# Long Lake Lutheran Church October 2021

# **Country Spire**

# Sunday, October 3

8:15 am Adult Forum 9:00 am Holy Communion Worship 10:15 am Youth and Education Meeting

# Wednesday, October 6

5:15 pm Pulled Pork & Coleslaw 6:00 pm Worship, Confirmation & Children's Church

# Sunday, October 10

8:15 am Adult Forum 9:00 Worship 10:15 am Mission Team 10:15 am Congregational Life Team meetings

# Wednesday, October 13

5:15 pm Sloppy Joes & Mac and Cheese 6:00 pm Worship, Confirmation & Children's Church

# Sunday, October 17

8:15 am Adult Forum 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Stewardship Meeting

# Wednesday, October 20

5:15 pm Pizza!
6:00 pm Worship, Confirmation & Children's Church

# Sunday, October 24

8:15 am Adult Forum 9:00 am Worship

# Wednesday, October 27

5:15 pm Fried Chicken & Mashed Potatoes 6:00 pm Worship, Confirmation, & Children's Church

# Saturday, October 30

10:00 Confirmation Rehearsal & Pictures TBD Trunk or Treat

# Sunday, October 31

9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Confirmation Worship

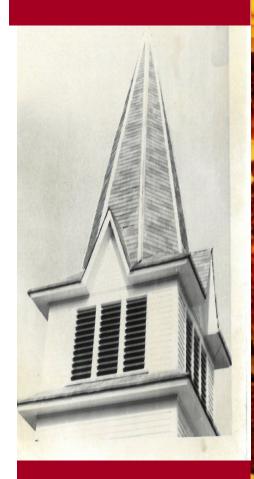
# CHrist Centered

Purpose Balanced

MISSION Driven

3921 277TH AVE NW ISANTI, MN 55040 P 763-444-5315

LONGLAKELUTH.ORG



# Pastoral and Office Staff



- Pastor Sue Olson 218-324-0196 susanolson@longlakeluth.org
- Director Youth & Family Ministries
  Shawna Berg 612-619-6444
  shawnaberg@longlakeluth.org.
- Business Administrator
   Jen Sonterre 763-354-9574
   jensonterre@longlakeluth.org
- Administrative Assistant
   Joanne Eittreim
   joanneeittreim@gmail.com

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

## Other Staff

Organist Kristy Anderson 763-300-0167 cookiesue2020@gmail.com
Wedding Coordinator Carol Perrin 952-220-2684 carol.perrin.cp@gmail.com
Custodian Mary Johnson 320-438-0469 momscowscleaning.com

Council			
Chairperson	Kara Hepp	763-350-0250	kara@larsengardens.com
Congregational Life	Open		
Education	Amanda Saelens	763-227-6545	a.hansen4721@gmail.com
Finance	<b>Dennis Wanless</b>	612-802-2735	dennisatthelake@yahoo.com
Missions	Ronda Fenion	763-221-0725	ronda.fenion@yahoo.com
Property acting chair	John Hass	612-919-2428	john-jhpumping@hotmail.com
Stewardship	Julie Nielsen	612-269-0489	jknielsen44@gmail.com
Worship & Music	Rachel Maguire	701-330-3434	rachelmariemaguire@gmail.com
Youth	Margaret Bauer	612-221-5922	jjtbmab@aol.com



# From the desk of Pastor Sue

### **RISE UP!**

Every year around this time, congregations begin their annual stewardship cam-

paign. Sometimes, talking about money in church makes people twitch. Serious, hives! For some reason, money in American households is a very private matter. We don't seem to be bothered too much about talking how much time we spend at church, though, do we? For some of us, it gives us a sense of pride. "I should get a bed here at church, I spend so much time here." For some, it might be a source of argument at home. "You spend so much time at church, we never see you at home."

We don't seem to be particularly bothered by sharing our talents. People who like to sing, are usually willing to sing liturgy, lead worship or sing in a choir. People who are good at fixing things are usually willing to offer their talent when needed. People who are good at reading are usually willing to read the scripture in front of the congregation.

But, the treasure part. Well, that's a little different. We are sensitive to this topic. We don't like to talk about how much we give. We don't like to be told how much we should be giving. We don't like our giving being compared to anyone else's giving. We don't like to stand out and we don't like to be noticed. Passing an offering plate around can be a source of discomfort for many people and not very welcoming to someone who is barely scraping by. That plate coming at you might be the scariest thing you have seen all week. Especially when others watch whether you put something in or not. It might be a reason why someone doesn't return to church. You might not have two nickels to rub together, as my mom would say.

The truth of the matter is that it takes money to run a church and talking about it is critical to running a successful and productive church. There are basic things that have to get paid for like heat, lights, water, garbage. Then, of course, there is staffing. Not even pastors like to work for free! Imagine that! These bare necessities take up over half of our budget. But, that is not all there is to serving God and living out our mission. We want some of our money to go for outside ministry and to actually help others, make a difference in someone's life. This money feels good to give. No one likes to pay for toilet bowl cleaner or sidewalk salt. Almost everyone loves to give money to provide food for a needy family, provide Sunday School materials, or sponsor a missionary.

This congregation is very generous and has supported a nearly \$400,000 budget this year in spite of a global pandemic. You have stepped forward to help support our missionary, Jim Weronnen, our Youth Mission Trip, Stephen Ministry, and the Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge among many other ministries. You put in new carpet two years ago. You provided money for a total power washing of the churches and garages. When there is a need, the money shows up. God loves a cheerful giver. And, you have hopes and dreams for our future.

This year, your stewardship team has come up with the theme, "Rise Up!" for our stewardship campaign. You will soon see a painting of hot air balloons rising into the sky. We invite you to come along for the ride as we explore how we can rise up to God's intentions for us. We ask you to consider: How can we rise up to serve God in our community and beyond? How can we rise up to show God's radical love and grace to others? How can we rise up and share our time, talents and treasures to fulfill our mission to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, the good news of salvation, through word and sacrament? How can we rise up and "do", rather than just "be"? How can we rise up and show our gratitude to God who has richly blessed us?

Many thanks to our Stewardship team for their ideas, energy, and love for this church. RISE UP!



# **Shawna Berg**Director of Youth and Family Ministry

This month I'll be celebrating my 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. I can hardly believe that it was 20 years ago that we celebrated the beginning of our family. I've been thinking a lot about all of the events that have happened in our lives over the last twenty years – we've sent one child off to college, and are cheering the other one on in the last few years of her high school activities. We have been through some pretty serious health scares, we survived a tree falling on our home (and all of the craziness afterwards with repairs), a serious life altering car accident, several job changes, mourning the loss of family members, celebrating milestones and traveling to Tanzania together on a mission trip. Our faith has been a constant companion on the journey.

I was thinking back to some of the most challenging moments in the last twenty years. As I reflected on what helped us navigate some of the most challenging moments, I realized that in almost all of those moments we had a church community that surrounded us and cared for us, and often times I don't know if they realized how important that was. I think of Ellory, the kind woman from one of my congregations who taught me how to make an impressive meal for the first time I had Brian over for dinner, and I was stressing over what to make. I think of all of the kids and families in my church who told me to bring my young baby with to the youth gathering in Atlanta when I was a brand new mom, and was worried about still nursing and leaving him, and paid for my husband to come with us so we could all stay in a room together and he could watch the baby when I was busy working. Then they delighted in playing with and passing around the baby at any opportunity they had. I think of the anonymous member of another congregation who slipped \$200 under my office door in a card the day after I had a fire in my home from a refrigerator that shorted out. My husband was out of work and we money was tight, insurance paid to replace all damages due to the fire, except the refrigerator. The next day someone from our congregation somehow had a brand new refrigerator that didn't work in their house, that they would sell to us for \$200. When I was severely injured in a car accident in 2016, my church brought endless meals to my family for the 5 months I was in the hospital and long term rehabilitation center. Our faith has been crucial to getting us through these challenging times, but even more importantly, it has been the people of God that have been put into our lives in the most challenging moments that I will never forget.

We are designed to live in community. It is one of the things I love most about the church. When the church is at its best, we do community well. We comfort the grieving, we encourage those who have no hope, we come alongside side those who are alone. The church is "God with skin on it" to all of the people we meet.

I also know that there are people who have been hurting, or are in need and haven't felt seen. It makes me sad to know that there are people who have been to churches, and maybe even people who have come to our church, who haven't felt this same sense of community. This makes me wonder – what can we do to help create that sense of community for everyone?

If you haven't felt connected, or if you have a need, I encourage you to reach out! I can't tell you how many times I have learned after the fact of someone who was going through a challenging time, and I wished that I would have know, so I could have helped, even if it was just to pray for them. I also can't tell you how many times I have chosen to keep my own challenges to myself, and then realized later that if I only would have asked, there would have been many people willing to help. Asking for help is hard, but it is a joy for us to surround each other in community when someone needs it, so ask!

Share with us the particular ways you love to help people! Are you great at sending encouraging notes? Do you love to bring meals? Do you have extra time to visit people that are lonely? Would you love to go to activities of the youth in our community? Do you love to fix things? We all have gifts, and we are better when we use those gifts together to serve!

Today I'll be thanking God for this community and they way Long Lake loves each other. I'll be thanking God for 20 years of marriage, with all of its ups and downs and I'll be looking for opportunities to serve this community and my family in new ways with the gifts that God has blessed me with!



The carpet and the pews were cleaned on September 9th. A big thank you to all the volunteers that helped that day the following Saturday to help put everything back in its proper place.

The lawn mowing is coming to the end of the season. Thanks to all who helped with the upkeep of the grass and shrubs. The mowers will be switched over to handle the snow in the upcoming season. Property Chair John Hass

**JOHN HASS** 

PROPERTY

### **September Church Council Meetings**

#### Long Lake Lutheran Church

**Council Special Meeting Minutes** 

September 1, 2021

Attendees: Pastor Sue Olson, Ronda Fenlon, Amanda Saelens, Kara Hepp, Julie Neilsen, Shawna

Berg, Dennis Wanless, Rachel Maguire, John Hass, and Margaret Bauer

Meeting called to order by Kara at 7:02pm

**Personnel Team-**

Shared a packet which included a job description, an Ad posting, and an estimated expense report

#### APPROVAL OF HIRING A FULL TIME OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by Margaret Bauer

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by Julie Nielsen

Discussion- Team reviewed packet. Team asked for changes to several items

Change the word "salaried" to hourly on Page 1 of Job description

On last page of description -Review will be conducted at 30 days, 6 months along with an annual review

Paid vacation will change to paid time off (PTO)

1 week of PTO will be at 6 months and 2 weeks after 1 year

Projected increase will be \$8,000-10,000. This will come from savings.

On last page of description-Delete yearly compensation and add \$18-20 hourly based on experience

Delete bullet point under section 3 of job description- "Attend meetings..."

Motion passed

Pastor Sue will be on vacation September 13<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. She shared concern that we will have minimal (Shawna) staff in the office due to Joanne's LOA and Jen's reduction in availability. Things may not be smooth as when we are appropriately staffed but team supports Pastor Sue keeping her planned vacation. Pastor Sue will reach out to a person who works part time at another church and may have interest in helping us on a temporary basis. Another option discussed was reaching out to a temp agency for help in the interim.

We have been so blessed with Jen and would like to celebrate her new adventure. This will added to the regular council meeting to discuss.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting ended at 8:12pm

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Bauer

#### **Long Lake Lutheran Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes** 

September 9, 2021

**Attendees:** Pastor Sue Olson, Ronda Fenlon, Amanda Saelens, Julie Neilsen, Shawna Berg, Dennis Wanless, , Rachel Maguire, John Hass, and Margaret Bauer

Meeting called to order by Ronda at 6:34pm

Christ candle lit by Margaret

Devotions: Margaret – Be Friendly: 1 Peter 4:9 Practice hospitality to one another....

Approval of August Minutes and September additional Meeting Minutes-this was done via email by attendees Approval of September Agenda

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by Julie Neilsen

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by John Hass

Discussion-None

Motion passed

#### Staff Reports

Ronda shared that the Synod had a session regarding "Tending Weary Souls"-taking care of our pastors and congregations. We will ask for some volunteers to help with phones September 20<sup>th</sup>-23 due to staff shortage.

#### **Team Reports**

Thanks to the teams who were able to send reports prior to meeting.

Finance- Dennis shared we are "on target" 62% versus 61% with giving/expenses.

#### APPROVAL OF MOVING MONEY FROM STAFFING TO PROPERTY for CLEANING CONTRACT

1<sup>ST</sup> motion made by Dennis Wanless

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by Rachel McGuire



Discussion- None

Motion passed

It was confirmed we do have a contract with Mary's Cow Cleaning. They have been doing a great job. A copy of the contract was shared with Finance. The length of contract is until February 2022 (annual meeting). Supply ownership to be discussed with new contract. Confirmation is needed regarding licensure/insured and bonded. Pastor Sue will follow up with accountant for clarity.

APPROVAL TO RESCIND PREVIOUS MOTION UNTIL FURTHER INFORMATION HAS BEEN CONFIRMED

1<sup>ST</sup> motion made by Ronda Fenion

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by Margaret Bauer

**Discussion-None** 

Motion passed

Copier contract ends Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. New bids are being reviewed by staffing to confirm needs and finance will finalize new contract.

Pastor Sue asked if the 2 coffee charges could be confirmed as accurate charges. Also, the youth mission gathering account is in the negative. Shawna confirmed that we asked for money to be transferred to cover from other youth account. We will be going to one account in the future for ease of accounting purposes. It is vital that the Finance team review monthly accountant records and give feedback.

**ONGOING** (recurring items)

**Recommendations from the Taskforce**- A new team will be formed with some former and new members if needed for future guidance.

**Personnel**-We are in the midst of reviewing 24 applications. Pastor Sue will close Indeed. Team will weed to 2-3 applicants to be interviewed. Process will continue while Pastor Sue is gone with personnel team. Pastor Sue and Shawna will also interview chosen candidates.

**Technology**- Waiting for Verizon to complete and install. We were without internet and phones again. Staff are feeling frustrated with intermittent response and action timeframe. Our technology team is our advisories and our contracted technology team (TCnet) is not local. This makes certain matters difficult to correct. A RFP (request for proposal) is needed to determine the need for technical support and service. It appears we have 2 different types of need.

#### HOUSEKEEPING (PROCEDURAL ITEMS

**Property-** Pew/Chair cleaning went well today. It was a long day and many thanks to those who helped today. We will send out a message for more volunteers to help on Saturday to return the pews. It was stated that the wax from the candles presented a challenge.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Congregational Life**- We are stilling looking for a person to fill our open council chair. Julie (congregational Life team member) will sign green slips needing signatures. Jonah and the Whales have been booked for next year's Food Truck event August 4, 2022.

**Rally Day-** Discussed table setups, location and expectations.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Celebrate Jen-Team feels this should be determine once we have an end date (after new hire).

**New Council Meeting Time-** Team discussed many different days (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, 1st or 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday). Each day presented a challenge for another. Finance and Property will discuss the option of changing their monthly time and bring back to council at next meeting.

Review of Master Calendar - remove "check timers on parking lot lights"-no longer needed due to we are now on an automated system

October devotions-Julie Nielsen

October Council Reps-

9 am -Julie Nielsen

6 pm –Ronda Fenlon

Confirmation Sunday (10/31/21) - Margaret Bauer

#### Spire articles due 9/27/21

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm

1<sup>st</sup> motion made by Dennis Wanless

2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by Amanda Saelens

Discussion none

Motion passed

Respectfully submitted,

**Margaret Bauer** 



# A Message from Kara Hepp Council President

This message is from our Parish Nurse, Sherryl Mahrer. Please read completely! Thank you, Kara Hepp

Dear Fellow Church Members,

The past 18 months have been difficult for all of us, with some of us experiencing illness and some even losing loved ones. I would like to provide some information on both the Influenza virus and Covid 19 because this is a crucial time for both. Deaths are associated with each of these and are preventable. Decisions on vaccines and precautions are personal and need to be made with careful consideration of the facts and out of love for one another as Christians.

We hear a lot about **infection control**. What is it? It is the prevention of the spread of infections in a healthcare setting. More recently, the term has been used to also look at the prevention of the spread of infections in *any* setting.

#### What is Influenza?

The flu, short for influenza, is a highly contagious respiratory infection caused by viruses. Some people have mild symptoms, while it may be serious or life-threatening for an older person or someone with a chronic condition.

<u>Influenza A</u> is the only type known to cause flu pandemics and can affect both humans and animals.

Influenza B can cause outbreaks of seasonal flu and spreads only among humans.

The flu is easily transmitted from person to person by being near an infected person who coughs, talks or sneezes, or by touching a recently contaminated surface and then touching you own nose eyes or mouth.

**Adults are most contagious** 24 hours *before* symptoms start and abut 5-7 days after becoming actively ill. Some persons can spread the virus for up to a week or longer.

# Key points:

Not everyone will have a fever.

You cannot get the flu from the flu shot. The vaccines are either made from pieces of an inactive virus or do not contain virus at all. Each year the scientists carefully examine the strain(s) expected to be of greatest concern to us and gear the vaccine for those. They are human and do their best.

This is a preventable illness. We saw far less flu last year because we were taking precautions.

## What is Covid 19

Coronaviruses are a type of virus. There are many different kinds and some cause disease. A coronavirus identified in 2019, SARS-CoV-2, has caused a pandemic of respiratory illness, called COVID-19.

**COVID-19 most commonly spreads between people who are in close contact** through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, talks, or breathes. Growing evidence shows that droplets can remain suspended in the air and travel distances beyond six feet, according to the CDC. Indoor environments with poor ventilation increase the risk of transmission.

To prevent infection and to slow transmission of COVID-19, do the following:

Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, or clean them with alcohol-based hand rub.

Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when in public settings or around others.

Maintain at least six feet distance between you and people coughing or sneezing.

Avoid touching your face.

**Cover your mouth** and nose when coughing or sneezing.

**Stay home** if you feel unwell.

Refrain from smoking and other activities that weaken the lungs.

**Practice physical distancing** by avoiding unnecessary travel and staying away from large groups of people.

#### Consider being vaccinated.

Vaccines are now authorized to prevent infection with SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. But until more is understood about how the vaccines affect a person's ability to transmit the virus, precautions such as mask-wearing, physical distancing and hand hygiene should continue regardless of a person's vaccination status to help <u>prevent</u> the spread of COVID-19.

### What about the variants (like Delta)?

Mutations may enable the coronavirus to spread faster from person to person, and may cause more severe disease. More infections can result in more people getting very sick and also create more opportunity for the virus to develop further mutations. Herd immunity is a term used to describe what happens when the vaccination and safe practice level is high enough to effectively limit the spread of the illness.

#### Are the vaccines safe?

All three vaccines authorized or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have been thoroughly tested and found to be safe and effective in preventing severe COVID-19. They continue to undergo continuous and intense safety monitoring.

In the past, vaccines have taken many years to develop. However, the relatively quick development of this vaccine does not mean safety measures were skipped.

- The technologies used to develop the COVID-19 vaccines have been years in development to prepare for outbreaks of infectious viruses. The manufacturing processes were ready very early in the pandemic.
- Countries shared genetic information
- The vaccine developers conducted some stages of the process simultaneously to gather as much data as quickly as possible.
- Governments gave money to vaccine developers in advance, so the companies had resources they needed.

Some types of COVID-19 vaccines were created using messenger RNA (mRNA), a new technology that allows a faster approach than the traditional way vaccines are made

• Because the SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus, is so contagious and widespread, many volunteers who got the vaccine were exposed to the virus, and with so many exposures, the trials took a

shorter time to see if the vaccine worked.

• Companies began manufacturing vaccines ahead of their authorization or approval so some supplies would be ready if authorization occurred.

\*You cannot get COVID-19 from any of the vaccines. The COVID-19 vaccines do not contain the virus.

Every person needs to decide to be vaccinated or not, as well as what safety measures to use to protect him / herself and others from illness. Please make educated decisions regarding both the Influenza and Covid vaccines. Unfortunately, a fully vaccinated person is able to get Covid and pass it along to another person, especially one not vaccinated. There are mild cases and there are deadly cases, with vaccinated persons less like to become seriously ill or die. Flu cases were less last year because of the measures we were taking to stay safe with Covid, not because the flu is no longer a threat.

The "big picture" is that hospitals are filling up and the numbers of medical staff in them is having difficulty in providing adequate care. Children are now becoming seriously ill. Persons needing emergency care, surgeries and other treatments are put on hold to care for the sickest among us. We each need to pray for guidance and each do our part for our own safety and the well-being of others.

I trust that God will guide each of you to make educated and reasonable decisions regarding your health and that of the people in your life. Coping with this pandemic will be part of our lives until there are no further cases. We need to stick together and help each other during tough times, both mentally and physically, because we know doing the right thing is not always the easiest.

Blessings, Sherryl Mahrer, RN

# STEWARDSHIP

**JULIE NIELSEN** 



It is hard to believe another summer has come and gone. It is now time for the fall season to begin. That means a new church school

and confirmation year, it also means the Stewardship campaign for 2022 has started. The Stewardship Team has a new and exciting campaign this year. It will start Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup> going thru November 21<sup>st</sup>. Watch for the table in the narthex, check it out. Remember Stewardship is not just about giving money, it is about the giving of your time, such as volunteering to answer the phones, act as host or hostess of fellowship café, be lector, greet, usher or kitchen help on a Sunday after church. Talent is being a song leader, or you may have other talents that the church may need from time to time.

I hope everybody will take the time to check out our table.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)

Julie Nielsen Stewardship Chair

# EDUCATION

Officially Happy Fall to everyone!

As we get back into the swing of things, I hope you have church on your list. Summers can always present many activities that can take us away from our Sunday morning routines; I find myself not as present as usual during the busy, summer months. However, it's time to get refocused and be where I belong at nine o'clock on a Sunday morning.



#### AMANDA SAELENS

Education for all is back up and running. The adult forum is held every Sunday morning before service at eight in the conference room. All are welcome, so please don't be shy. Sunday School is offered on both Sundays and Wednesdays. If you don't have your kiddos signed up, it's not too late. We would love to have them.

We would also love to see you at our Education meetings! They are the first Sunday of every month after the church service. We are always looking for more ideas.

Amanda



It is so wonderful to have Confirmation back in full swing! Parents please sign your youth up for acolyting and Wednesday meals. You can do this by Signup Genius or by contacting Shawna. These are important tasks that need our youth/families. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

There are some great events happening for our youth this month!

October 30th 9th grade pictures @ 10 am and rehearsal

October 30th Trunk and Treat - We need many hands to make this a fun and safe event. Please

watch for details and a sign up sheet for trunks and candy collecting. October 31st Affirmation of Baptism service (9th grade confirmands) @10:45a- We have 4-5 confirmands publicly affirming their faith! So

AMAZING!!!

Parents please come and join our monthly meetings to discuss youth events. We would love to hear your ideas. We have a monthly meeting the first Sunday of the month right after service. You do not need to commit to every month. Our next meeting is Sunday October 3rd @10 am. 

Blessings, Margaret

#### **MARGARET BAUER**



# MSSIONS

Mission Meeting Notes 9/12/21

Attendees: Karen B., Karyn H., Linda R., Connie A.

Thank you to your incredible generosity over the last 4 months. Our focus in giving is at the Global level.



**RONDA FENLON** 

The Team has approved the following gifts with a global impact:

\$551.46 to DR's without Borders

\$551.46 to Camp Penuel Cost Rica

\$500 to the Shroyer Family

\$3,145 to Jim W. (\$970 from the Meatball dinner and \$2,175 donated direct to Jim via our mission envelopes.

Mission dollars received September through December will be allocated to a US domestic Mission(s).

Blessings, Ronda

### **October Mission Spotlight**

### Camp Penuel Costa Rica

A free Christian camp for children in need

We are a free multi-purpose camp focused on reaching children in need. **Our vision** is to bring the gospel of Jesus's love to children throughout Costa Rica and beyond.

# The Dragonfly Project

The Dragonfly Project is a program designed to give comfort to grieving families through cards imprinted with a dragonfly. The cards can be colored and show that the Lord is with grieving families and gives hope through the dragonfly gospel analogy. This project was enthusiastically received when we distributed the gift bags in bulk to each ministry. For more info, please visit <a href="https://www.dragonflyproject.org">www.dragonflyproject.org</a>.

## The Camp Penuel Farm

# The Blue Banner is Flying High

Costa Rica recognizes farms, schools and community organizations that are consciously working to conserve and preserve the environment. This is done through the Blue Banner program.

We recently started using an above-ground sheltered garden in Maraton to provide wonderful fresh greens for our campers and our neighbors. In addition, we built an ecofriendly nature trail for campers and visitors and a swimming hole for the children!!

We give glory to God for the Blue Banner Farm designation, and we will continue to work hard to be front-runners in promoting reasonable use of resources and protecting our Lord Jesus' beautiful creation.

#### **Our Camps**

Our camps are evangelistic and free of charge. This means no cost to the campers or their families. The kids stay in dorms, eat meals with the whole group, and have many fun activities. We sing songs, play games, and take part in plays, showing the campers the love of Jesus.

We sow the seed of the Gospel in the children's hearts, and we trust God that it will take root and grow in them. (Isaiah 55:10-11)

January/July Children's Camps

This is the main camping experience we offer. These camps are designed for children ages 7-11 with an emphasis on bringing children from shanty towns and impoverished areas.

We receive groups of 50 or 60 children with their adult leaders for 3 days of outdoor fun, making new friends, and learning about the love of Jesus. These camps are offered the entire month of January and the first 2 weeks of July.

Children enjoy a variety of outdoor activities and indoor games and crafts. Excellent meals are provided and shared by all. Evening activities include worship time, Christian dramas, and bonfires.

These camps help children know Jesus as their personal Savior.



As you've seen in the Giving/Expenses Graph included in the Bulletin each month, our finances this year are still on track. Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support!

We have just completed reviewing bids for our printer/copier needs and the new contract will save us \$30,000 over the five-year term. John Hass, Property Chair and Dennis Wanless, Finance Chair, have agreed to sponsor the Technology Group led by Bruce Yurich to develop and plan (requirements, timeline and budget needs) for the future. This group will meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.. The next Finance Committee meeting will be Thursday, October 14th at 7 pm.

**DENNIS WANLESS** 



Date

#### **Birthdays** Date **Baptism Anniversary** Martin Lynn Jerry Oldenburg Donna Bahr Gary Grell Wayne Olson **Kay Yates** Jo Hennen Ellie Sand Ellie Sand Lucas Sand Bruce Hooker James Englund 3 **David Jaques** Carol Fleischer **Barry Smith** Steve Anderson 5 **Bruce Yurich** Monica Petersen Tyler Jensen Amanda Hanson Nate Hanson Conrad Huge 7 Blaine Wald Karyn Hansen **Ernie Englund** Brandy Engren Jean Englund Karen Baker 11 Finn Netzer Judy Carolan 8 Marcia Johnson Charles Larson 12 Jack Bauer Logan Wynne 14 Olivia Larson 18 Mackenzie Larson 10 Kaitlin Bender 19 Tammy Dufeck Marcia Westover Ava Nelson Tom Fornberg Sophia Ramacher 11 20 LeAnn Snidarich John Sonterre 21 Addy Lewerenz Madison Yurich 12 24 Catie Dufeck Jeffrey Engler 25 14 Jenny Boniarczyk Bruce Jernell 26 **Curtis Strand** Aaliyah Monroe 27 **Duane Oberg** 28 Cierra Larsen Ariana Browen Lucus Anderson 29 William Rowe 31 Scarlett Spike Kent Eittreim 21 Julie Nielsen Ron Selix Date **Anniversary** 24 Alyvia Hepp Larry & Jeannine Anderson 25 Margaret McBride & Barry Les Rowe Smith 27 5 Jason Sonterre 11 Lori & Shane Wald **Peyton Stanius** Harley & Madge Lillemoen 13 28 Jeremy Hill Lance & Jennifer Jensen Sophia Magaard 14 **Justin & Taylor Overby Charlotte Sonterre** 16 Tom & Teresa Hanson 29 Nicole Nelson Heather & Mark Townswick 30

**Becky Agranoff** 



# A.A. Step By Step

# Step Ten

Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

Step Ten is Steps Four through Nine applied daily. I have heard others refer to Steps Ten through Twelve as 'maintenance steps'. I call them growth steps. No matter how old I get, these last three steps let me continue to challenge myself. Sometimes the healthiest thing I can do for myself is to admit I'm not perfect.

One of the most quoted lines in the AA Big Book appears on the discussion on Step Ten: "We are not cured of alcoholism. What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition". It is no easy task to change the behavior and thinking of a lifetime, even when I want to change. The Tenth Step allows me to be aware of sliding back into faulty thinking. I don't have to beat myself up over it. I just need to do what I can to make it right.

The Tenth Step askes us to 'promptly' admit we are wrong. A prompt admission is more effective than a delayed one in helping us acknowledge our negative behavior and to change it. A prompt admission is also more effective in defusing the anger that our inappropriate behavior has caused others. An essential part of understanding the amend process is to recognize that complete amend includes NOT repeating the same behavior.

Step Ten is a combination of taking an inventory regularly and promptly admitting when we are wrong. Some of us are tempted to ignore the inventory part and go right to the admitting we were wrong part. We are not working the Tenth Step unless we are doing both and probably will continue to make the same mistakes unless we work the step the way it was designed. We must work Step Ten daily till it becomes a habit.

Our personal inventory at the end of the day is a form of balance sheet. That means we review not only what we did wrong during the day but what we did right. When we take inventory we will want to look for many things. We can search out feelings that need our attention. We can look for low self-esteem creeping back in, but the critical part of our inventory is what we are doing right and on all the good around us.

The AA Twelve and Twelve suggests, when in doubt (about what to do) we can always pause, saying "Not my will, but Thine be done".

Take time for prayer and meditation. We do this Step to stay on track, not to punish ourselves or be under constant criticism. The Tenth Step is a daily application of the Golden Rule: Treat others as you would like to be treated.

Courage to Change How It Works

AA Twelve and Twelve

# Long Lake Lutheran Church

<sup>37</sup>He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'
 <sup>38</sup>This is the greatest and first commandment.
 <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'
 <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."
 Matthew 22: 37-40

Long Lake Lutheran Church 3921 277th Ave NW Isanti, MN 55040