

# MISSION OUTREACH NEWS

JULY \* AUGUST \* SEPTEMBER

2024

Dear LGPC Family and Mission Friends,

When I first became a Christian in 2011 the first passage that really resonated with me was Ephesians 2:8-10. How could God choose to save someone like me when there are so many others out there who deserve it more than myself. I struggled with that thought ... that is until I studied that passage more.

Not a lot of people know my past; but an explanation would be a young woman who spent a majority of her life working on her career in Hotel Sales while caring for a sick mother. In the same year after the loss of my Mom I lost the job that I had put 18 years of my life towards. Only to wonder ... now what? In the year following the passing of my mom I came to know the Lord and it was by His grace that I was saved. In 2013, I received an amazing part-time job as custodian in my church fellowship and another job with an organization that worked with individuals with developmental disabilities. In that time, the Lord took it upon Himself to repair a strained relationship with my Dad; and I became his caregiver while working these two jobs. Eventually, I moved towards full time work with South Coast Horizons to further my career and left my position at the church. In that time, I became my Dad's healthcare advocate as his health declined significantly over the next few year. Two days before Christmas in 2017 at the age of 46; I officially became an "orphan".

I struggled with the "what's next" of life. What is God's purpose for me? Why am I even here? I never had a family of my own. If my purpose was to care for my ailing parents what am I supposed to do now? Then in my daily Bible reading I came across this passage once again.



*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

*Ephesians 2:8-10*

In that moment, I realized that God did have a plan for me and I just needed to stop and listen for that plan. Over the next few years I immersed myself in my work and showing the love of God to the Staff and Clients that I came in contact with on a daily basis. I planned events for our single women in my church fellowship and I became more involved in Bible Study groups.

God is good all the time and we just have to trust in his timing! Four years after the loss of my Dad God brought the man he set aside for me into my life. And not only that ... he provided me a family of my own that included two stepsons and 5 grandchildren! Then God provided me with my dream job ... a job that allows me to serve Him and you in ministry! Again, God is so good!

As I come up on the two year anniversary of my marriage and my time at LGPC; I am so thankful for all that God has provided in my life and I know that he is not done with me yet! We never know where God will put us in ministry ... sometimes we just need to be quiet and listen for that small whisper! I for one am thankful for that whisper and I am so thankful to be able to work with all of you in ministry here at LGPC!



Serving Together in Christ,

Kristi Werner



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## 2024 WALK4WATER EVENT

On Saturday, May 11th over 100 participants gathered together at Foothills Park in Lake Oswego to work together to end the long walk and bring water and sanitation to rural areas in Zambia! Participants gathered together to hear more about the work in this area from Jessy Mahongo Samuyachi and enjoyed a beautiful stroll down the streets of Lake Oswego to bring awareness for the need for clean water for the citizens of Zambia. For more information or to learn how you can become involved go to [www.waterafrika.org](http://www.waterafrika.org)!

Photo Credit: Kevin Cummings



Save the Date—2024 Wine2Water Event  
Saturday, September 14th  
at Monte Ferro Winery in Lake Oswego



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## AGROS HOUSE PARTY

Even an “atmospheric river” couldn’t dampen the warmth and light of a recent gathering at the Anderson’s house to celebrate Lake Grove’s support of Agros International on Sunday, June 2nd. Guests had the rare privilege of hearing the Agros story from the one who wrote the book on Agros. Skip Li shared the origin story of Agros and some of the key historical moments over the past 40 years that have made Agros International the ministry that it is today. Agros has become the “most effective land reform movement on the planet” and they are just getting started. The road ahead for Agros has them reaching further and going deeper than ever before! Agros has a goal of transforming 50,000 lives by their 50th anniversary in 2034!

You are making an impact in Central America!



**A Huge Thank You to Dr. Brad Sievert and his Staff at Westlake Family Dentistry for their care, compassion, and willingness to help a member of one of our Ministry Partners!**



## LAST CALL FOR CHILD SPONSORSHIP

In April 2023 Lake Grove Members were “chosen” by over 100 children in Muchila, Zambia. This year in celebration of Lake Groves 100th year we again gave the members the opportunity to join in the excitement of being a part of this vital ministry in Muchila. Our goal was to sponsor another 100 children in this region of Zambia. While it was a lofty goal, in May, 24 families chose to sponsor children in this region. The time has come to send the remaining 76 packets back to World Vision. Before doing so we are giving you one more opportunity to prayerfully consider sponsoring a child in this area!

If you are interested in learning more about child sponsorship please contact Kristi at (503) 210-6074.



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## MISSION PARTNER SPOTLIGHTS

### Afghan

### Refugee

### Families

In the aftermath of the US withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021 our Mission Outreach team undertook to welcome an Afghan family to Oregon. Working with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, we ended up with two families. Thanks to the generosity of the Lake Grove family we were able to provide all the needed materials to get these families moved into their homes.

This is a long term project with the goal of these families to become self-sustaining and self-sufficient. As the opportunity arises Lake Grove would like to continue this vital ministry as more refugee families are fleeing their homeland due to humanitarian crises that occur throughout the world.

We are always seeking more people to assist with building relationships and integrating these families into our local community.

*For more information contact Kristi Werner at 503-210-6074*



### Salaam

### International

Lake Grove has partnered with David and Jen Williams for many years. Their ministry is based in the Middle East in Jordan near the Syrian Border. David visits dwellings to share the good news of the Gospel with as many members of the family as possible. In a typical year David visits several times around 100 families each one consisting of 6-12 members. These people also have friends and family members who are impacted so this ministry could possibly impact up to 1,000 people each year!

Jen teaches English to students from Jordan, Syria, China, Iraq, Egypt, Yemen, and elsewhere. At any given time she has over 200 students and several hundred students waiting for the opportunity. Some of these students are moving to higher levels of proficiency over 3 or 4 years or even more.

*For more information contact Pastor Graig Flach at (503) 636-5656 ext. 113*



### 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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## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Lake Grove Presbyterian Church has had a long history of service in the Lake Oswego and greater Portland areas, LGPC offers a variety of ministry opportunities whether you would prefer to serve locally or globally. Some of our local ministries that are always in need of volunteers are:

- Care and Share
- Family Promise of Tualatin Valley
- Love INC of Clackamas County
- Manna Ministry
- Pink Eraser
- Portland Rescue Mission (various opportunities available)
- Salvation Army West Women and Children's Shelter
- Woodburn
- Afghan refugee families

We understand that time is valuable and you can choose to help as much or as little as you can. But if we all just give a little bit of time just think of the impact that we can make on the Portland area by showing the love of Christ to our neighbors and community! You can choose to help individually or come as a family!

How can you help make a difference in the lives of others in our area? For more information on the various ministry partners that LGPC serves contact Kristi Werner at (503) 210-6074 or by email at [kristi@lakegrovepres.org](mailto:kristi@lakegrovepres.org).

## SAVE THE DATE

Our next Mission Fair is scheduled for Sunday, February 2, 2025.

More information to be sent out in the 4th Quarter 2024!



Do you feel led to serve in the mission field? Have you been touched by what our Senegal Partners have shared with us? We are considering sending a Go Team to Senegal in early 2025. If you are interested in being a part of this team please contact Pastor Graig at [grraig@lakegrovepres.org](mailto:grraig@lakegrovepres.org).



## PENTECOST

### OFFERING UPDATE

We did it!!!! Thanks to you we reached our goal plus a little extra! Originally, our goal was \$25,000; but thanks to your generous support; we raised over \$30,000 for the Torchbearers School! Because of your generosity a classroom will be built and furnished, and school children will receive much needed education they will be shown the love of Christ is a very tangible way!

## PINK ERASER

### SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

This summer we once again have the opportunity to fill the crucial need of 18 families in the Lake Oswego area who rely on a little extra assistance through the summer months due to food insecurity. Look for an update in our next newsletter on this vital ministry.

Are you looking for a ministry to be a part of? If you have a heart for children and want to help make a difference in their lives or if you would like to assist with the 6-week summer lunch program please contact Kristi Werner at [Kristi@lakegrovepres.org](mailto:Kristi@lakegrovepres.org) for more information.

With the increased cost of food this year donations are gladly accepted to ensure the continuation of this vital ministry here in Lake Oswego!

## MISSION TRIP TO SENEGAL



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## CENTENNIAL SERVICE PROJECT

Members of Hope and Joy Choir (and some helpful parents) packed 83 lunches to drop off at Blanchet House last month. These lunches will be given to unhoused folks in Portland. The mission of Blanchet House is to serve anyone who comes to their doors because everyone deserves dignity, hope and community. We couldn't agree more with those beliefs and we were proud to provide these meals to those in need.



**Drive Away Hunger  
Portland Rescue Mission**

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

## PORTLAND RESCUE MISSION DRIVE AWAY HUNGER

The Portland Rescue Mission has an immediate need that you can help with! Do you have a vehicle sitting around that you no longer have a use for? Car donations to the Portland Rescue Mission offer vocational training to guests as they learn how to repair cars to be sold. In turn, these vehicles are then sold to help fund meals at the mission.

Approximately 580 meals are provided by the sale of just one vehicle. Each year the PRM serves approximately 261,358 meals to guests who walk through their doors! Sadly, the Drive Away Hunger Ministry is at risk due to changes to tax benefits that individual donors receive.

Those of us in the body of Christ can help save this vital ministry. If you have a vehicle taking up space or know of anyone who needs to get rid of an extra vehicle you can contact the Portland Rescue Mission at <https://driveawayhunger.org>



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