

THE GOOD NEWS



"LAMBS"

"LUTHERANS AT MISSION BODY AND SOUL INC." (LAMBS)

Is a nonprofit corporation organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3), Internal Revenue code. Also known as "The Sending Place". We exist for the purpose of training and sending Christian missionaries to proclaim Jesus as Lord to the ends of the earth.

Grant-Writing Workshop

"The Sending Place" recently was one of the hosts of a Grant-Writing Workshop put on at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Elk Grove, California by Zocklein Associates. From that two day workshop, 19 people have committed to working seriously on raising funds for the current ministry and future construction of the facility of "The Sending Place!" Please pray for their ongoing success, so we can reach our full potential.

JOIN US ON ONE OF THESE MISSION TRIPS IN 2004

As training continues for our short-term mission trip to Guatemala in March, we are looking ahead to the rest of 2004. Numerous short-term mission trips are scheduled! Training will begin in January at Elk Grove, California and Minneapolis, Minnesota. We are also able to work with you from a distance, if you live too far from either of those cities to attend the on-site training. We already have dozens of people from around the country planning to go on one or more of these trips. Remember that the dates listed with each trip description can change slightly depending on availability of airline tickets.

May 31-June 21: We will send a team to Petrozavodsk, Russia to teach English in the public school classrooms, using the Bible as your reading material. You'll have two full weeks in the classroom and you'll stay with a Russian family. "East European Missions Network" is the host ministry. Last year, nearly 40 missionaries worked at this Language Camp, and there is room this year for many more! These children often have little hope, but once they accept faith in Jesus Christ, their lives change. You can be there to see some of those changes!

July 8-July 23: A team will go to the Ukraine to minister with forgotten handicapped children and stroke patients, sharing the Gospel with them as you do. You'll teach a Vacation Bible School, and help put on a citywide picnic for handicapped children. Last year, the host, "God's Hidden Treasures," had 350 children attend the picnic. You'll stay in the home of a Ukrainian family.

June 17-July 3 and July 11-July 31: At least two teams are scheduled for South Africa. The second team, (July 11-31) will be a team of young adults who will add a music ministry to their work. "Africa Ministry Resources" is our host, and you will have the opportunity to preach, teach and pray with people as you help start new churches and strengthen some other fairly new congregations. Last year one of our teams helped start two new churches there! You'll stay most of the time in African homes.

Since interest is already high in these trips, we may need to add other short-term trips. So teams to Poland and India are also pending, with the Poland team going in the summer, and the India team going in December.

Phone or e-mail us soon so we can send you your registration form. Remember, part of the training is how to raise funds that are needed for your trip, so don't think you cannot afford to go. We would love to have you join us as we work to proclaim Jesus as Lord to the ends of the earth!

Mission Conferences & Sunday Sermons

Now that Pastor Deuel is full time Director of "The Sending Place," he is available to speak at Mission conferences and in your congregation on Sundays. He is currently booked nearly through January, so call soon at (916) 685-2331.

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"LAM BS"



Spend Some Time On Our Web Site

There is a lot of information about "The Sending Place" on our website at www.TheSendingPlace.com You can find all of our past newsletters, photos of the Redding, California property where the facility will be built, extensive information about the places our mission teams are going, and much more. Check it out and send us your comments, we would love to hear from you.

Wish List

(Remember, "The Sending Place" is a 501.c.3 non profit corporation, so anything you donate is completely tax deductible for you.) Here is how you can help!

Needed Items

Video Projector (To show Power Point presentations to other congregations.)
Several Digital Cameras (So each mission team can have one along to send pictures back)
Lap Top Computer (For Staff)

Financial Needs for General Expenses

Newsletter (About \$1,200 per mailing)
Staff Salaries (\$12,000 per month for current and future staffing)
Mission Team Retreat (\$350)
Property Taxes (\$1,000)
Current Monthly Mortgage (\$2,400 per month)

Financial Needs Towards Construction of Facility

Annexation into local water district (\$43,000, \$20,000 gift was just received-\$23,000 to go
Engineering of creek's flow to determine size of bridge needed (\$1,000)
Payoff mortgage on the property (\$425,000)

(When annexation fee and mortgage are paid off, Phase One will be complete. Phase Two would then begin, with the building of road, bridge, parking lots, water and electrical lines)

IS HELL FOR REAL

There are many people in our society today who say there is no such thing as Satan, and therefore there is no such condition as hell. If they are right, that is great news and “The Sending Place” could quickly cease to exist. What do you think? Is hell for real? There are even many in the Christian Church today who live as if Satan and hell are not real. Christians fail to take a stand against youth sports on Sundays, they live comfortable lives with no thought of any war on evil raging around them, and a real fear of hell appears to be out of style.

But what if hell IS for real? How would that change the way we think and live? I mean, if we really believe hell is real, and hell is horrible, would we seek stronger faith, heartfelt worship, and the desire to talk with our Heavenly Father more frequently and more urgently? Would so many Christians still be lazy about attending worship, studying the Bible, and having a passion for sharing Christ with relatives, friends and strangers?

I believe much of our lack of mission effort within our churches today is a result of more and more church members not taking hell seriously. What a dangerous situation! Is hell for real, or not? What does God have to say about it? Does His Word in the Bible take hell lightly? No way! Here are some things the Bible tells us:

John the Baptist said in Matthew 3:12, **“His (the Messiah’s) winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”** John is not really talking about wheat here. He is looking ahead to Judgment Day, at what will happen to people. His reference to “unquenchable fire” makes it clear that you do not want to be in that condition!

When Jesus speaks of Judgment Day in Matthew 25:41 and 46 He says, **“Then he (the King) will say to those at his left hand, “Depart from me you cursed, into eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels..... And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”** Make sure you notice that all people will live forever. But there are two vastly different conditions of that existence. Eternal fire and punishment is NOT what you want to experience!

These and many other passages in God’s Word make it clear that hell is real and it is horrible! To take it lightly shows we do not comprehend its horror. And to take it lightly is to live your life without doing missions, without GOING to proclaim the Good News about Jesus. The fact is, many of your relatives and friends are on the path heading toward hell. Most people in this world are on a path heading toward hell. If you truly understand how horrible that is for them, you would do everything you could to tell them about Jesus, so they could switch to the only other path—the path toward heaven, through faith in Jesus. Do you really want your own family members to be in torment forever? Do you really want your own friends to be in unquenchable misery forever? Do you really want billions of unreached people across the seas to be in awful suffering forever?

If not, there is only one alternative for those people—receiving the grace and forgiveness of God through having faith in Jesus Christ. Because the Bible is also clear, that **“there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name (Jesus) under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”** (Acts 4:12)

Yes, time is short. The Great Commission will be completed soon, so Christ can return. There is urgency in this business of world missions. Please don’t sit on the sidelines, just trying to enjoy life, while so many around you are heading for eternal misery. GO with the Gospel, right where you live AND to the ends of the earth. For that is why you are here—it’s what Christ wants all of His followers to do!

**Pastor Darrel Deuel
Executive Director**