



THE SENDING PLACE

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"LAMBS"

SENDING PLACE NEWS!

FIRST MISSION TEAM: The first Mission Team trained by "The Sending Place" is almost finished with its training, and is ready to go! Laura Biggs, Lorna Buechler, Jamie Deuel, Deborah Prettyman and Cindy Woodrum will be leaving on Memorial Day, May 27. If any of you can make it that morning at 8:00 am, you are welcome to come to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 8701 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Elk Grove, CA, for the team's official "send-off." A brief worship service with Holy Communion, plus special prayers for the team and the people they will contact will be done. The team will leave around 8:30 am, and head for the San Francisco Airport. Then they fly to Chicago, where they will join up with others working through "East European Missions Network," then on to Frankfurt, Germany, then to St. Petersburg, Russia. Next they travel by land to Petrozavodsk, Russia, where they will teach English to teenagers. They will be using the Bible, especially Luke 15, to teach English! Please pray that many Russian teens will come to know the Lord. And a special "thank you" to all of you who donated the money necessary to make this trip happen! You are great Senders!

INFORMATION NIGHT: On Friday, May 24 at 7:00 pm, Jay and Sarah Gerhart will be leading an information meeting for a possible short-term mission trip to the nation of South Africa which they want to host in August, 2003. The meeting will also be at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Elk Grove, CA. The Gerhart's have served the Lord in South Africa for the past 3 years, with the organization, "O. C. International." They are especially recruiting those who can help teach the Gospel, as in Vacation Bible School, and they are looking for business people who can teach the South Africans how to do business, to make a living.

OUR FIRST FUND-RAISING DEADLINE IS APPROACHING! To close escrow in July on the 300 acre parcel near Redding, California, we need \$575,000 to pay for the entire property, or \$150,000 for the down payment. We do not want to let this incredible purchase get away. Some members of the Board of Directors have literally driven thousands of miles all around the western states, looking for just the right piece of property. This is without a doubt the best one we have seen! Thank you to those who

have already contributed, and we certainly appreciate all the help any of you can give to make sure this purchase is done. Make all checks out to "The Sending Place," and please pray for this need.

SPONSORING CHURCHES: We are still encouraging Lutheran congregations to become "sponsors" of "The Sending Place." To become an official sponsor, congregations promise to make four commitments:

- 1) To pray regularly for the staff, students, missionaries and facilities of "The Sending Place."
- 2) To financially support the work of "The Sending Place."
- 3) To encourage members of their congregation to become missionaries, willing to be trained and sent by "The Sending Place."
- 4) To consider themselves to be "The Senders" of the missionaries who are trained and sent by "The Sending Place."

Forms are available to be filled out. Just phone or e-mail us to receive the form.

A TIME TO REJOICE! As the process continues through the Shasta County Department of Resource Management Planning Division, we have just received the good news that NO road blocks have so far emerged! Indian tribes found no artifacts of concern, and no other agencies have brought forth any big problems! So the re-zone of the property and the use permit process are moving forward just fine so far. Again, thanks for your prayers, and continue them on this issue.

CONVENTION NEWS: Members of the Board of Directors have been received very well at the conferences and conventions of The LCMS and The ELCA they have been attending! In June, Pastor Darrel Deuel will speak to The AALC Convention in St. Paul, MN, and lead a workshop on "The Sending Place." Please continue to pray that Lutherans all over the country will catch the fire of missions, and support this God-sized project of sending more than 100 missionaries per year through "The Sending Place."

LOOKING AHEAD: If we are able to close escrow on the property, we are planning "A Service of Praise and Thanksgiving" on Saturday, September 14 at noon! A future newsletter will have a map to the property. Save that date, so you can join us for that first service at the future site of "The Sending Place"!

**PLEASE KEEP
"THE SENDING PLACE"
IN YOUR PRAYERS**

