# MARCH 2023

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 4102 N. BEN JORDAN, VICTORIA, TX 77901 PHONE (361) 575-4305 FAX (361) 575-8679



www.oslcvictoria.com

Sunday worship 8:00 & 10:30 am Pastor Lalahery "La" Andriamihaja Saints: YOU! Children/Youth Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Sunday School 9:15 am



Fellow Believers of Our Saviour's,

It should be of no surprise to you that we're well on our way through our Lenten journey, moving toward the empty tomb of our Savior on Easter morning. To this end, I pray our Lord's blessings, protection and strength be upon you, always, for the journey ahead.

As many of you heard me share in my sermon on Ash Wednesday, the focus and theme of our Lenten journey is an invitation for us to **"do something"**. But as I clearly stated and will continue to proclaim that the many and various "works" that we do in this life – whether it's a calling (vocation) from God, or by necessity - are not to earn our salvation, nor will they ever be enough to save us from "the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15). But we do them, to the best of our abilities, for the sake of our "neighbors" and fellow mankind. After all, God has no need for our good works, but our families, friends and neighbors do. So, this Lenten season, I invite and encourage you to "do something" for the sake of those in your life, in our communities and/or in the surrounding areas.

Here's the plan in case you missed it on Ash Wednesday.

- Step 1: Form or join a group of 3 to 10 people from Our Saviour's. Agree amongst yourselves that you'll remain a group for the duration of our Lenten journey. In addition, agree between y'all to come to worship together on Sundays and, especially on Wednesday nights during Lent for more guidance and inspirations. Feel free to name your group the more whimsical, the better.
- Step 2: Each week (on Wednesday nights), new challenges and opportunities will be offered to the groups, with the expectation that each group will be encouraged and empowered to volunteer to "do something" for others, as the Holy Spirit leads them to do so. As soon as your group is formed, begin to consider and discuss the places and/or the service that y'all could do together.
- Step 3: Then plan and implement what your group agreed to do for the sake of your "neighbors", AND have it done before, or by Holy Week (April 2<sup>nd</sup>). As you "do something", remember to give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve others, and share amongst yourselves how you experienced God in your serving. Then, each Wednesday night, plan on sharing with the rest of us what your group did and your experiences of God.

Now, those who are not in a group are not exempt from "doing something". I still invite and encourage them to "do something", and to discern how they experienced God in their serving of others.

Friends, the whole point of all this is to get us to "give up" our comfort zones for Lent and gain valuable experiences of God's presence and power instead. Are you in? Let's "do something" for the glory of Christ and for the sake of our neighbors. Amen.

Pastor La

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Pastor La's Wednesday Bible study is taking a break for Lent. All are encouraged to attend Oasis at 5:45 pm and Lenten Service at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

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*SPRING* **TIME CHANGE:** Remember to set your clocks to SPRING AHEAD on Saturday, *AHEAD* March 11<sup>th</sup> before you go to bed.



OASIS MEAL EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 5:45 PM IN MPR

Oasis is a time for great food, fellowship, bible studies and fun activities but we need your help to make it happen. We need volunteers to cook and serve the meal each Wednesday. There is a budget for this ministry.



If you are interested in serving Our Saviour's through this ministry, please sign-up at the Welcome Desk. If you need more information, contact the church office.



Arrangements have been made to get 50 white lilies to decorate the church for Easter Sunday. The cost is \$10 each. If you would like to place a lily in the church in honor or in loving memory of a loved one, please fill in the order form enclosed or pick one up from the Welcome Desk. Deadline to place your order is **Monday, April 3**<sup>rd</sup>. Completed order forms and payment can be placed in the wooden box at the Welcome Desk or turned into the church office.

### **EASTER GARDEN**

We will once again be decorating the Narthex with an Easter Garden. If you would like to help contribute to the purchase of the plants needed, please put your donation in an envelope marked "Easter Garden" and place it in the wooden box on the Welcome Desk.





# SPRINGFEST - APRIL 23, 2023

We will be selling BBQ chicken plates with all the trimmings. We will also have a Live Auction, Silent Auction, Raffle, Country Store, Cake Walk and Children's Activities. Pre-sell tickets will be available at the Welcome Desk soon. If you would like to help sell tickets, please contact Michael or Dena Buchhorn.

To make Springfest a successful event, we need lots of help. There are numerous ways to contribute.

#### ALL ITEMS DONATED MUST BE NEW

- Monetary Donations (help to purchase food and other supplies)
- Silent Auction Items
- Live Auction Items
- Gift Cards

- Raffle Donations
- Cakes for Cake Walk and Dessert Table
- Country Store Items homemade baked goods, canned/pickled goods, and handcrafted items

We also need many, many volunteers. There are various positions available. Check out the Springfest table in the Narthex to find your spot. For more information or any questions, contact Bruce Jank or John Hersey.

The proceeds from this Springfest will be divided between:

Bethlehem Maternity Home, Christ's Kitchen,

Teens Grounded, and OSLC Ministries

# QUARTERLY INFORMATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup>

at 11:30 am (following 2<sup>nd</sup> service) in the Multi-Purpose Room Join us for updates on what's going on at Our Saviour's No Meal will be served



# ASPIRE WOMEN'S EVENT SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023 5:00PM AT OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 1 NIGHT • 3 HOURS • 3 NATIONAL SPEAKERS/COMEDY/WORSHIP FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT PAT DEDEAR AT 361-676-5087 OR VISIT ASPIREWOMENSEVENT.COM



## WOMEN OF THE WORD

**W.O.W.** - Will meet on Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the MPR. All ladies of OSL are welcome to attend. There is always a time of great fellowship, food, meaningful devotion and these meetings are always purposeful.

#### OSL MINISTRY LEADERS/TEAM MEETINGS ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH



Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in the in the Conference Room



#### HELPING HANDS OFFERING SUNDAY – March 5<sup>TH</sup>

The purpose of this fund is for individuals or families in the congregation who may at one time, or another need a little help. Please use the envelopes in the pew racks for your contribution.

**BAPTISM AT OUR SAVIOUR'S -** Baptism is the first of the two sacraments. There is a list of guidelines to follow. If you desire more information about baptism here at Our Saviour's, please contact the church office at 575-4305.



#### OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH TABITHA QUILTING MINISTRY

Meets every Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Christian Ed Building

For more information about Tabitha Quilting Ministry contact Dorothy Waltersdorff at 576-1465 or Jean Gisler at 676-0484 or jeangislernp@gmail.com.

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Life After Loss Support Group - Meets on the second Saturday of each month in the Christian Education wing of Our Saviour's. This month they will meet on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to Pastor La or Stephen Fuhrman.



The Youth Led church service on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, was quite a blessing. All of our kids took on the challenge of leading us in worship for both services that morning. From the music to the scripture reading, to the Prayers of the Church & the wonderful message from Elijah Pickens. They were AMAZING! These young people need our continued support as Susan helps them grow stronger in their faith & they might even teach us a thing or two along the way. Thank you to all who guide & direct our youth, we are forever grateful. Rox & Milton

Thank you so much for your faithfulness and support of Mission Mexico. We value your prayers and gifts.

Thank you so much for your generous donation to VCAM. Your gift allows us to help community members who are in need. We truly appreciate your support of our ministry.

Thank you for giving so generously to the Lutheran Disaster Response. Your support helps our church continue its effective and efficient response to disasters.

On behalf of the staff of Lutheran World Relief, our partners, and the communities we serve with your support, thank you for your gift and may God continue to bless you.

Thank you for your donation to Christ's Kitchen it will help us to continue serving a hot meal at no charge to be people in need.

Thank you for your partnership with Global Health Ministries. Your support has made it possible to ship life changing equipment and supplies around the globe.

On behalf of Promise Pointe, thank you so much for your kind donation. Our promise to you is to use it wisely to help as manly people as we possibly can. Sister Rebecca Janacek

Thank you so much for your partnership with Perpetual Help Home. We are so grateful for you and your giving spirit.

Dear OSL, It's truly encouraging to know that others are working alongside us to see the Gospel change lives through Camp Eagle. Thank you for your support.

		MARC	ARCH 2023			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CHURCH EVENTS, DATES AND DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE	E NOTE es and details o change		1 3.30 pm - Engaging God's Word Study 5.30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5.30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal 5.45 pm - Oasis Meal 6.30 pm - Lenten Service in Sanctuary	2 MPR Unavailable	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 2 <sup>md</sup> Sunday in Lent 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION HELPING HANDS 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study	6 8:00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am - Staff Meeting	7 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 5:30 pm - Ministry Leaders/Team Meeting	8 3:30 pm - Engaging God's Word Study 5:30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5:30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lenten Service in Sanctuary	Ø	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 10:00 am - Life After Loss Support Group Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed tonight.
12 3rd Sunday of Lent Daylight Savings Time Begins 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study	13 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep 5:00 pm - Executive Council Meeting	14 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 4:00 pm - Pantry 5:30 pm - Springfest Meeting 6:30 pm - Worship Meeting Chapel Rented	15 3:30 pm - Engaging God's Word Study 5:30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5:30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lenten Service in Sanctuary	9	17 St. Patrick's Day OFFICE CLOSED	<u>8</u>
	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	
19 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent 8:00 & 10:30 am - Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 am - Children & Youth Sunday School 9:15 am - Adult Bible Study	20 8.00 am - Pastor's Advisory Team Meeting 9.00 am - Staff Meeting 5.30 pm - VBS Planning Mtg. 6.00 pm - Women of the Word	21 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 6:30 pm – Council Meeting	22 5:30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5:30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lenten Service in Sanctuary	23	24 OFFICE CLOSED CYF Service Project	25 CVF Service Project
<ul> <li>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</li> <li>8:00 &amp; 10:30 am - Worship Service</li> <li>9:15 am - Children &amp; Youth Sunday School</li> <li>9:15 am - Adult Bible Study</li> <li>11:30 am - Quarterly Informational Meeting</li> <li>CYF Service Protect</li> </ul>	27 9:00 am - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm - Pantry Prep	28 9:30 am - Tabitha Quilting Ministry 4:00 pm - Pantry 5:30 pm - Springfest Meeting	29 5:30 pm - Prayer Group in Chapel 5:30 pm - Senior Choir Rehearsal 5:45 pm - Oasis Meal 6:30 pm - Lenten Service in Sanctuary	30	31 OFFICE CLOSED MPR Rented	

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	Below is the schedule of worship assistants for this month. <b>NOTE</b> : If you are not able to serve as schec	nedule of worship assistants for this month. We will provide training and instruction to those who have not already received t NOTE: If you are not able to serve as scheduled, please try to find a replacement, or call the church office at 361-575-4305.	ants for this mo e to serve as s	nth. We will p cheduled, ple	provide training and instate try to find a replac	struction to those wl sement, or call the c	o have not alre hurch office at 3	We will provide training and instruction to those who have not already received this information. Iuled, please try to find a replacement, or call the church office at 361-575-4305.	ttion.
	USHER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	LECTOR	GREETER	WELCOMER	WELCOME DESK	CHURCH SAFETY TEAM	LEADER IN CHARGE
March 1 <sup>st</sup> 6:30 pm	Kurtis Krueger Debbie Krueger		Hannah Morris					Mitchell Thurman	<b>March. 5</b> <sup>th</sup> Terry Krueger
March 5 <sup>th</sup> 8:00 am		Glenn Gisler Jean Gisler Joyce Cardinell	Cole Neill	Kim Neill	Kathleen Reimann Terry Krueger	Joyce Cardinell	Jean Huber	Ronnie Wolter Steve Fiedler	Wednesday, March 8 <sup>th</sup> Katy Morris March 12 <sup>th</sup>
10:30 am	Hanta Andriamihaja Gary Mueller Billy Blanchard Randy Clark	Brett Ckodre Doris Dold Patty McGehee Lisa Price Janine Rothmann	Arun Pickens		Lisa Price Patty McGehee	Pam Raley	EJ Raley	Stephen Fuhrman Lewis Keith	Pam Raley Wednesday, March 15 <sup>th</sup> Doris Dold March 19 <sup>th</sup> Stephen Fuhrman
March 8 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm	Diana Pimentel Raymundo Moreno		Konor Eliot					Stephen Fuhrman	Wednesday, March 22 <sup>nd</sup> Hanta Andriamihaia
March 12 <sup>th</sup> 8:00 am	Gerald Merks Glenn Gisler Bobby Jacob		Hunter Jacob	Jean Gisler	Janet Merks Jean Gisler	Jan Jacob	Linda Mueller	Gerald Merks Larry Henneke	March 26 <sup>th</sup> Janine Rothmann Wednesday, March 29 <sup>th</sup>
10:30 am	Sharon Kacir		Haley		Billy Blanchard	Laura Wright	Norma	Buck Dabney	Gary Mueller
	Michael Buchhorn Dena Buchhorn Jason Eliot		Morris		Diana Pimentel		Lawrence	Royce Krueger	ALTAR GUILD Kathleen Reimann
March 15 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm	Kurtis Krueger Debbie Krueger		Cole Neill					Raymundo Moreno	Dee Dee Cornelius Lauren Jackson
March 19 <sup>th</sup> 8:00 am		Royce Krueger Terry Krueger Iean Huher	Alex Johnston	Lauren Jackson	Kathleen Reimann Terry Krueger	Joyce Cardinell	Jean Huber	Kurtis Krueger Debbie Krueger	ALTAR FLOWERS
10:30 am	Tom Willis Doris Dold Hanta Andriamihaja Darryl Kern	Michael Buchhorn Dena Buchhorn Pat DeDear Marilyn Young Carol Buchhorn	Arun Pickens		Michael Buchhorn Dena Buchhorn	Pam Raley	EJ Raley	Randy Clark Brett Ckodre	Chris Stuck March 12 <sup>th</sup> Pastor La March 19 <sup>th</sup> Glenn & Jean Gisler
March 22 <sup>nd</sup> 6:30 pm	Michael Buchhorn Dena Buchhorn		Konor Eliot					Steve Fiedler	March 26 <sup>th</sup> Gary & Stephanne Mueller
March 26 <sup>th</sup> 8:00 am	-		Tanner Jacob	Diane Dabney	Janet Merks Jean Gisler	Jan Jacob	Linda Mueller	Dale Hoffmann Carol Buchhorn	PRAYERS March 5 <sup>th</sup> Fernando Moreno
10:30 am	Diana Pimentel Raymundo Moreno Raymundo Moreno, Jr Fernando Moreno		Hannah Morris		Billy Blanchard Sharon Kacir	Doris Dold	Norma Lawrence	Bruce Jank Linda Sonntag	March 12 <sup>th</sup> Susan Woodson March 19 <sup>th</sup> Pam Raley
March 29 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm	Sharon Kacir Pattv McGehee		Hunter					Mitchell Thurman	March 26 <sup>th</sup> Mariba Vound



Dear Children, Youth, and Families,

This season of Lent, our challenge is to "do something." I want us all to be intentional in what we are doing in our discipleship. Discipleship is more than about what we say- it's about what we do and who we are.

THIS MONTH'S CHALLENGE IS: Do one thing each day that shows who we are as Christians. If you are unsure what that could be, or what that could look like, please reference Matthew 25:34-40.

**MARCH SERVICE WEEKEND:** The weekend of March 24<sup>th</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup>, the Youth (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to attend a service weekend in Katy, Texas. We are partnering with Memorial Drive Methodist Church for a day of service to others. We will fellowship and worship with them afterwards. Anyone who is interested in attending or chaperoning, please see Mrs. Susan. **Deadline is March 1**<sup>st</sup>.

DATES TO REMEMBER: No Lighthouse Wednesdays during Lent, come for Oasis and Lenten Service. March 8<sup>th</sup>: Dress up and bring a friend day. This month's theme: I don't need luck - I have Jesus.

(wear green)

March 20<sup>th</sup>: VBS planning meeting in Highschool room at 5:30 pm. **VBS is scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>**. March 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>: Service weekend with Memorial Drive Methodist Church in Katy

**PUZZLES & GAMES:** Last month's answer: The tribe of Judah. Congratulations to Hunter J. & Tanner J. This month's question: What were the 3 temptations of Jesus in the desert? The first 2 students to give me the correct answer will receive a \$15 fast food gift card.



**Kingdom Investing -** Recently I have had several conversations about finances that have led me to think more deeply and biblically about the subject. Even though the financial realities of investing over the past year and a quarter have been less than enjoyable, I thoroughly enjoy personal finance. I also take great pride (undoubtedly sinfully so) in being a good steward of God's resources. As a full-time church worker, I am ever mindful of spending the resources

entrusted to our ministry with great care. I have pridefully shared with others how much we do together as a district with how little resources we spend doing it like it is some sort of badge of honor.

While my sin of pride is something I need to confess and repent, good stewardship of kingdom resources is indeed a good thing. But I recently realized just how stark the difference in mindset can be between personal and ministry finances. In the name of good stewardship of precious resources, we in the church tend to strictly guard the financial resources entrusted to us. When dollars are spent, we often see it as kissing them goodbye! If this is the case, it is no wonder we think twice before parting with these dollars!

But what if we viewed our spending like an investor who is growing a business? What if every dollar spent represented an investment towards the greater goal of building something of even greater value? What if we viewed God's resources with a mindset of abundance instead of scarcity, and had a vision for investing in the Kingdom building that God was up to all around us?

Business owners often cite the mantra, "You've got to spend money to make money." In most cases I have found this to be true. In Matthew 25, Jesus tells the Parable of the Talents in which he makes a similar point. In the story, Jesus celebrates the servants who put the master's money to work and can produce growth while condemning the servant who hoarded the money and simply returned it to the master. This is a good reminder that God calls us to make Kingdom investments as a part of our faith journey.

As you make your contributions of tithes and offerings through the ministry of your local congregation, thank you for your Kingdom investment. I encourage you to be generous and trust that your investment will in some way advance the mission of God and bring a Kingdom return. If you have a leadership role in making decisions with how your congregation uses financial resources, I pray that you execute your duty with the mind of an investor who isn't merely deciding how dollars are spent, but rather discerning how to best build God's Kingdom near and far. Guided by the Holy Spirit, I pray that we are faithful in our management of the Master's money. Invest in Kingdom mission and ministry with an eye towards growth. Then we can give an account and show a return on the investment when He comes again.



#### OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCE GENERAL FUND MONTHLY BREAKDOWN

BEGINNING BALANCE: January 1, 2023	\$298,414.52
TOTAL GF RECEIPTS:	\$47,298.06
OPERATING EXPENSES FOR MONTH:	
Benevolence	4,471.73
Outreach	829.28
Youth & Children Ministry	841.16
Ministry Support	795.33
Music & Performance Ministry	36.99
Worship Support	106.01
Office Support	2,204.05
Utilities	3,443.00
Supplies, Equip., Maintenance	16,832.94
Insurance	2,882.82
Miscellaneous Support	337.57
Staffing	26,439.92
TOTAL GF EXPENSES FOR MONTH:	\$59,220.80
ENDING BALANCE: January 31, 2023	\$286.491.78

#### Attendance

Our average weekly attendance for February is 165.



February Atte	ndance
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	176
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	180
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	140

#### Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine. Proverbs 3:9-10

#### MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS JANUARY BALANCES

Building Maintenance Fund	18,226.42
Children's Ministry Fund	10,925.34
Helping Hands Fund	3,336.01
Youth Ministry Fund	7,893.69
Memorial Fund	9,515.05
OSLC Ministry Fund **	60,170.23
Springfest Fund	1,600.11
OSLC Mission Fund	1,389.57
Spiritual Formation Fund	2,573.86
OSLC Disaster Fund	4,578.53
Genie Fuhrman Legacy Scholarship	2,539.00
Total Misc. Accts.	\$122,747.81

\*\* This fund consists of several small funds including: Tabitha Quilting Ministry, Kitchen, ILT, Choir, Prayer Garden, Grant activity & Food Pantry.



#### AROUND THE CHURCH FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND PRAYERS

If you have any information for AROUND THE CHURCH, please call the church office.



With our prayers for a speedy recovery, these folks were listed in the hospital: Ada Stange Marie Stenseth



Welcome to our newest members: Jerri Brown

Ada Stange Marie Stenseth **Special Concerns:** All those we hold dear in our hearts that are facing a battle for good health, mind, and spirit.

Prayer is a strong wall and fortress of the church; it is a goodly Christian weapon.  $\sim$  Martin Luther



2. ONLINE GIVING - Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions or one-time contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

- Visit the church website at www.oslcvictoria.com, 2) Click on the [Give] tab,
   Click on the [Give Online] line,
   Click on the [Cree
  - 4) Click on the [Create Profile] button, then
- 5) Follow the instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your contributions.

This program supports bank accounts and debit or credit cards. Recurring donations are convenient and provide our church with much needed consistent support throughout the year. If you have any questions about these programs, please contact Sally Hersey at the church office.

3. RECURRING/SIMPLY GIVING - We have been using this program for some time now. The Simply Giving® Program offers church members a convenient, safe, and simple way to make regular church offerings without the need to write checks, carry cash or prepare envelopes. It is handled by a company named Vanco Services and they will process the auto withdrawal through your bank and deposit directly into OSL's account. A simple authorization form is all that is needed. Forms are available in the church office.

4. MAIL - You may mail your offering into Our Saviour's at any time to 4102 N. Ben Jordan, Victoria, Tx 77901.

Non-Profit Organization US Postage Paid Permit No. 167 Victoria, TX 77901



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 4102 N. Ben Jordan Victoria, TX 77901 361-575-4305 - Fax 361-575-8679

**ΚΕΤURN SERVICE REQUESTED** 

