

The Live Wire

Plug into
the
**HIGHEST
POWER**

Volume 4, Issue 4

Going Global: Dominican Republic Missions Trip, June 1-10, 2012

Turning Compassion into Action!

"...whatever you did for one of the least of these...you did for me." Matt. 25:40

Purpose

Come join us as we continue to invest in the young lives of the Haitian Dominican children imprisoned in poverty and ignorance who represent the poorest of the poor. Our targeted area is in the coastal town of Barahona, where we serve in multiple, isolated villages made up of sugar cane workers. Our purpose, in partnership with a Para church ministry called "Children of the Nations", is to develop long term relationships with these Haitian Dominicans so that there will be a lasting Christ centered impact primarily with children, by equipping them to become tomorrow's leaders by raising their standard of living through...education, clothing, feeding programs, medical clinics, leadership training, group weddings (including marriage seminars), dental clinics, special seminars (hygiene, sex education, couples seminars), youth camps (sponsoring 300+ kids to attend), sports clinics, construction projects, vocational center (training on computers, learning English, cooking, etc.), and Bible studies.



Haiti

Part of the team will also travel into Haiti and spend two days there working on Construction projects, dental and medical work, hygiene and clothing needs for local orphanages, to provide local Pastor and church support in this devastated area. Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere which shares the same land mass with the Dominican Republic.

Let us as God's ambassadors continue to expand in our commitment in fulfilling God's Great commission to deliver the eternal Hope of the Gospel to all nations baptizing them in the name of Jesus Christ. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Pastor Adam Marquardt in the church office.

AELC STAFF

Dr. Dan Storvick.....Senior Pastor
 Rev. Adam Marquardt.....Associate Pastor
 Rev. Jack Shannon.....Associate Pastor
 Rev. Wally Cole.....Visitation Pastor
 Kate Howell.....Director of Administration
 James Klein.....Minister of Music
 Jake Madlock..... Dir. of Contemporary Music
 Debbie Smith..... Director of Children's Ministry
 Adam Bretz.....Director of Student Ministry
 Lori Barbe.....Dir. of American Lutheran School
 (928) 778-7049
 Amy Buettner.....Ass't. Dir. of Children's Ministry
 Donna Hamrick.....Office Manager
 Eileen Klein.....Organist
 Larry Lee.....AV Technician
 Geri Onnen.....Administrative Assistant
 Jeff McReynolds.....Food Services Coordinator
 Phillip Bucklein.....Custodian
 Tom Leick.....Custodian

Trip Information Meetings (Mandatory)

February 19 (Orientation); March 4 & 25; April 1 & 22; May 6 & 20
 11:30 AM — 12:30 PM in the Library

Trip Cost: \$1,500 + Airfare (includes food, lodging, transportation)

ATTENTION AELC FRIENDS & FAMILY: YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED!

The Church Council has organized a Transition Team made up of members of our congregation to follow the Holy Spirit and lead us through this time of Pastor Dan's retirement and the ensuing changes that will occur. (Please see "What's Up?" on page 3 for the list of those on the Transition Team.) This is a very exciting time for our church as we look forward to God unveiling His plan for AELC. The Transition Team meets weekly, addressing three major topics: **Pastoral Transition**, which has to do with Pastor Dan's replacement; **Vision**, which is both short and long term planning; and **Celebration**, which is a time for us to honor Pastor Dan and his ministry here at AELC. **Save the Date: Pastor Dan's last Sunday is May 20.**

To date, the team's focus has been primarily on Pastor Dan's replacement and seeking input from the pastors, staff, and members of the congregation. You are encouraged to share with the Transition Team what God is saying to you about our church, our next Senior Pastor, and how we can celebrate Pastor Dan's 23+ years at AELC. You may contact members of the Transition Team as a group by sending an e-mail to transitionteam@americanlutheran.net. Drop boxes for written notes will be available on Sunday mornings as well.

American Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1085 Scott Drive, Prescott, AZ 86301

Phone: (928) 445-4348 Fax: (928) 445-8343

Website: www.americanlutheran.net

GET INVOLVED

PRESCOTT AGLOW will meet Saturday, February 18 at the Hassayampa Inn, 122 E. Gurley Street, Prescott. Breakfast buffet is served at 9:00 AM. Call Judy (713-0984) for reservations, or just come to the meeting at 9:45 AM—no reservation is needed for the meeting only. Speaker: Tamara Dickerson, certified Life Coach through Life Breakthrough Christian Coach Academy in Phoenix. She teaches classes on prayer and intercession and will have a sign-up sheet for classes.

YOUNG AT HEART (YAH) ministry for seniors will hold its next meeting of the season on Tuesday, February 28 at Noon in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch is \$4. AELC's own Lois Longfield will show pictures from her year spent in Japan as her junior year in college. All are invited to attend.

LOST AND FOUND items are piling up! Please visit the coatroom area just outside the Parlor doors if you are looking for something you may have misplaced while at church. At the end of February, all useable unclaimed items will be donated.



OPERATION SERVE SCHEDULE CHANGE! Operation Serve is geared to mobilize the church family through service projects, **now on the last Thursday of the month**, by serving with our hands and feet throughout our local communities. Meet at the church 8:45 AM, return at 11:45 AM. Pastor Adam Marquardt will be driving a church van with anyone who would like to come and do service projects throughout our community. Only willing hearts and helping hands are needed; no experience required. RSVP to Pastor Adam at adam@americanlutheran.net or call the church office (445-4348) to be put on the list of servers. Most of the work will be light maintenance. Operation Serve represents all church ministries and programs serving outside the walls of our church.

Upcoming project: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23. Kim is a single (divorced) teacher who lives in a 500 sq. ft. humble cabin. She has limited resources due to her low income as a teacher and her status from being single. The projects on Kim's property will include: a small roof repair; replacing the front door entry lock; and cleaning up and removing various forms of yard waste.

The Live Wire

The Live Wire is the bi-weekly newspaper of American Evangelical Lutheran Church in Prescott, AZ. It is made available to members of the congregation and others upon request. *The Live Wire* is also available online at www.americanlutheran.net. Subscriptions by mail are \$12 annually. If you have material for or questions regarding *The Live Wire*, please contact Director of Administration, Kate Howell at 445-4348 or kate@americanlutheran.net. The deadline for articles and graphics for the next issue is February 22 at 2:00 PM.

IN GRATITUDE

I just want to say "thank you" to my church family. I feel blessed to have a wonderful and caring congregation to help me through my grief at the passing of my sister. Thank you for all your cards, phone calls, and prayers. Special thanks to Pastor Wally for his time and comfort when I needed it.
Gertrud Motzek

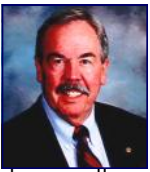
Dear Friends at AELC...From my heart to all of yours, my gratitude for the many lovely cards, hugs, and yes, caring shoulders to lean on during and through Bob's illness and finally as he now rests at peace with our Lord. Pastor Dan reached all of us with his loving tribute to Bob along with beautiful music and bells from Jim and Eileen, Kate and her magnificent voice, Donna and Geri for their patience as we prepared the bulletin, Jeff for his culinary ability and delicious food presentation after the service, and Larry, the sound and video tech for the DVD. My family joins me in grateful appreciation to all who gave their special touch to make Bob's memorial service a beautiful memory for everyone. I am so thankful for my church family and now pray to our Lord to enrich, protect and grant us His continued Grace. May God bless each and everyone... Lovingly, **Judie Dempster and Family**

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE FOR OPEN DOOR—The Open Door is a local outreach program to low or no income (unemployed) and homeless people. The Deacons have again approved a food drive benefitting Open Door, beginning Ash Wednesday, February 22 through Easter Sunday, April 8. If you worship at AELC, you are asked to bring a non-perishable food item or \$1.00 every time you come to church for whatever reason, whether worship service, choir rehearsal, bible study, quilting groups, prayer groups, etc. Collection boxes will be located at the four main entrances where the items can be placed; envelopes will be available for monetary donations.

This year our Youth and the Preschool will be making CANstructions with the food they collect and what is donated by you. A CANstruction uses the food donated to construct a sculpture depicting helping feed the needy. The Youth construction will be "Help Stamp Out Hunger" (shoe sculpture). The Preschool construction will be "Help Cart Food to the Open Door" (cart sculpture). The "shoe" will be constructed in the Narthex. The "cart" will be constructed downstairs in the Education Wing. The CANstructions will be moved and rebuilt on April 28 at the United Methodist Church for the Prescott Area CANstruction challenge, sponsored by CCJ's Open Door program. The goal is for youth to collect food for those in need in our community and then have fun building the cans into a three-dimensional sculpture. The public is invited to view the sculptures and vote for their favorites by donating \$1.00 per vote. In addition, there will be a panel of judges from the community. Groups will compete in three categories: 1. Most Cans Collected; 2. Most Creative Sculpture; and 3. People's Choice.

As has been approved in the past, ten percent of AELC's donations to the Lenten Food Drive will be directed to Prescott Community Cupboard Food Bank.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY has just started two new Women's Mixed Issues Step Studies. One meets every Monday from 7:00—8:15 PM in the downstairs Youth Center; the other meets every Tuesday, same time, in Room A-7 downstairs. New members will be accepted for several weeks. The step studies help people deal with all kinds of life-related issues, including addiction, loss, co-dependency, abandonment, dysfunctional family setting, and plain ordinary struggles with life. Please contact June Poe 778-3771 to register or for more information.



WHAT'S UP?

7 Things Your Pastor Wishes You Knew, But Is Afraid To Tell You

I recently read an article by Dr. Bill Wilson, Jr. President of the Center for Congregational Life by that name. With the conclusion of my 2 1/2 decades as your pastor coming up in just a few months, I thought it might be helpful and instructive to share some of Wilson's thoughts with you, not for my benefit, but for the two wonderful guys who will carry on here after I've said farewell.

1. **It's not their fault, but your minister didn't learn everything they needed to be a pastor in Seminary.** *Like doctors leaving medical school, clergy need a time to do their "residency" and learn to practice in the field what they've learned in the classroom. Actually, that theological education NEVER stops...so give your minister permission to not be perfect and to always be learning.*
2. **Every pastor must learn to "choose their guilt". So will you.** *There is always more to do than there is time to do it. Every minister must come to terms with an inherent guilt around what he or she did not do today. Too often that means their own family gets the leftovers. By the way, this is a dilemma for all of us regardless our vocation.*
3. **Be kind if you have a criticism.** *Healthy clergy welcome constructive criticism. Everyone abhors petty nitpicking. Make sure you engage in the former and not the latter.*
4. **Please have some realistic expectations for the pastor's family.** *How many ways can we say this? Please give your minister's family an extra measure of grace.*
5. **Please err on the side of generosity.** *I'm not just talking about money, though I am talking about money. I also mean be generous with your attention, your questions, your interest, your ability to remember my mother's name, your laughter, your food, your jokes, your invitations to ball games, your LIFE.*
6. **Your pastor loves you, but he/she may or may not like you.** *Just like in your family; there are days when your spouse/child/parent loves you, but is frustrated by you or wondering what they did to deserve you. That ambivalence is part of being human. Own it and expect it.*
7. **Your comfort is not your pastor's primary concern.** *Hope you know this. If not, read the Bible and remind yourself why your church exists in the first place. Trying to be priest (comforting the afflicted) and prophet (afflicting the comfortable) to the same people is confusing, messy, and an invitation to misunderstandings.*

As we anticipate and pray for a smooth transition to the new leadership regime, I invite you to consider those wise words from Dr. Wilson. Do any of them reassure you? Trouble you? I'd love to hear your responses, as I am sure, would Pastors Shannon and Marquardt.

Speaking of Transitions . . .

. . . A newly formed Transition Team was announced at the Annual Meeting on January 29th. Please hold the members of that tiger team in your prayers as they work toward a smooth transition. The Team members are Rich Alley, Don Jepsen, Jerry Emery, Jennifer Garber, Comer

Wadzeck, Lori Kelley, Rick Kelley, George Morse, Russ Parker, Darrel Smith, Lenna Erickson, and Harriet Mauritsen. You are welcome not only to pray for them, but to contact them with you insights and questions, as well. The Team can be reached by email as a group: transitionteam@americanlutheran.net

Lent: *His Story—My Story*

Ash Wednesday is upon us in just a couple of weeks, on February 22. It marks the beginning of Lent—that forty-day season of penitence and preparation for the celebration of Easter. Ash Wednesday services are scheduled for 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM. In our part of the Christian family, we observe Lent with midweek worship services, with preaching/teaching usually dwelling on a selected theme. *His Story—My Story* is this year's theme. Each week after Ash Wednesday, we will hear the unique and compelling faith story of one of our members. These are the stories of those who have faced unique challenges and life experiences, and because of their trusting faith in Jesus, been able to survive, surmount and even have victory over these challenges. Each Wednesday at 7:00 PM we will hear from one of them, as they tell how HIS story has impacted their stories.

Soup Suppers: We are also planning to host weekly Lenten Soup Suppers prior to the worship time, paid for by freewill offerings. A simple meal of homemade soups, crackers, cheese and bread will be served from 5:30—6:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The meals will be prepared and served by ministry groups within the congregation as fundraisers for their activities.

Double Dipping

Last Sunday I had the rare privilege of being on site and in worship but not being one of the preachers. Since I usually preach every Sunday, while Pastors Adam and Jack typically preach every other Sunday, I normally get to be fed by only one of them in a given week. Last Sunday was an exception--I had an opportunity to worship in both traditional and contemporary services. The music, spirit, and energy of worship were wonderful in both venues. And I got to hear clear, biblical preaching in both places. It was both inspiring and informative to hear both preachers dwell on the same text, Mark 1:29-39. I heard Pastor Adam share five action words describing Jesus' ministry to Simon Peter's mother-in-law, inspiring me to be both prayerful and to watch for ways Jesus acts in MY life. Dwelling on the same text, Pastor Jack gave a tutorial in how to pray more faithfully, fruitfully, and more comprehensively.

If you can arrange your schedule to be in worship in both venues on an occasional Sunday, you might find it a worthwhile experience—vastly different styles of worship, both glorifying God; different styles of preaching, always illuminating God's word in an informative, imaginative, and inspiring (or challenging) way. Remember: both styles of worship are presented twice each Sunday. Traditional at 8:00 and 10:30 A.M.; Contemporary at 10:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

Yours for Powerful Worship, Bold Preaching, and Effective Ministry,
Pastor Dan Storvick



There's a lot of strange people...er creatures...er animals...oh geesh, there's all kinds of foam filled "puppets" that have invaded American Lutheran Church. Maybe you've seen some of them? It's also possible that you've heard that a strange fever has also come to our church. It's called "puppet fever" and it's quite contagious! Yes, a new Puppet Ministry is being formed and folks of all ages are invited to learn more about it—members and non-members alike!

Dick Morgan will be providing a Temple Talk at all of our worship services about this new and exciting ministry on Sunday, February 26. He will then make himself available with a display of puppets and materials afterward. You can also give him a call at 237-4054 or e-mail him at rlmorgan@cablone.net for a personal briefing.

Want to be a Puppeteer?

- Do you love Jesus? • Do you like puppets? • Can you read?

If you answered yes to all 3 questions, you're qualified to become a member of the new AELC Puppet Ministry! Stand by for more exciting news as we move forward!

THE NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR IN CONCERT

Friday, February 17 at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Tickets: \$15/adults; free for full-time students. Tickets can be purchased from the church office or at the door if still available. Visit www.nlca.com for more info on this award-winning choral group.

Save the Dates!

NEW CONNECTIONS CLASSES BEGIN—Sunday, February 19
9:15—10:15 AM throughout the building.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP—Wednesday, February 22
11:00 AM and 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

LENTEN WORSHIP AND SOUP SUPPERS—Wednesdays, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, and 28

Suppers at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall; worship at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

NEW CROSSFIRE MEN'S MINISTRY SESSION—Thursday, March 1
6:00 AM (in the Fellowship Hall (breakfast from 5:45 AM)
Study: "Walking in the Will of God"—books are \$10.

WOMEN OF WISDOM SPRING SESSION—Wednesday, March 28
8:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall

NEW MEMBERS CLASS—Wednesday, April 4
6:00—8:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS—Sunday, April 15

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL—Sunday, April 29
Performed at the 8:00 & 10:30 AM Traditional worship services

PASTOR DAN'S FAREWELL CELEBRATION—Sunday, May 20

IF YOU HAVE BORROWED DVDs from the church's Ray Vander Laan study, "That the World May Know," please contact the church office or return them as soon as possible—thanks!

CALENDAR

Monday 2/13

8AM Prayer Group
9:30AM Thumb Butte Quilters Guild
10:30AM Women's Cursillo Group
1PM Alleluia Choir 2PM Cursillo
6PM Celebrate Recovery Men's Step Study
6:30PM Hope Circle
7PM Celebrate Recovery Women's Step Study

Tuesday 2/14

8:30AM Katharina von Bora Quilters
9:30AM Mary/Martha Circle
1PM Ruth Circle
1:30PM Miracle Prayer Time 3PM Dynamite Kids
3:45PM Cherub Choir
5:15PM Columbarium Committee Meeting
5:30PM Glory Ringers 6:30PM Women's Bible Study
7PM Celebrate Recovery Women's Step Study
7PM Men's Bible Study

Wednesday 2/15

8:15AM WOW (Women of Wisdom)
12PM Cursillo Grouping 2:30PM Dynamite Kids
3:15PM Seraphim Choir 4PM Joy Bell Choir
5PM Endowment Board 6:30PM Jubilate Choir
8PM Peals of Praise

Thursday 2/16

5:45AM Crossfire Men's Ministry
9:15AM MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)
1PM Chancel Chimers
4PM Transition Team Meeting
4:30PM Heavenly Chimers

5:45PM Celebrate Recovery
6PM Contemporary Worship Rehearsal
7PM Sanctus Choir

Friday 2/17

9AM Thrivent Meeting 1PM Aija Day Memorial
7PM National Lutheran Choir Concert

Saturday 2/18

7:30AM Good Book...Men's Bible Study
8:45AM Mountain Spinners & Weavers Guild
7PM A.A. Group

Sunday 2/19

8 & 10:30AM Traditional Worship
9:15AM Connections Education Hour
9:15AM Kid Connect 9:15AM Communion Class
10:30AM *Changes* Contemporary Worship
10:30AM Chino Valley Worship
11:30AM 2012 Dominican Trip Meeting
5PM *Come Alive!* Contemporary Worship

Monday 2/20

OFFICE CLOSED



Tuesday 2/21

8:30AM Katharina von Bora Quilters
9:30AM Friendship Quilters
1:30PM Miracle Prayer Time
3PM Dynamite Kids 3:45PM Cherub Choir
5:15PM Columbarium Committee Meeting
5:30PM Glory Ringers 6PM Deborah Circle
6:30PM Women's Bible Study

7PM Lead Like Jesus Class 7PM Men's Bible Study
7PM Celebrate Recovery Women's Step Study

Wednesday 2/22

8:15AM WOW (Women of Wisdom)
11AM Ash Wednesday Worship Service
12PM Cursillo Grouping 2:30PM Dynamite Kids
3:15PM Seraphim Choir 4PM Joy Bell Choir
6:30PM Jubilate Choir
7PM Ash Wednesday Worship Service
8PM Peals of Praise

Thursday 2/23

5:30AM Crossfire Men's Ministry
1PM Chancel Chimers
4PM Transition Team Meeting
4:30 Heavenly Chimers 5:45PM Celebrate Recovery
6PM Contemporary Worship Rehearsal
7PM Sanctus Choir

Friday 2/24

7:30AM Good Book...Men's Bible Study
7PM A.A. Group

Saturday 2/25

Sunday 2/26

8 & 10:30AM Traditional Worship
9:15AM Connections Education Hour
9:15AM Kid Connect
10:30 AM *Changes* Contemporary Worship
10:30AM Chino Valley Worship
5PM *Come Alive!* Contemporary Worship