

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS

APRIL * MAY * JUNE

2024

Dear LGPC Family and Mission Friends,

Most of our Mission Partners are in the greater Portland area. But we retain a few key relationships internationally, including in AFRICA. I thank God for a congregation willing to go “wherever God leads”...even to the “ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

Our international relationships include friends in Senegal doing meaningful agricultural work, “saving the earth”-type innovation, as well as discipling Muslim neighbors. Two of these partners visited in February: Eric and Heesuk Toumieux. Their presentation was so inspiring that we decided to come alongside them as they expand their school at Beer Sheba. Please watch for the Pentecost Special Offering and the Sanctuary Choir concert “Illuminare” to help us raise \$25,000 for this project.

In April Leopold Diouf, a friend of this congregation for almost 25 years, visited and helped us think about a GoTeam trip to Senegal in February, 2025. Watch for more information in the fall...volunteering to serve with our mission partners in St. Louis, Senegal, as well as the oasis in the Senegalese desert, Beer Sheba.



If you would like to receive information regarding any of our Ministry Partners please contact Kristi Werner at kristi@lakegrovepres.org or call at (503) 210-6074

Finally, we recently received an update related to this iconic photo from 2004: young Dodo Sindaza from Siabaswi Village near Sinazongwe, Zambia, expressing his appreciation of clean water from the “Paul Sherman Water Pump”. Twenty years later, Dodo has grown up to be a healthy young man, and we received pictures from his pastor.



We thank God for the life-giving benefits of clean water! Join us for the Walk4Water May 11th to help other young Zambians like Dodo (see info later in this letter).

Grateful to be part of a missional congregation,
Pastor Graig



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ONGOING PARTNERSHIP – FAMILY PROMISE OF TUALATIN VALLEY AND LAKE GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Lake Grove Presbyterian Church and Family Promise of Tualatin Valley (FPTV) have enjoyed a multi-year, evolving partnership. Working to create a future where every family in transition in our community has a home, a livelihood, and a chance to build a stable and connected life, FPTV expects to add a full kitchen to its newly acquired hotel that houses up to 70 local families! At 'Bridge to Home' families in transition can count on a home cooked dinner every night.

In 2023, FPTV asked its partner churches to consider allowing use of their kitchens by Chef Eric Posada while its own in-house kitchen was under construction. Lake Grove said yes! Beginning last October, Chef Eric and a team of volunteers have been creating meals for families in our Lake Grove kitchen eight times a month, amounting to over 3,500 individual meals to date. A culinary school graduate and experienced chef, Eric creates menus on short notice based on donations. Drawn professionally to Family Promise's mission, Eric wants to make a difference in family's lives and is regularly rewarded by guests' expression of thanks for the meals he provides. He believes that without the use of donated kitchen space the guest experience at Bridge to Home would be very different, and he is grateful for Lake Grove's support.



Come cook, have fun, and learn from Chef Eric!

Contact Gina at gina@familypromiseoftv.org.

For more information on Family Promise visit <https://www.familypromiseoftv.org>



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LAKE OSWEGO TRANSITIONAL SHELTER MINISTRY (LOTSM)

LOTSM is a transitional shelter for homeless families in Clackamas County. Providing temporary housing for 3-6 months as the families work with Clackamas County Case Managers to move to more permanent housing. Over the last 18 months your support has helped eight families transition from homelessness to permanent housing. Included in these eight families are nine children from ages 2 years to 15 years old. These children now have warm beds, a healthy diet, and access to local schools. Through your prayers and support LOTSM is helping one family at a time gain footing and entry into a stable future with permanent housing.



Volunteer Needs:

Family Team—Prepare apartments prior to new guests moving in by making beds and ensuring that the apartment is adequately supplied by purchasing bedding, linens, dry goods, or fresh food (all purchases are reimbursed). Visit families, providing a meal or home baked cookies, serve as a co-coordinator for a month contacting families to determine needs, provide transportation to a food pantry.

Communications Team—Writing a newsletter, sending emails, etc.

Finance Team—Working with the treasurer, creating budgets, writing grants, etc.

Maintenance Team—Assisting with small repairs, painting, minor plumbing issues etc.

For more information contact Terrie Andrews at (503) 781-1529



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MISSION PARTNER SPOTLIGHTS

Manna Ministries

Manna Ministries gleans mainly breads and baked goods daily from several local Lake Oswego grocery stores. These goods are then distributed to the Tualatin School Food Pantry. Manna's Leadership Team are members of LGPC.

In 2022 the food bank served 500 families each month. In 2023, that number has increased to 800 families that are served each month through the Tualatin School Food Pantry.

How can I become involved in Manna Ministries? Pray for those who do not have enough to eat! Pick up food items and deliver to the food pantry.



This is a fellowship of six small urban churches working together to minister effectively in inner city Portland. The pastors of these churches meet regularly to encourage one another and strategize about how to reach out to their communities with the message and love of Jesus Christ. Lake Grove sponsors a parish nurse (also a Presbyterian minister) to support these pastors and their congregations.



The Salvation Army West Women and Children's Shelter focuses on serving women and children who have a history of physical or mental abuse.

How can I become involved?

Meal Preparation—A group of volunteers meet monthly at the LGPC Kitchen to prepare casseroles to be served over the weekends when there are no staff on site to prepare meals.

Clothing donations—There is a clothing closet at the shelter to assist the women and children who often have nothing when they arrive at the shelter.

Cookie Baking—Volunteers are always needed to prepare freshly baked cookies that can be served to the residents.

For more information contact Jani Lockwood at janilockwood@gmail.com



PRAY FOR OUR 2024 MISSION PARTNERS

Agros * Afghan Refugee Families * Angel Tree Ministries * 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”



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AGROS GO TEAM VISITS GUATEMALA

In March, a team of seven from Lake Grove traveled to Guatemala to bear witness to the work of Agros, one of our international mission partners. We were sent to see, experience, and learn first hand all about the work Agros is doing in a northern region of the country, the Ixil. The Go Team met the Agros staff and heard about what motivates them in their work - resoundingly it is love for God and love for the people they serve.



Agros supports the Ixil people through a variety of initiatives: children receive health care through the cooperation of Agros, Save the Children and the Guatemalan Ministry of Health. Mothers of children experiencing malnutrition are supported in learning nutritious meal preparation using locally sourced food. Women are empowered to become entrepreneurs through a microloan program that allows a steady income, opportunities for their children to access education, and men to join their wives in business instead of living away from home much of the year as a migrant worker. We saw the smiles of the children as they played and learned in their preschool. Heard the pride and gratitude in the voices of the women as they shared how Agros' microloans have allowed them to begin enterprises that have literally changed their lives and the trajectory of their families. We saw the deep commitment the Agros staff has to the people and communities of the Ixil. We witnessed the life altering work of Agros in Guatemala - an organization motivated by their love of Christ.



Land. Hope. Life.

This is something everyone at Lake Grove has participated in bringing about, through prayers and financial gifts. Thank you for your support of this ministry and for your prayers while we were out of the country. It was a blessing for all!



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CENTENNIAL SERVICE PROJECT

On Sunday, March 17th the members of LGPC had the opportunity to join together to build 100 Hygiene Kits for the homeless community served by the Blanchet House. It was an amazing time of fellowship and service for all! Thank you for being a part of this LGPC Ministry!

Stay tuned for more opportunities to serve later this spring/summer!



BEER SHEBA UPDATE PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING

In February we were blessed with the presence of Eric & Heesuk Toumieux sharing updates about this wonderful oasis in the Sahel desert of Senegal. They shared exciting updates on their ministry and expressed a need for a new school room. This year for our annual Pentecost Offering we will be supporting this ministry in an attempt to build a school room! Will you join us in the cause? Together we can build a classroom!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Here is a list of upcoming opportunities:

- In 2023 over 100 children were sponsored by the members of LGPC. Are you interested in joining this group in sponsoring a child in Muchila? Or would you like the opportunity to sponsor another child? May 5th is your opportunity to be a part of this life changing process!
- May 5th meet Jessy Mahongo Samuyachi for a Q&A following the 9:30am Services in the Courtyard Room. Come hear about how God is working in Zambia through World Vision.
- May 11th Walk4Water at Foothills Park in Lake Oswego.
- May 19th—Pentecost Special Offering—Help us build a school room for the Beer Sheba Program. Let's help shine the light of God's love in Senegal!

Do you have a heart for volunteering? Have you wondered how to become more involved in the various ministries here at LGPC? We would love to talk to you and find the perfect fit for you!

For more information contact Kristi Werner at Phone: (503) 210-6074

E-Mail: kristi@lakegrovepres.org



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