

VOL LX; Num 4 Summer 2013



Meet our Missionary Speaker

Friday, August 30th - Monday, September 2nd Association Retreat Center | Osceola, WI



I'm very thankful for the opportunity to participate in the Hauge Foreign Mission Camp. Norwegian Lutheran Mission (NLM) has a long partnership with Hauge Foreign Mission (HFM) and we share a lot in common. I look forward

to the camp and the opportunity to share some more of the work that God is doing around the world. We live in a great time for Missions and are experiencing that His kingdom is growing.

In Him, Hjalmar

Biography

My wife, Mona, and I have four children and live in a small community outside of Oslo where we are involved in kids and youth ministry at our local church (prayer house). We have served for six years in China as tentmakers. I have since 2004 worked at NLM's Head Office as Regional Director for Asia and the last three years as International Director. I studied for an M. Div at Fjellhaug and an MA in Intercultural Studies at Biola University in CA.

News From Norway

Philippians 2:8 "And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."



This verse really spoke to me this past month as I was having devotions with three Mongolian friends while on a backcountry trip into the Mongolian wilderness. That Christ humbled Himself and made the ultimate sacrifice of dying on the cross so that I, a sinner, can be saved is very powerful to know. It showed me Christ's love for all and made me realize how important sharing that love in word and deed is in Mongolia.

I have now almost finished my first year in Mongolia and the Lord has given me strength each and every day. I myself am humbled each and every day knowing that the Lord is with me and knowing that all my family and friends continually lift me up in prayers.

Paul also reminds us in Philippians 2:3-4 to "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests



of others." This verse is very important in regards to our work here in Mongolia. It reminds us to put others before ourselves, but it is only because of Christ humbling Himself first can I and others at Norwegian

Lutheran Mission Mongolia, through our work and deeds, share Christ's love to others and put others before ourselves.

This summer I began new duties with the Norwegian Lutheran Mission in our Ulaanbaatar office. I am now the Branch Leader for Ulaanbaatar. That brings many new challenges but I have very much enjoyed my new position. Even though I am in an administrative position, with responsibility for 20 Mongolian employees, I am still able to learn more about our projects each day, and I am continually reminded about the important work that Norwegian Lutheran Mission is doing in Mongolia. It is through these projects that NLM is able to share Christ's love.

A Mongolian employee, who is not a Christian, made a comment recently to a Norwegian missionary. He said something to the effect that the work NLM is doing to improve the lives of children and families in Mongolia can only be done by a Christian organization. That is quite powerful coming from someone who currently is not a Christian.

So again, please continue to pray for NLM Mongolia and for Christians in Mongolia that we would be humbled each and every day before Christ and that Christ would give us strength to share what He did for us on the cross.

News From Hungary

Family Camp in Piliscsaba

July 8-13, 2013

As many times before, I had an opportunity again to take part in the ministry to children in the family camp in Piliscsaba. I am a kindergarten teacher, so I am fond of children.

This year, we learned about "David's progress to the throne" in the morning devotions. In the evenings, we listened to a mission story of a Nigerian boy called David Ekong.

In the afternoon, before the handcraft program, we also had lectures or talks on some spiritual issue taken from the morning or evening devotions.

We were fewer than last year. Two families living in Szarvas, with 7 children altogether, were absent, and also a grandmother from Budapest, who had registered with her two grandchildren was not able to attend.

The teaching programs were held with 21 children between the ages of 3 and 1. Four little children below 3 were with their mothers or with the nurses.

The morning programs started with singing many songs. The little team was very enthusiastic in singing. By Wednesday, everyone had and wanted their own favorite songs. The stories were taught using the flannel graph set we had received from our brothers and sisters from the US, which is always a great fun for all. The stories we learned about David were interspersed with learning memory verses and lots of singing. Then, after a 15 minute break, we talked in groups on what we were taught. The preschool group was led by another kindergarten teacher Zsuzsa Lassu. They also drew and colored pictures while talking. In the second group, Piroska Kozma led the conversations; she had studied in the EKE Bible School before. Children from 7 to 9 were in this group. In the third group, I was together with children between 10 and 12. The conversations were very serious in all groups. The children opened up, and quite a few of them shared testimonies, telling that they belonged to Jesus, that they read the Bible, or that they had not received Jesus into their hearts.

A girl aged 11 seriously thought about David fully forgiving Saul, reminding her that she was angry with a schoolmate who has another friend, and neglects her. Sára understood that she alone is unable to

forgive. First of all, you have to make a sincere decision to forgive, and when you realize you can't, ask God to help. If you mean it, God will help you. – Two days later, she came to me rejoicing that she had forgiven her friend. The Lord had helped her.

Iza's younger daughter was very lovely. As Zsuzsa told me, she was running in the yard from one heap to the other, shouting, "Where is God? Where is God?" (On the top of the heap, she felt very tall, nearer to the sky.) After asking many times, she got the answer from the daughter of Gergő Kósa, "He's here in my heart."

On Friday afternoon, we had a competition, with Bible questions, memory verses, singing and skill tasks in the stations. On Friday night, as usual, children gave 20 minute performance.

We were very happy to serve to children in this camp. God willing, we three would like to come together in the ministry.

It was a great news for all to hear the story of Eszter Gulyás – we learned about it at home on Saturday evening. ~*Márta Stanka*

An e-mail received after the camp:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have a great news I wish to tell you. We came home from the EKE Family camp in Piliscsaba yesterday. When we were having supper, without any influence, question or introduction from me or from Kornél, Eszter loudly burst out saying she would like so much to embrace the Lord Jesus. We tried to explain her that if she tells Him in prayer that she loves Him very much, it is just like embracing Him, and she can know that He embraces her, too. Then her eyes kindled, and she said, "I want to start on the narrow path, for I will meet the Lord Jesus at the end." And she asked us, almost demanding that she could start on the narrow path. Again spontaneously, without any influence from us, she asked that she may say a prayer repeating after us, sentence to sentence. And she said it and said it – sincerely and rejoicing. THANKS BE TO THE LORD!!!

~Dóra Gulyás

"So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

Editorial

I HAVE LOVED THEE | Isaiah 43:4

Isaiah 43 starts out with, "But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior... Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you." (ESV)

It is good when you and I receive a "Fear not" message from Almighty God. Truly God is a God of comfort for His children. It is only to the redeemed that God can give this great comfort. God has been and always will be a God of comfort unto His own. He gave comfort to those who were obedient unto Him in the Old Testament, and in the New Testament Joseph and the shepherds heard these words, "Fear not." We in our day are also given the Holy Spirit as our Comforter. There is no comfort for man unless he has the Holy Spirit dwelling within him

Isaiah 43:4 reads, "Because you are precious in my eyes." Precious means to be of great price or value, to be highly esteemed or loved. We are precious to God because He paid a great price to redeem us from sin. He gave His only begotten Son. We cannot begin to comprehend how precious we are to our Heavenly Father. Besides being precious to God, we are also honored by Him. I Samuel 2:30, "...but now the Lord saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour..." You and I have no reason for God to honor us in what we are in ourselves; it is only when we are in Christ Jesus that honour comes to us from God. So in Christ, we as God's children are precious, we are honored and we are loved. Malachi 3:17 reads, "And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him." 2 Corinthians 16:9, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is prefect toward him." Then in Job 1:10 we are told that God puts a hedge around us, and in 1 Corinthians 2:9 it reads, :But as it is written, Eye has not seen, not ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." Does this not give you great comfort to realize that the Almighty God Himself will consider one individual who has received Jesus Christ as Saviour and tells that one, "I love you." There are many more promises in the Bible that tell us this, and may they just burn deep

into our heart, so that we in turn will love Him with all our heart, soul, and mind. May we realize in part at least how precious God is to us and may we give Him the honor due Him. Why not just now tell Him, "I love you, Heavenly Father."

~Alvin Larson, previous published March, 1979

<u>Receipts</u>							
<u>April 2013</u>		May 2013		<u>June 2013</u>			
General Fund	300.00	General Fund	185.50	General Fund	320.00		
Hungary	225.00	Hungary	285.00	Hungary	195.00		
NLM	150.00	NLM	150.00	NLM	500.00		
NLM Mongolia	100.00	NLM Mongolia	200.00	NLM Mongolia	300.00		
NLM Tanzania	20.00	NLM Ethiopia	100.00	NLM Tanzania	20.00		
April '13 Total	\$795.00	NLM Tanzania	20.00	Retreat Scholarsh	ip 10.00		
Retreat Scholarship 10.00		June '13 Total S	\$1,355.00				
May '13 Total \$950.50							

Fiscal year 2013. (2013 Fiscal began in October 2012)

Mission Gifts:	Apr, May, June '13	TOTAL Fiscal Year 2013
General Fund	\$805.50	\$3,486.50
Retreat Scholarships	\$30.00	\$100.00
EKE-Hungary	\$705.00	\$1,740.00
NLM	\$1,560.00	\$24,383.30

Memorials

For the General Fund in Memory of Leland Dahl by Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Dahl

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP BANNER

FOUNDED BY EDWARD NELSON 1943 | PUBLISHED BY HAUGE FOREIGN MISSION, INC.
Founded at Toronto, South Dakota 1950
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE—\$6.50 PER YEAR
"Blest be the tie that binds"

Editor

Rev. Jonathan Unverzagt | 5729 Basswood Road | Sparta, WI 54656

Please send address changes to the Editor.

Treasurer

Rev. Earl Korhonen | PO Box 363 | Radcliffe, IA 50230

Please send mission gifts, BANNER subscriptions, and renewals to the Treasurer.

BOARD MEMBERS OF HAUGE FOREIGN MISSION

President: Joel Unverzagt—Rochester, MN Vice President: Austin Ross—Mequon, WI Treasurer: Pastor Earl Korhonen—Radcliffe, IA Secretary: Steve Dahl - Plummer, MN Pastor Tim Johnson—Pipestone, MN Don Hanson—Rochester, MN Don Hanson - Roland, IA

Camp Dean—Pastor Jonathan Unverzagt

THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP BANNER 1269 CTH PH Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650