

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS

JANUARY * FEBRUARY * MARCH

2025

Mary, Did You Know?

Mary did you know

That your baby boy will one day walk on water?

Mary did you know

That your baby boy will save our sons and daughters?

Did you know

That your baby boy has come to make you new?

This child that you've delivered

Will soon deliver you

Mary did you know

That your baby boy is Lord of all creation?

Mary did you know

That your baby boy will one day rule the nations?

Did you know

That your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?

This sleeping child you're holding

Is the Great I Am

Oh, Mary, did you know?

Lyrics © Warner Chappell Music, Inc., CAPITOL
CHRISTIAN MUSIC GROUP

As I sit to compose this section of the Mission Newsletter, this beloved song has been repeatedly playing in my head, as it has for several weeks. Hundreds of artists have recorded versions of Mark Lowery's song, but two of my favorite recordings are from Bill Gaither, who sang it with the Gaither Vocal Band, and Kathy Mattea. The message is so tender and encouraging for us as we await the birth of Jesus in Advent and then await His second coming.

Meanwhile, here on earth we are tasked with upholding the command to love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves. How has LGPC have been loving our neighbors lately? We support about 20 mission partners locally and globally. Following is just a snapshot of what has happened in the last few months.

Did you know?...

...that the annual collection for Care and Share at Christmas raises enough money to purchase **food for 100 families at Christmas** and then **12 families every month**? This Ministry has been active and grown over the last 40 years. We are always looking for more volunteers for this effort -- drivers and packers.

...that the recipient of our World Communion Sunday collection was Christian Mission to Gaza? **Over \$8500.00 was collected** and sent to the organization to help alleviate suffering in that devastated region.

...that a small, dedicated crew of 6-8 individuals from our church **prepare and serve a monthly meal** to the women and children of Shepherd's Door? Another team does the same thing for the downtown Salvation Army shelter.

More volunteers are welcome!

...that **62 families** were served with **gifts for 142 children** by your efforts in partnership with Angel Tree Ministry?

...that we donated \$5000 to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program to support **relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton**, and \$10,000 to **food relief in Ukraine**?

...that a new Senegal GoTeam has been formed to travel in the next few months to support the efforts of our three partners there? Among other things, they will visit the school at Beer Sheba, for which **you gave over \$30,000 last year to build a new classroom!**

...that we continue to **support two refugee families from Afghanistan** as they create new lives here in the Portland Metro area?

And this is just a sampling of recent happenings. God bless and keep you as you remember our Mission partners in prayer. There are Mission booklets in the gathering area that list each of the ministries. Please contact Missions Program Assistant, Kristi Werner if you are interested in volunteering with one of the ministries. Help is always needed. Won't you be the hands and feet of our Lord as we wait for our Lord to return again?

Blessings,
Susie Crowell
Elder of Missions



LAKE GROVE
Real. Active. Faith.

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS

JANUARY * FEBRUARY * MARCH

2025

BE A PART OF GOD'S KINGDOM

We are called to serve. In Mark 10:45 Jesus himself said *"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"*. Meaning, rather than seeking to have your needs met, look for ways that you can minister to the needs of others. In 1 Peter 4:10 Peter writes *"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms"*. Everyone has gifts given to them from God, find yours and use it to help establish the Kingdom of God.

We are at a crossroads with many of our ministry partners. We continually find our lives busier with each passing day. And sadly, that means that many of our existing ministries are not receiving the support that they so desperately need from us here at LGPC. Not only do these ministries need our financial support but they also need our time and talents. And if we do not find a way to share our time with many of our various ministry partners we may need to step back and evaluate if these ministries are meant to continue as a part of our LGPC Legacy in Missions. As much as we would hate to see this happen, sometimes that is just the natural progression. While we wholeheartedly support our overseas ministry partners we also, need to remember to embrace and circle around our local ministry partners as well. If you would like to share your time and talents with any of the ministries that we serve please contact Kristi Werner at kristi@lakegrovepres.org. or by calling (503) 636-5656 ext. 114.

- Care and Share—Food delivery on the third Saturday of each month in addition to shoppers the day/night before.
- Love INC—In need of a Church Liaison to assist with sharing the Love of Christ in a meaningful way through our time and talents by recruiting volunteers within LGPC to help connect with families in need in our area of LO.
- Manna Ministry—Gleaning food from several grocery stores in the LO area and delivering them to the Tualatin Food Pantry.
- Pink Eraser—LGPC point of contact for the teachers and counselors and River Grove Elementary School.
- Woodburn Learning Center—Liaison to the pre-school.
- Shepherd's Door—Monthly volunteers needed to help prepare and serve a meal.
- Lake Oswego Transitional Shelter Ministry (LOTSM) - Board Members, assistance with apartment maintenance, and supporting the clients they serve.

Additional volunteers, supporters and prayer are always welcome for the following ministries as well:

Family Promise * Portland Rescue Mission
Salvation Army West * Agros
Salaam International * WaterAfrica
YD Adventures * Presbyterian Urban Network
Presbytery of the Cascades
Senegal Ministries * World Vision

Joshua 24:15 But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.



LAKE GROVE

Real. Active. Faith.

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS

JANUARY * FEBRUARY * MARCH

2025

2025 MISSION GOTEAM SPOTLIGHTS

Since 2013, following a fruitful 19 year relationship with World Vision in Senegal, we have partnered with 3 offshoot ministries.

Senegal

- The “Way of Righteousness” (Wolof: *Yoonu Njub*) ministry, led by Malick and Feluine Fall. This church-based ministry runs a Christian school for girls, helps oppressed Muslim boys, visits prisoners, offers retreats, and has a radio ministry, always with the goal of sharing the Gospel with the Wolof people of Senegal.
- We continue to support Beer Sheba, a ministry of approximately 30 interns receiving agricultural training and Christian discipleship, which they take back to their communities.
- We also support long-time associate Leopold Diouf who works with Development Associates International (DAI). He visits the former “Lake Grove Land” villages to share the Good News of Jesus.

We are excited to be sending a well rounded team of staff and LGPC Members to Senegal this February to visit these three ministries as we continue to build relationships and share the gospel with the people of Senegal. Please be in prayer for our team as they prepare to depart near the end of February.



Agros is a Christian development organization that works to end generational poverty in Central America through land ownership, market-let agriculture, health and well being, financial empowerment, and education. Since 2010 Lake Grove has supported Agros by sending mission teams, providing financial donations, and praying for Agros families and staff.



We are sending a GoTeam to Nicaragua from May 10th-17th to Nicaragua. Do you feel led to visit this ministry? Are you willing to advocate and support this ministry for a minimum of two years? If so please contact Laura Fuller at laura@lakegrovepres.org for more information.



PRAY FOR OUR 2025 MISSION PARTNERS

Agros * Afghan Refugee Families * Care & Share * Family Promise * Lake Oswego Transitional Shelter Ministry (LOTSM)
Love INC * Manna Ministry * Pink Eraser * Portland Rescue Mission Presbyterian Urban Network (PUN) * Salaam International
* Salvation Army West * Senegal Ministries * Shepherd’s Door * Water Africa * Woodburn Ministries
World Vision * YD Adventures
Providing Food—Water—Shelter to “the least of these”



LAKE GROVE

Real. Active. Faith.

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS

JANUARY * FEBRUARY * MARCH

2025

2024 ANGEL TREE UPDATE

December 1st was the culmination of a lot of hard work and love for those that the Angel Tree Ministry serves. Under the direction of Jean Brunson and Heather Reagan 62 families (142 children) were blessed by the purchase of gifts for children of incarcerated parents. You as a congregation made it happen and for that we are so thankful for your continued generosity to those who are less fortunate!



2024 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CARE AND SHARE

Saturday, December 21st was the date of the annual Care and Share Holiday Food Box distribution. Your generosity and willingness to help allowed the delivery of food boxes to 100 families who face food insecurity in Clackamas County.

But the need doesn't end with the holiday season. Care and Share is in desperate need of volunteers all year long to allow us to sustain this ministry! Your monetary contributions are needed ... but we also need your time as well. Can you help deliver food once a month or once every other month? Can you assist with monthly shopping? Please consider volunteering to ensure the continuation of this vital ministry. For more information please contact Lindsey Castrey at (541) 515-9897.



Matthew 25:35-36 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

Matthew 25:40 "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."



LAKE GROVE

Real. Active. Faith.

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS

JANUARY * FEBRUARY * MARCH

2025

WORLD COMMUNION SPECIAL OFFERING UPDATE

On Sunday, October 6th we celebrated World Communion Sunday by collecting a special offering to benefit the Christian Mission to Gaza. This organization provides emergency relief to families living in Gaza who are impacted by the ongoing war. With your generous contributions we were able to send \$10,264.48 to support the ongoing relief efforts to the most vulnerable families in Gaza in the name of Christ.

REVEREND JAN DUS VISIT

On Sunday, December 1st we had the opportunity to welcome the Reverend Jan Dus to LGPC. Rev. Dus is a Presbyterian pastor raising support and increasing awareness of the current humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable people in Ukraine. Rev. Dus is a co-founder of a Christian organization called Camino and is a sponsored ministry of the Presbyterian Foundation. LGPC was able to sent \$10,000 for direct relief in Kharkiv & Kherson. For more information on the Camino Ministry please visit: <https://www.camino-cu.org/en/>



CHRISTMAS EVE SPECIAL OFFERING UPDATE

Thank you for your generosity to the children of Liberia, West Africa that are impacted by the Each Child Counts Foundation. With your help we were able to raise \$14,674.25 to support the students and help to continue to provide a free education to all who attend the school! Thank you to all of you who were able to donate your time and money for this worthwhile cause!



LAKE GROVE

Real. Active. Faith.

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS

JANUARY * FEBRUARY * MARCH

2025

2025 MISSION FAIR—SAVE THE DATE

The date has been set for the 2025 Mission Fair. Have you felt a calling to be a part of something big? Do you want to share the Gospel in a way that is meaningful and touches those in need?

If so join us at our 2025 Mission Fair scheduled for Sunday, March 2, 2025 in the Fellowship Hall following services from 10:30am-12:00pm. Come and learn how the different ministries supported by Lake Grove Presbyterian Church serve those in the Portland area and beyond by providing food, water, and shelter in addition to the love of Christ to those that they serve!



Romans 10: 14-15 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

2025 SENEGAL GOTEAM

Please be in prayer as our 2025 Senegal GoTeam is preparing to travel to Senegal at the end of February to visit our three Ministry Partners that we work with in Senegal. Pray as each of these team members work toward earning support to fund this trip. Also, pray for the safe travel of our team. We are excited to see how the Lord will move in the lives of these team members and the people that they come into contact with!



Team pictured L to R: Pastor Susan Graham, Heather Reagan, Julie Strong, Dave Strong, LuAnn Yocky, Julie Russell, Kyle Swanson, and Craig Lockwood.



LAKE GROVE

Real. Active. Faith.

PASTOR GRAIG FLACH

EMAIL: GRAIG@LAKEGROVEPRES.ORG

KRISTI WERNER, PROGRAM ASSISTANT, MISSIONS

KRISTI@LAKEGROVEPRES.ORG