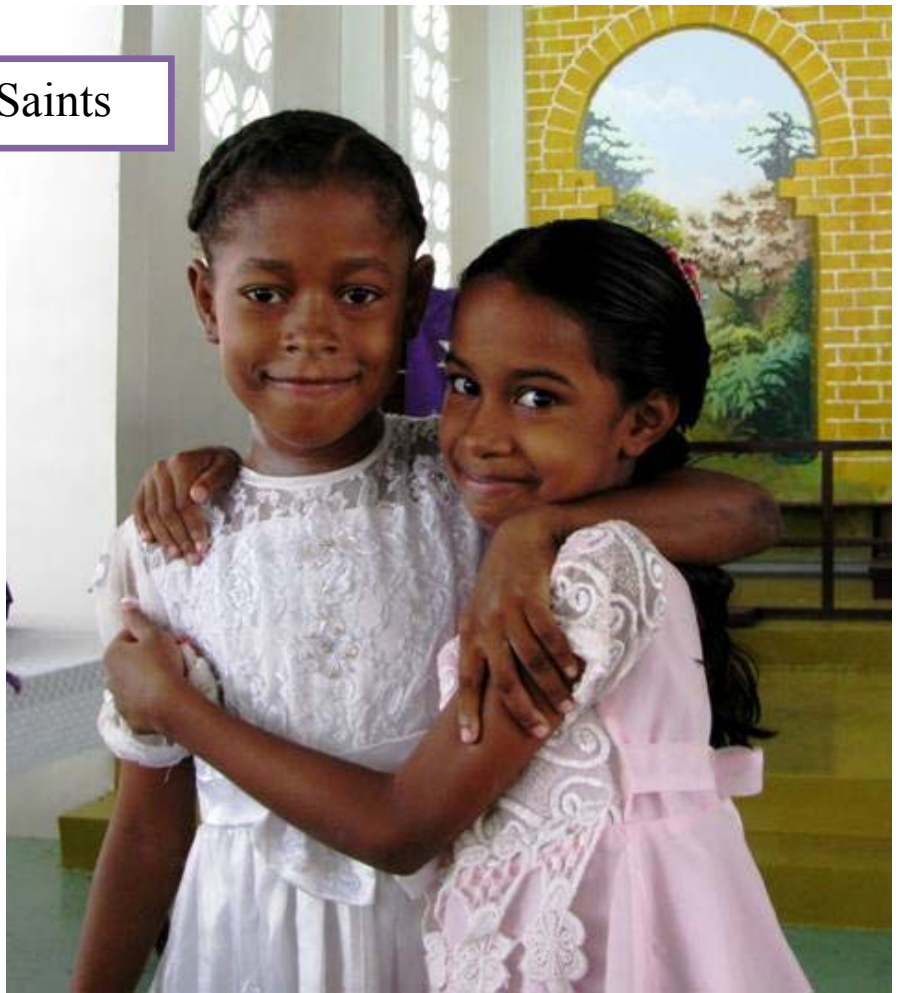


These two friends prove that the

## Sunday School Saints

communion of saints is not age defined. Faithful Sunday School teachers are busy in all five congregations of Ascension Parish, the parish in which I have served as pastor the past four and a half years. Thanks to generous contributions from many of you, the teachers have been supported with small weekly allowances that allow them to take the time from other income generating tasks and to pay for the transportation costs to and from church in order to be Sunday School teachers. Contributions to this effort and others can be made through the Global Gift programme at [globalmissionsupport@elca.org](mailto:globalmissionsupport@elca.org).

National Church Camp is coming up in July too. Thanks to donors like you, 'scholarships' to camp have been made available to children in the parish I serve and any child wishing to go to camp is able to go.



## Afternoon Excitement



On a recent a recent afternoon in the trench in front of my house, local boys cornered and caught this caiman.

I live in Georgetown, the capitol of Guyana. It is a city more than two hundred years old. However, Guyana remains a relatively sparsely populated country. The vast majority of it is virgin rain forest and wetlands. Nature is never very far away here.

Friends, thanks for your patience while waiting to hear from me. In future newsletters I hope to introduce you to two new congregations that I have been assigned, to update you about a

New Church Development project we have underway and to talk more about my ongoing medical outreach work. Until then, I wish you all God's peace and blessings. Pastor Young