

L.A.M.B.

PO Box 15833
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*But the angel
said to them,
“Do not be
afraid. I
bring you
good news
that will
cause great
joy for all
the people.”*
Luke 2:10



It's time to start planning for your summer missions trip! Please contact Pastor Jim to discuss ideas and options! THANK YOU

Bible Women

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Stories are an intergenerational fabric woven together with threads of faith, family and cultural experiences.

The Bible Women have set a goal of raising \$10,000 to fund expansion of the program regionally, support travel costs of Karen Blank's ministry role, and publish Bible story booklets printed in a variety of native languages to be used to educate.

Join us in supporting the beautiful story of God's love shared for all nations and ethnicities.

GET INVOLVED! CONTACT US!

VISIT our website at: www.lamb-fw.org

CALL: Pastor Jim (260) 385-0683

DONATE: PO Box 15833, Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5833

Help us reach our \$10,000 goal for the Bible Women.

Make your check to Southwest Lutheran and put "Bible Women" on the memo line. Mail to Southwest Lutheran Church, 5120 Homestead Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46814.

We are seeking a "LAMB Champion" from each congregation.

LAMB Champions ask that LAMB be included:

- In your weekly prayers at church, in your church publications, in your church budget, in your service work.
- Contact Annette Keller (260-456-3268) for more information and to serve in this manner.



“My favorite part of camp this week was getting to learn about other cultures and all the yummy food that the Burmese made for us.”

Passport Adventure Camper

L.A.M.B.

LUTHERAN AGENCY FOR MISSIONS TO BURMESE

Camp is a "Family Affair"

Imagine if language barriers, lack of transportation or just plain fear kept a parent from participating in a child's school activities or special programs. No matter what, parents like to see their children perform, socialize, and succeed.

The Passport Adventure Camp annual fundraiser has done more than just raise money for kids to go to camp. The fundraiser has provided parents with the opportunity to see their children bridge cultures by performing dances and songs from their old culture as well as their new culture in the United States. It gave parents a venue at which to praise and encourage the children for their hard work.

But the families didn't just participate in the funding of camp; they also helped in the daily execution of Passport Adventure Camp using whatever talents or resources each possessed. Many parents donated noodles and those who work for a meat-processing plant were able to donate 300 pounds of chicken. This food was supplemented by 200 pounds of rice donated by St. John Lutheran Church, Stuttgart, Arkansas.

BUILDING BRIDGES



PHOTOS ABOVE: Bilingual bible study is an every Sunday occurrence at New Life Lutheran Church.

These sweet girls are bubbling over with giggles and fun at Passport Camp at Camp Lutherhaven.

Christina Kyaw, daughter of missionary Kyaw Sann, is beginning a quiz at Concordia Lutheran School.

FALL
2013

Passport Adventure Camp continued

In addition, for four days during Passport Adventure Camp, members of New Life Burmese church and South-west Karen church assisted in the All Nations Outreach Day-Camp by driving, providing food, and cooking. Crews fried noodles, prepared rice dishes, and baked spicy chicken. The kitchen in the Daniel Retreat Center was bursting with activity as both men and women speaking Karen, Burmese, and English chopped vegetables, cut up chickens, and washed dishes.

One of the cooks commented,
“This is not Hell’s Kitchen (the TV cooking show) but Heaven’s Kitchen.”

The crew prepared lunch for 60+ day campers, 20+ Servant Event participants, and other helpers who came for the day from Fort Wayne. Campers, counselors and crews were given a hearty taste of Burmese/Karen food.

PHOTO BELOW:
 Thursday Htoo enjoys the the peace and serenity of a quiet canoe ride on Lake Muncie at Camp Lutherhaven.)



When Pastor Jim Keller and his wife, Annette, entered the home, an aged widow fell on his neck weeping. This was part of the funeral celebration for her husband who had recently passed. This woman is a Muslim. Pastor Jim through LAMB had been ministering to her family since they arrived in Fort Wayne during the great influx of refugees in 2007.

Pastor Jim had helped this family through many crises. He introduced them to Taylor Htoo Aung, LAMB’s medical deaconess. She in turn had advocated for this woman and her husband at the doctor office. She was there, showing the love of Christ to this family.

The care that Pastor Jim and Taylor Aung showed this family was unusual to this family. They were not used to Christians showing such love to them. In addition, Taylor Aung was from a different tribal group. There was a history of hostility between her tribal

group and the Muslims. Even here in Fort Wayne, that hostility had broken out in the schools and neighborhoods.

While her husband lay dying at home, Pastor Jim came and visited the family. He asked permission to speak freely about his faith in Christ and was granted that permission. Taylor Aung acted as interpreter during one of those times. Pastor Jim was always allowed to pray with the family in the name of Christ during this stressful time.

Now during the funeral meal they all sat on the floor together eating and sharing in the family’s sorrow. The widow’s niece from New York entered the home and looked in surprise to see Pastor Jim, a white man, and Taylor, a Karen woman, sitting with the widow. She asked her aunt in Burmese, “Who are these people, and why are they here? The widow smiled. “This is my American son.” And as she put a hand on Taylor’s knee, she said, “This is my Karen daughter.”

Partnerships, Prayer and Play

Lutheran Agency for Missions to Burmese (LAMB), New Life Lutheran Church, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Southwest Lutheran Church and Uncharted International formed a unique partnership this summer for outreach to the Burmese and the Bethlehem and New Life neighborhoods.

This partnership was in the making for the last year and a half. Brian Kerney from Uncharted International had the desire to help local churches in the Evansville, Indiana, area have a cross cultural mission experience without leaving the USA. He heard about the large Burmese community in Fort Wayne and began looking for a Fort Wayne church that was reaching out to the Burmese. He made contact with Rev. James Keller, one of the pastors at New Life and founder of LAMB.

The two hit it off right away and began making plans for Uncharted International to bring a group of youth from the Evansville area to Fort Wayne. Keller met with Kerney and a couple of youth pastors from Evansville to begin the planning process. A year and a half later nearly 60 youth representing 5 Evansville churches arrived in Fort Wayne on Friday night,

July 12. The group stayed at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. On Saturday the group hosted a soccer tournament at Bethlehem. One of the youth leaders had the desire to give away 50 soccer balls. He priced them out and realized he needed \$400. Not sure how to proceed, he determined to fund them himself. But before he could buy them, a local doctor called him saying that he had purchased gift cards to a sporting goods store to give away. He had cards left over and wondered if the Evansville church could use them. The cards totaled \$400.

While the soccer tournament was going on, members of New Life’s Saturday prayer walking team partnered with some of the Evansville youth to prayer walk the Bethlehem neighborhood. The group prayed for people as they met them and also invited the Bethlehem neighbors to an Ice Cream Social and Bethlehem’s VBS, July 15-17.

Another team did some construction on a Burmese Muslim home in the New Life Neighborhood. This family had bought a home, but before they could move in, it was vandalized. The construction crew worked Monday through Wednesday mornings in the New Life neighborhood helping residents with yard work and other tasks. In the afternoons they continued their work on the Burmese home.

The rest of the youth held VBS outreaches in two different apartments that are heavily populated by Burmese. One apartment complex is the outreach site of Southwest Lutheran Church. Members of Southwest participated in the VBS outreach. In the evenings the Evansville youth helped Bethlehem with their VBS program.

“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

ACTS
 2: 38-39



PHOTOS LEFT:
 Children from different tribes, languages, and religions play together at the Brendonwood Apartments playground during this summer’s outreach.