



# MINUTE FOR MISSION

Volume 21, Issue 4 | Autumn 2016



**W**e enjoyed a four-day visit with the Rev. Samuel Ndanga-Toue, President of the Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic. He was here to connect with LPGM and several other partner organizations. A new partner, Congressman Tom Emmer, joined us in the LPGM office. Congressman Emmer asked President Ndanga-Toue how the United States can help bring hope and healing to his war torn country. The President responded, “Help our young people have a bigger purpose through education and good jobs instead of finding their purpose in carrying guns for violent acts.”

Olivet Lutheran Church in Fargo, North Dakota, hosted a meal including salads and traditional African goat meat. It was delicious! Together, we laid hands and prayed for the President. On Sunday morning, Samuel brought greetings during the worship services at Hope Lutheran Church, also in Fargo, and lifted up the partnerships with LPGM, the ELCA, and the Eastern North Dakota Synod, the Western North Dakota Synod, and the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod.

Partnership is a cornerstone of LPGM's effectiveness. We partner with so many and know that we are better together doing God's work in the world.

## Lutheran Church of Central African Republic's President, Samuel Ndanga-Toue, Visits as a Partner with Partners

—by Julie Rogness, LPGM Executive Director



*From photos on the front cover and this page: LPGM welcomed President Ndanga-Toue to our office before visits to both Luther Seminary and Global Health Ministries. A few sightseeing stops along the way included the local fire department and Bachman's before the President was escorted to Fargo alongside Jim Noss and LPGM Executive Director, Julie Rogness. He visited with our companion synods and Olivet and Hope Lutheran congregations where a feast of goat, rice, and other foods were shared together. All in all, a quick but wonderful trip! You can support our work and partnership in the C.A.R. by going to <http://www.lutheranpartners.org> and clicking on DONATE today.*

## Take Your Faith Global in 2017

Join us on a Transformational Travel opportunity in 2017! Which destination speaks to you? There are two to choose from:

*INDIA: February 4-18, 2017, Interfaith Journey.* This trip includes many visits and learning: the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Henry Martyn Institute in Hyderabad, Quo Vadis Interfaith Dialogue Center in Tiruvannamalai, and visits to temples, mosques, and holy places along the way. The cost: ~\$4,000 including airfare. Trip co-leaders: Julie Rogness, LPGM Executive Director, and Daniel Wolpert, Director & Co-Founder of MN Institute of Contemplation and Healing.

*GUATEMALA: April 21 – 30, 2017, Adult Journey OR June 17 – 27, 2017, Intergenerational Journey.* In partnership with the Community Cloud Forest Conservation (CCFC), you will: a) experience and learn from a different culture, b) work alongside CCFC projects in education and agroecology, and c) share the love of Christ. This is a great destination for adults and/or families. The cost: ~ \$1,200 + airfare (approx \$900). Accommodations are clean and rustic.

More information can be found on our website.



## LPGM's Inaugural Legacy Circle a Great Success

On August 23rd, LPGM welcomed 16 individuals to our office to honor their generosity and commitment to LPGM's future. They have each identified LPGM in their estate plans, and we could not be more grateful!

A buffet lunch was served, and then Julie Rogness, LPGM's executive director, spoke about the impact of these types of gifts. Gordy Olson, LPGM founder, also spoke of the commitment it takes to consider global needs alongside our own, and Valerie Aas, LPGM's development and communications director, also welcomed and thanked guests for their generosity. LPGM is excited to host an annual

celebration to honor these individuals for their continued commitment to our work.

We encourage others to consider joining our Legacy Circle! There are several ways in which you can support LPGM through planned gifts, such as bequests, retirement plan assets, charitable trusts, life insurance policies and more. Consult your tax advisor to see if this type of planning makes sense for you and your loved ones. We would be honored! Legacy gifts can provide lasting support and sustain our global mission work for years to come. Find out more on the "Donate" page of our website.



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**THANK YOU  
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*LPGM is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Your contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.*

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## Reminder: Join Us at our Gratitude Gathering / Open House!

LPGM is hosting one more Gratitude Gathering/Open House this fall at our office to:

- Honor Gordon & Betty Olson and their two decades of LPGM leadership
- (Re-)Introduce Julie Rogness, LPGM's Executive Director
- Share program updates for 2017 and beyond
- Kick off our year-end giving season
- Share stories and fellowship over refreshments

We hope that everyone who has been a part of LPGM's work over the years will attend. There will be an informal program at 1 p.m.

**Date: Wednesday, November 9th, Noon – 2 p.m.**

No RSVP necessary, but if you have questions, email Valerie: [Valerie@lutheranpartners.org](mailto:Valerie@lutheranpartners.org).

## **Special Contributions: July 1 - Sept. 30, 2016**

### **IN MEMORY OF / Remembered by**

**KAIA BJORLIE** / Nancy Rand  
**ETHEL FRANZEN** / Mary Ellen Callahan, Betty & Gordon Olson,  
Naomi & Steven Staruch, Anne & Doug Westby  
**SUZANNE D. NELSON** / Melissa Nelson  
**TIM OLSON** / Jenny Seis  
**VERONA SCHILLER** / Julie & Dan Rogness  
**HOMER RED SUTTER** / Laurina & Randy Tofteland

### **IN HONOR OF / Recognized by**

**MARY BEENKEN & NATHAN JOHNSON'S MARRIAGE** /  
Naomi & Steven Staruch, Anne & Doug Westby  
**LUCY BLECHERT** / Valerie Aas & Aaron Blechert  
**ROB & TARA CAHILL** / Karen Roberts  
**DOUG & JANE KOONS** / Jim & Patty Koons  
**JANE KOONS** / Betty & Gordon Olson  
**BETTY & GORDON OLSON** / Phyllis Brynestad