

Eternal Life Lines Newsletter March 2017

A Publication of Eternal Life Lutheran Church
7025 E. Main Street, Mesa, AZ 85207
Phone 480-985-0224
Fax 480-985-2393
Office Hours 8-2 Monday - Thursday (Closed Fridays)



Website: www.eternallifelutheran.org
E-mail Address: eternallifelutheran@gmail.com

Last Sunday, February 26, we had two special visitors with us. One was Pastor Frusti's brother, Tim, who represented MOST Ministries. (Information following). The other was Pastor Frusti's cousin, Dr. Phil Frusti, representing "Lead a Child" Ministries. Following is information on both organizations, plus newsletter article from Rev. Leif Camp, the Russian Missionary who has visited ELLC in the past.

"MOST has a solid base Biblically. There must be a good missionary tradition behind MOST because the model they have is excellent—first class. Respect, vision, a very good organization."

Rev. Edmundo Retana, Costa Rica MOSTMINISTRIES.ORG



"Go therefore and disciple all the nations"

Matthew 28

WHAT SETS MOST MINISTRIES APART?

Trained team leaders Every trip is led by a team leader with extensive training and experience. Our training program is recognized and emulated by mission agencies across the country.

Health and safety protections All travelers are fully insured for medical and evacuation services. Every team leader carries a global-access phone providing round-the-clock access to our staff back home, making MOST Ministries' medical, travel, and legal experts available for any emergency.



Dr. Tim Frusti

Custom designed trips

MOST Ministries can help your congregation, school, or group organize single or multiple mission trips, including assistance in establishing a long-term partnership with missionaries.

We also offer a range of cost-effective "a la carte" training and support services to enhance your organization's planning.

Our ministry partners

MOST Ministries is proud to be:

- Fully accredited by *US Standards of Excellence in Short Term Missions*.
- A “recognized service organization” of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod (LCMS)
- An active member of *Association of Lutheran Mission Agencies*

We work with many national and international organizations, including Lead a Child, Lutheran universities and high schools, Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, Lutheran Hour Ministries, and LCMS partner churches around the globe.

BE A GOER BY JOINING A SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP

MOST Ministries organizes over thirty mission teams yearly. Some are planned for particular congregations or groups while others are available for individuals to join. We handle the logistics, ensure all preparations with the field, and provide leadership, supplies, and training.

Ministry projects provided

Each trip focuses on a service project or activity requested by the missionary or pastor in the field. Our projects include:

- Agriculture education • Men’s, women’s & youth ministry • Construction • Music & English camps
- Church leadership training • Eyeglass, dental & medical clinics • Police education • Sewing, quilting & craft teams • Water filtration • Human trafficking awareness • Health & hygiene education • Sports outreach

BE A SENDER BY VOLUNTEERING

Christ’s Great Commission points every believer to the task and joy of sharing His Gospel. But not everyone is an evangelist. Some are given the spiritual gift of leadership, to be used in Christ’s service. Others have the gifts of mercy, teaching, languages, or generosity.

We provide many opportunities to use those diverse gifts through the behind-the-scenes activities that make the mission trips possible:

Eyeglass Ministry: Our eyeglass clinics are possible because of a faithful corps of volunteers. Church members across the country collect old eyeglasses and send them to our office, where volunteers sort and repair them, replace lenses, and prepare them for teams to distribute around the globe.

Witness Bracelets and Finger Puppets: To help teams share Christ’s Gospel, we provide them “witnessing” bracelets and puppets, made by volunteers, which illustrate the message of sin and forgiveness, baptism, and eternal life.

Facilities: Volunteers help keep our facilities comfortable and well organized by assisting with maintenance projects.

BE A SENDER THROUGH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Legacy Member: Become a part of our Legacy Team by making a five-year commitment of \$1,000 each year.

One-Time Donations: Gifts can be made on our website or by mail. Designate your donation for a specific purpose or allow us to determine where it’s most needed.

Honorariums & Memorials: Honor or memorialize a loved one through a donation to MOST Ministries.

Estate Giving: Leave a gift for proclaiming Christ to the next generation by including MOST Ministries in your Will.

Corporate Partnerships: If you would like to provide a gift through your business, contact us to discuss how your donation can transform lives.

Thrivent Choice® & Action Team® Grants: Thrivent Financial members can annually designate MOST Ministries to receive Thrivent Choice dollars or apply for Action Team Grants to support our efforts.

Other Opportunities: In-kind gifts, IRA rollovers, and stocks can provide substantial support for our ministry while providing tax advantages to you or your estate.

WHAT MISSIONARIES & PARTNER CHURCHES SAY

*"I have worked with many groups in organizing teams and activities. Simply put, **working with MOST Ministries is one of the most organized and easiest experiences I have ever had.**"*

Sean Harlow, Philippines

*"The MOST Ministries team services to the Qiqihar [China] residents were inspiring and deeply appreciated by everyone who received the glasses. **As a result of the hard work of the team over the five-day period, the membership of Eunkwang Church increased by 400 persons.**"*

Rev. Sungwan Park & Peter Koh, South Korea

The Heart of God

February 10, 2017

by Dr. Phil Frusti www.leadachild.org



See what kind of love the Father has for us, that we should be called the children of God; and so we are! 1 John 3:1

This month – February 14th to be more specific – we attempt to express our feelings of love to those near and dear to us. Red-colored Hallmark cards, heart-shaped boxes of candy, flowers, and jewelry are often found at the heart of the expression. These typical gifts are an outward attempt to share what is inside our hearts: love. Although our love is not perfect, it can be shared and received.

As dearly beloved children, the Bible tells us that we can also visualize God's perfect love for us. The verse from 1 John 3 begins with the word 'See.' Look and see just how much God loves you. For those of us who grew up in the Church regularly hearing about the Good News of the Gospel, we can find multiple ways to complete this phrase: I know that God loves me because ... _____ (This February, make a list of how many ways you can complete the phrase).



For God's children, dwelling on God's love is a blessing; but for others, their life experiences, the shadows of darkness, and sin's blinding curse have hidden this reality. All they see is confusion, bitterness, hopelessness, and death.

In order for the lost and blind to 'see' God's love, someone needs to share that love with them. Through simple actions of kindness and care, the door is opened; and through the precious words of the saving Gospel message, the Holy Spirit works to create a faith that sees God: a God who creates, a God who redeems, a God who calls us out of darkness into the wonderful light of Christ.

This February, join us in great calling to open up the eyes of children and families to see a God who loves them. Simple actions – a prayer, a donation, a word of encouragement - all play a part in creating opportunities for many to hear the story of God’s amazing grace.

No greater expression of love ever beats the one that comes from the mouth of a child who exclaims, “Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so!”

Blessed to be a blessing,

Dr. Trib



From Russian Missionary Leif Camp)

Grace and peace and greetings as we begin Lent. Below is this month's prayer letter, feel free to pass it on to friends or even enemies if you think it would help! I wasn't sure I would get this done today, so I am praising God at this moment that it looks as if I will. I covet your prayers and I thank you for them. Next month I hope I will have more to report. And for those of you who are hoping to send short term mission groups to serve the Lutheran Church of Ingria here in Russia, I will explain more in next month's prayer letter. The law concerning religious work should not impede short term mission work--again, more details next month.

Anyway, blessings,

Leif February 2017 A GOOD WORD FROM CAMP St. Petersburg, Russia

БЛАГОДАТЬ blah-ga-DOT—Grace

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

In many phrases where the English language uses the word “grace,” Russian language uses what we would translate as mercy—“by the grace of God” is “by the mercy of God” and the like. In many ways this actually makes sense, grace is mercy, undeserved, unearned, purely given from the love of God. As I am writing this, I am also preparing for Ash Wednesday—which is tomorrow—the beginning of Lent, a time especially to examine ourselves., to truly admit our sins and our sinfulness, to grow in our understanding of just how serious our sin truly is and how deep our separation from God truly was until He took it upon Himself to bridge that separation. We truly receive forgiveness of our sins through His grace, through His mercy, which means that for each of us, our forgiveness cost nothing—it is God’s gift to us which we neither deserve nor could we earn in any way. Yet, especially in Lent, we are reminded that although it cost us nothing, our salvation cost the very life blood of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. If I might play on words, God’s grace is not cheap, it is priceless, because we were bought at such a great price. By the grace of God He has allowed me to continue to serve here in Russia with the Evangelical Church of Ingria. Below are some of the usual and the unusual areas of service I have been blessed with this month.

This month Deacon Evgenii Raskatov and I distributed Confessional Lutheran Theological literature to non-Lutheran theological students graduating from a non-denominational bible school outside of St. Petersburg. This has now, more or less, become an annual event, and thanks to the partnership with Lutheran Heritage Foundation, each year we have something a bit new to add to the theological libraries these students will take back with them to the congregations they will be serving. Ingrian Lutheran pastor Fedor Tulinin has been teaching various classes at this Bible school, and makes it a point of inviting us to present Lutheran Literature to the graduating students as a “gift” –and this is truly a gift that will keep on giving as these leaders and teachers will be using these books in helping them prepare their lessons and Bible studies.

Prayer Requests

First a prayer of thanksgiving for another year of service—OK, I am writing this on my birthday—also a prayer of thanksgiving for all the expanding ministries. Pray for the expanding ministry at St. Anne’s, that God raise up people to help—the harvest is great, but the workers truly are few. Specifically for the programs beginning in Lent, for the establishment of the “chapel of the martyrs” and the accompanying display. Pray that I can organize my week and ministry as to find some time for a “Sabbath” -- with all that has been asked of me lately, I have not had a day off in quite a long time—it is nice to be useful and in demand, but one day in which I can pray, gather my thoughts and unwind is important. Pray for other overworked Ingrian pastors: Ivan Laptev, Evgenii Raskatov, Fedor Tulinin, Dimitri Rozet, and Mixail Ivanov—and just Ingrian pastors in general. Pray for the work at the seminary, the organizing of the curriculum, finding competent Confessional Lutheran teachers, and raising up properly motivated students. Pray for the Ingrian Lutheran Mission work in Finland, Estonia, Bulgaria, Latvia and Lithuania, and for our work among displaced people here in Russia. Pray also that God grant me wisdom, faith and strength to discern, trust and do His will. Please also remember to send me your prayer requests as we also pray here—and it would be great to pray for you all and your needs as well.

CONTACT ADDRESSES Feedback, questions, whatever are most welcome.

Our Russian home address: Leif and Zhanya Camp 18 line V. O. dom 43 Kv. 7 St. Petersburg, Russia, 199178 (note: sometimes our mail is stolen)	Stateside contact address: Leif and Zhanya Camp, C/O Marli Camp 902 N. 12 th Melrose Park, IL, 60160	Russian Lutheran Church Address: Ev. Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia Bolshaya Konyushennaya dom 8a St. Peterburg, Russia, 191186
---	--	---

Telephone: [+7-911-294-8754](tel:+79112948754) (my cell number). Russian Prolife Website lutheransforlife.ru

Note—Between St. Petersburg and central US time, the difference is 9 hours. Stateside contact telephone: [708-344-4472](tel:7083444472)

E-MAIL: lzkcamp@mail.ru & leif.camp@e-lci.org. Please feel free to share this prayerletter with your Church, friends, or enemies if it might help (just please do not quote things out of context or edit my words in such a way as to change their intent). If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail, simply email me directly and ask!



Local time and station is: KFNX 1100AM dial at 9:30am Sunday mornings.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WE all must serve as good stewards (Titus 1:7) and we recognize the buildings do not belong to us but to the Lord. (Psalm 24:1). All of us are responsible for the property. This includes turning off the lights and locking the doors. The last person out, the person heading an event, any person entering the buildings to perform a task, and all persons, whether member or non-member, must be sure to turn off the lights and make sure the doors are locked and secure.

The trustees are responsible to maintain the buildings and property, however they cannot be on site 24/7. They need the cooperation of all members and those using the facility to maintain secure buildings.



Lutheran Women's Missionary League)

All ladies and men are invited to join us March 13, 2017 at 1:00 in the Activity Center. Pastor Frusti will present the Bible study. The video "Unequally Yoked" will be shown. POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach) International helps immigrants and refugees assimilate and integrate into the United States neighborhoods with the Gospel. There will be a "short" business meeting with lunch and visiting to follow.

There is a signup sheet in the narthex if you would like to help feed the International students at ASU on March 23, 2017 at 5:00 pm in Tempe. You will enjoy your evening with them.



- 7 Audrey Wright-Brewster
- 8 Oscar Shealey
- 10 Alice Goodman
Dona Kahler
- 15 Roger Lemcke

- 22 Mildred Wangen
- 24 Mildred Hildebrandt
- 26 Shirley Blome
- 29 Raymond Wetzel
- 31 Karen Bjornson



- 3 Sam & Connie Rudolph
- 21 Garlan & Pat Hulbert

CHECK OUT OUR CHURCH LIBRARY!! I hope our members are enjoying our improved library. We have new books added to the library. The books are filed alphabetically by the author's name. Our library is located in the Fellowship Hall right next to the sanctuary. We use the "honor system" for checking out books. So just grab a book and go! Enjoy!



Cookbooks are here! We still have copies of the ELLC cookbook. If you have not picked up your copy or need extra copies see Nadine. The book sells for \$10.



Bob and Beth McInnis will be the greeters for the month of March. Thank you to Norm & Norma Prochaska for greeting in the month of February. Nancy Dittus is your contact for becoming a greeter for the Sunday worship services. When Nancy approaches you we hope that you will say "YES". Eternal Life has a reputation for being a "Friendly Church" and it is because of the smiling faces our visitors see when they walk through the doors. Won't you help?

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION & CAMPBELL'S LABELS:

We have not picked up on our collection of Boxtops and Campbell's labels. If you have noticed, many Campbell products no longer have the labels. This is because they are winding down the program and will be stopping it soon. I am taking my last collection of boxtops and labels to Jefferson School. My tally is:

Boxtops: 176

Campbell's Labels: 85

These are the numbers from October to February.

If I find that people start putting their collections in the Campbell's "can" in the narthex, maybe I will start saving them again. Pat Lohse 480-219-9538



About Us.

4KenyasKids supports comprehensive care to the abandoned, orphaned, and needy children of Kenya. Our community-based approach works to strengthen the orphan care safety-net to **EDUCATE** those who are unable to afford schooling, **EQUIP** widows and other extended family members to care for orphans, and **PROTECT** children who are vulnerable and in need of care.



The Start of 4KenyasKids...

In 2007, the mission began serving orphans and widows in the Kibera Slum of Nairobi, Kenya. Pastor Dennis (who visited ELLC a few weeks ago) and Deaconess Lorna Meeker began to pick up children from the slums and transport them to local schools. Through this ministry, God led them to start a school and rescue center in a small fishing village off of Lake Victoria in Kisumu, Kenya. Many children lack the means to receive an education. Without the support of 4KenyasKids sponsors, many children would not be able to attend school and pursue their dreams for the future. 4KenyasKids helps to educate 676 students. 96 of these children learn in schools outside of Point of Grace for higher levels or special needs, 580 learn at Point of Grace – 440 in primary classes and 140 in High School grades 9-11; 376 children are in boarding at Point of Grace, 521 children are in the assistance program, and 338 children are still in need of support.

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 ESV

Celebration Gift

Given to the glory of God in celebration of

My Birthday

Our Anniversary

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

I wish to make a celebration gift to Eternal Life Lutheran Church

Your Name _____

Church Envelope Number _____ Amount \$ _____

Celebration Gift

Your celebration gift will help us to continue to
build the ministry and proclaim the Gospel!

God Bless You!

Stewardship Corner

This month we make use of the resources From the LCMS Stewardship Ministry

As the church enters into the season of Lent, we each prepare our hearts and minds and do well to listen to God's Word, His own teaching, about life in Christ. We pray that your Lenten devotions and preparations will be enriched by using the weekly Scripture passages and application thoughts from Rev. Heath Curtis along with your personal devotions.

The LCMS Stewardship Bulletin Verses — March 2017 / 3 Year Lectionary

March 1: Ash Wednesday

Matthew 6:19-21 — “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” What more is there to say about stewardship? Thus says the Lord!

March 5: Lent 1

Matthew 4:7 — Jesus said to him, "Again it is written. . ." Jesus defeats Satan in our place – not by using His power as God, but by His perfect obedience in His perfect humanity. Jesus defeats Satan not by miracles, but by quoting the Scriptures and living according to it. This should cause us great joy for two reasons. First, because we see Jesus win the victory for us. Second, because here Jesus shows us how to stand in that victory: on the Word of God alone.

March 12: Lent 2

John 3:16 — “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” This is perhaps the most well-known and well-beloved verse in the New Testament – and for good reason. This simple Gospel message is the foundation for our whole life – our new life in Christ. This new life is characterized by thankfulness and devotion to our Father who has provided for us so lavishly in Christ.

March 19: Lent 3

Exodus 17:3 — But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" Even the Israelites who saw miracles with their own eyes fall into unbelief and fear. From this distance we can see how foolish their worry is. How foolish will our worries appear from the distance of eternity? The Lord cared for them, and He will care for us.

March 26: Lent 4

Psalms 142:5 — I cry to you, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living." The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control – so we can follow His Word in confidence.

Blessings in Christ,

Catherine Needham and Denise Seaman

Board of Stewardship

Elder for March is Ray Kahler (480-357-7066)

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
We offer COMMUNION every week!			1 Quilters 9a Ash Wednesday Divine Service 4p	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 HOA Hearthstone Meeting 9-11:30
5 Bible Study 8:15a Worship Service 9:30a MITE BOX	6 TOPS 8a	7 BIBLE STUDY 9:30a Elders Mtg 10:30	8 Quilters 9a Knitters 10a Lenten Service 4p Supper 5p	9	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 Bible Study 8:15a Worship Service 9:30a	13 TOPS 8a LWML 1p	14 BIBLE STUDY 9:30a	15 Quilters 9a Lenten Service 4p Supper 5p	16	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 Bible Study 8:15a Worship Service 9:30a	20 TOPS 8a	21 BIBLE STUDY 9:30a Evangelism Mtg 10:30	22 Quilters 9a Lenten Service 4p Supper 5p	23 Help feed the International students at ASU 5pm SIGN UP!	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 Bible Study 8:15a WS 9:30a	27 TOPS 8a	28 BIBLE STUDY 9:30a	29 Lenten Service 4p Supper 5p BOD MEETING 6pm	30	31 OFFICE CLOSED	