



From the Pastor

This April/May Newsletter attempts to share from the heart some of our incredible recent LCM experiences in Guatemala.

Twenty-nine of us traveled there over Spring Break (March 10-17, 2007), hosted by the Guatemala Lutheran Church. We couldn't have had a richer cross-cultural, mutual, transforming, faith-to-faith and face-to-face journey. We were

moved by faith stories, work projects, using our Spanish skills (2/3 of us anyway), heart-breaking poverty, breath-taking beauty, holy worship, and people with dignity. I hope you get a sense from these pictures and articles a little of what we were privileged to share in.



Peace, in Christ

Pastor Ron Rude

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The Great Guatemalan Adventure

What struck me most about Guatemala was the kindness that our hosts and the members of their schools and congregations showed us. Esther and Beatriz set aside a couple hours specifically for each group to ask questions about their work, their past, and their goals for the future. I had a great time listening to the Padre (Pastor/Bishop Horacio Castillo) tell his personal story, and working and laughing with Irbin (age 18) and Ronaldo (age 14) was so much fun. In gen-

eral, people who had so little were willing to give everything they had to make us comfortable. For example, after church on Sunday members gladly served us cookies and coffee. When we were doing a work project in El Tuerto, a church located in a Guatemalan slum where people barely have enough money to eat (if they have the money at all), smiling faces

from what seemed to be thin air. By the end of a couple hours of Bible Study in El Mirador, I had five kids on each hand wanting to sit next to me while we sang songs. I hope that I can pass the kindness they showed me on to others.

Erin Ostroski
Freshman Physiology and Spanish major



brought us
Coca-cola



100th Anniversary of LCM

LCM began at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Teddy Roosevelt was President, and Rev. Howard Gold was the Campus Pastor. It has spread to over 150 campuses, including 3 in Arizona (UofA, NAU and ASU). These ministries will be integral to the Grand Canyon Synod Assembly on June 7-9, under the theme *"Expanding Minds, Deepening Faith, Inspiring Service."*

In celebration of the 100th Anniversary, we have 7 fundraising events planned for this year. Three have already taken place—Yard Sale at American LC (\$2,000 raised), Smorgasbord at Desert Hills LC (\$1,300 raised), and the Pancake Brunch at Foothills LC (\$1,800 raised). The next event is a 'Friends of Campus Ministry' Concert at Cyndee Chaffee's home in Sahaurita AZ on April 22 at 4 pm. Tickets will be \$20. Email for tickets: rhrude47@yahoo.com, or call (520) 623-7575.

It's All About the Kids

They say that a child is society's hope. If this is the case, twenty-nine college-aged travelers had the opportunity to teach, listen, and watch Guatemala's amazing hope for tomorrow. On the Monday and Tuesday of our 8-day adventure we were all given the opportunity to teach at a small school at El Mirador (in Guatemala City). While we were there we came up with games, lessons, and even did some acting to teach individual Bible lessons to the children. Though we were all aware that our ability to truly communicate and educate was limited, the children looked past our bad accents and just listened and watched the struggling college kids. It made no difference to

these children that we did not fully understand each other's language, they were just happy to have someone there that day who cared. Speech and words were thrown out as a chosen form of conversation and were readily replaced with smiles, hugs, songs, and games. In the most heart-breaking moment of the trip, we had to finally say goodbye to the children after a couple hours of teaching and fun. The children instead of using words or waving adieu, and with a complete lack of inhibition ran to each of us and tightly hugged us farewell. There is no amount of words that can truly elucidate how such an action can make you feel. But I can tell you one thing: at that moment with such a small action, these kids

showed and reminded us why we were there. We walked back towards that bus engaged in our thoughts and emotionally filled, but with one deep sense of appreciation for what we can only call Guatemala's Hope for Tomorrow.

Fernando Acensio, MBA grad student



Senior Reflections-James Cormie

Major: Philosophy

What is your very first memory of LCM?

Jeff. I think that is enough said.

What is your favorite LCM memory?

Walking the path of the immigrants and having that guy catch a rattlesnake. That was sweet and interesting.

How has LCM impacted your "faith journey?"

It has been a continual place of support and opportunity throughout my time at the University of Arizona. The people are all tremendous people and Pastor Ron has been a fine steward. I think mostly the community at LCM has made me reevaluate my life from time to time and put it into a more moral state of being.

What exciting things are you planning on doing post-graduation?

Well, probably working at the carwash I currently work at for a bit, and then heading to China for a year to teach and study Mandarin. Also, I have to take those dreaded tests to get into grad school this summer so that will be a whole heck of a lot of fun. After that year, I really have nothing set in stone. Hopefully, travel the world or come back to LCM and keep on having good times.

Cynthia Sugeng

Major: Physiology

What is your very first memory of LCM?

After James Cormie saying several times to me that "You're Lutheran, you should come to LCM!" I finally decided to give it a try at Sunday worship. Of course Pastor Ron made me introduce myself to everybody before worship.

What is your favorite LCM memory?

Definitely the spring break trip to Costa Rica two years ago. We started con-

struction of a new building for a church, led VBS for the local children, got to visit some homes of the people in the community, hiked through the rain forest, and did a horseback/canopy tour of the rain forest. We met amazing people, saw God's beautiful creation, built stronger friendships within LCM and ate delicious food.

How has LCM impacted your "faith journey?"

I first came to LCM simply wanting to start going to church again, but it turned into a better understanding of my faith, wonderful friends whom I hope to always keep in touch with, meeting my fiancé,

deciding that I want to use my career as a means to serve, and honestly my best experience during college.

What exciting things are you planning on doing post-graduation?

Getting married to Tom, moving to Boston, and starting my master's in nursing - I can't wait!



Tara Hudson

Major: Elementary Education, Music
Minor

What is your very first memory of LCM?

My first memory of LCM is receiving a letter from the lovely Breonna Tavenner the summer before I began at U of A, and then walking into the CCC to be greeted by many energetic people at the first Vespers.

What is your favorite LCM memory?

I have many favorite LCM memories... playing Hearts, the card game, in Costa Rica, singing in La Jolla, staying up really late in Washington D.C., Spring

Break in Patagonia... just to name a few!

How has LCM impacted your “faith journey?”

LCM has provided me with a supportive community in which I felt accepted and nurtured in my faith. The range of opinions and beliefs has challenged and prompted my thinking, and our conversations have deepened my own beliefs.

What exciting things are you planning on doing post-graduation?

I plan on finding a teaching position and settling down a bit more with my husband in Tucson or possibly moving to a new city.



Fernando and Rachel singing at ILAG



Enjoying the tree before we cut it down!



Taking a break from cutting trees to model!!



Expertly painting the wall of the ILAG

Peter Clark

Major: Religious Studies

What is your very first memory of LCM?

The group was on the annual La Jolla trip the first time I tried to come to church, so nobody was at the CCC and I was greeted by a sign on the closed gate. The actual first time I came was for vespers. I don't remember much more than being a little intimidated by all the new people. The biggest specific thing I remember was Jeffrey Clay Howick, who was relating a story about wrecking his PT Cruiser. It must not have been too bad an overall experience, because I never stopped coming.

What is your favorite LCM memory?

I don't really know how to choose a

favorite memory from LCM. There have been a lot of great times and a lot of really hard times in the past four years. Retreats, fundraisers, vespers, movies...it's hard to even begin. The Guatemala trip this spring break was definitely one of the bright points, but there's so much more to LCM than specific memories. For me, it's more about building the community, and that happens at every event.

How has LCM impacted your "faith journey?"

I've asked myself a lot of difficult questions because of LCM. I still don't have the answers for most of them, but I've come to realize that it's probably for the best. It's given me a lot of new ways to look at the world. I guess that's the best way to put it. I see a lot of paths that I

didn't see before.

What exciting things are you planning on doing post-graduation?

I'll be sticking around Tucson and taking an internship with the Thrivent branch here. I'm really excited to have the ability to continue being with many of the wonderful people I've come to know over the last 4 years.



Lizzy Nemeth

Major: Flute Performance and Family Consumer Sciences Education



What is your very first memory of LCM?

Meeting PR at Student Orientation, and me saying "Oh, you're just the person I'm looking for."

What is your favorite LCM memory?

There have been oh so many memories that I love: Traveling, seeing balloons at the Albuquerque balloon festival, the double rainbow in Santa Fe, sunsets at La Jolla, hanging out in San Diego, working in Ramsey canyon, Beer and Jesus bible study, cooking for vespers, Holden Evening Prayer, and all our wonderful conversations.

How has LCM impacted your "faith journey?"

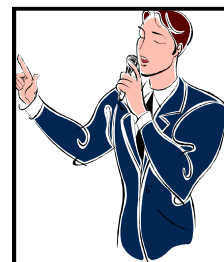
I appreciate the support of the community. LCM's like a second family. When my life was really changing LCM brought consistency, and gave me a safe place to explore my faith.

What exciting things are you planning on doing post-graduation?

Teaching in Tucson and being incredibly happy.

Need a Speaker?

Pastor Ron is happy to speak at your various Church groups (WELCA, Youth, Men's group, Church Councils, Banquets, etc.) to share the Gospel and to share the LCM story. Make LCM a part of your calendar of events!
rhrude47@yahoo.com 623-7575





Erica passing out Crayons to the children



David the Burro



We lost Megan, Jordan and Allison to the Temple gods that day. Maybe we should have helped them...



Bubba showing us just how cool he can be!

Ways to Give to LCM-UA

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1. **Pledges.** Making LCM part of your yearly Stewardship plan will help keep LCM strong.
2. **Asset Donations** - real estate, stocks, corporate bonds, mutual funds, coins, etc., can be ably arranged by speaking with Mr. Keith Johnston, Regional Gift Planner for the Grand Canyon Synod-ELCA. You may contact him at the Synod Office @ (602) 957-3223, or by email: keith423@cox.net
3. **Estate Planning** The LCM-UA Endowment Fund was established in 1988. The following paragraph in you Will gets the job done:

"I give Lutheran Campus Ministry-UA, at 715 N Park Avenue-Tucson AZ 85719 ... (specific assets, specific amount, remainder or percentage of Estate) ... to be used as determined by the Lutheran Campus Ministry Board of Directors.
4. **Memorials**— Your gift builds a legacy in honor of significant people in your life and family.

