



CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF MISSION!

It was a GIFT to visit Madagascar from August 24 – September 7th. During the visit the goals were to consult with the leaders of the Malagasy Lutheran Church and the leaders of the programs that Friends of Madagascar Mission (FOMM) supports.

We also held an Evangelist Training Event in Antsirabe, Madagascar. Some of the participants traveled for 3 ½ days in overcrowded “bush taxi” to arrive at Antsirabe. One of the evangelists, a woman, shared with us that in addition to the travel time to Antsirabe, she had to walk for 10 hours from her home to catch the “bush taxi”. This account shows the commitment of the evangelists to their work.

What a GIFT it was to be together, about 50 people, and celebrate our mission in Christ! Friends of Madagascar Mission paid for the transportation, lodging and food for all participants. This was a good investment because it is important to have “face to face” dialogue. During each consultation we signed a “Covenant Relationship Agreement” to establish our working relationship. This newsletter has two purposes: 1) To give a summary of our recent mission trip, and 2) To encourage you to support Friends of Madagascar Mission (FOMM) projects.

We are on the FRONT LINES OF MISSION, a unique Gift to all FOMM donors, because: 1) we guarantee 100% of a gift goes to a project selected; 2) we do not take anything from a gift for our Administrative Fund, unless instructed to do so by the donor and 3) we update our donors about what their financial support has accomplished. We believe donors appreciate this!

Please enjoy reading about our mission projects, and we hope you will respond by SUPPORTING THE GIFT OF MISSION!

PEACE IN CHRIST!

The Rev. David P. Lerseth, President

MISSION TRIPS

If you want to see mission in action for yourself, please consider joining a Friend of Madagascar Mission trip.

Contact FOMM to be on an “Interest List” and be notified when another trip is planned!

MISSION SPEAKER

We are able to share the story of God’s Global mission at worship and/or at an educational hour. Contact us to set up a time to visit your congregation!

REPORT ON CONSULTATIONS WITH FOMM PROJECTS

1) Evangelist Training Event

From September 2 – 4, we met with the 35 evangelists supported by FOMM together with the 2 synod presidents, their staffs and other mission program leaders at Ansirabe, Madagascar. Pastor Lerseth gave a presentation on “The Foundational Teachings of the Lutheran Church.” We had a wonderful time together and celebrated our mission together.



2) Prison Ministry

We visited at 2 of the 9 prison ministries supported by FOMM. During our consultation we encouraged them to request permission from the Madagascar Department of Justice to begin vocational training programs as the government does not provide any programs. We expect a positive response as the government wants FOMM to expand into more prisons each year.

3) Bible Schools

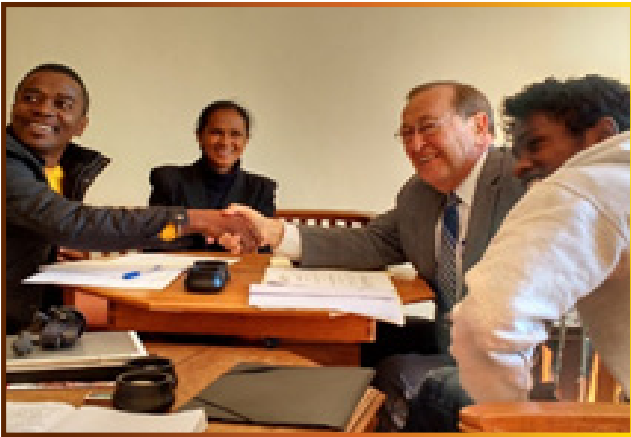
FOMM supports the Manasoa and Mananovy Bible Schools. These schools have a two year course to train evangelists. Pictured is Pastor Sambo Mahaliny, the President of Manasoa Bible School, and Pastor Lerseth signing the Covenant of Agreement with FOMM. It is important to continue to support these schools, so more evangelists may be trained to go out and share the Gospel where it has not been heard. In addition, we plan to implement a drip irrigation program at Manasoa.



4) Steve Lellelid and the Tandroy Bible Translation and Printing Project

After 15 years of Steve translating the Bible into the Tandroy dialect, it seems that one road block after another has stopped us from printing 20,000 copies of this Bible. It was good to meet with Steve and his son Johnny during our visit. We encourage him to continue to seek a printer and a reasonable price so the Tandroy Bible may be printed.

5) Ejeda Nutrition Program (Emergency Food and Medical Project) 6) Drip Irrigation Program



It was good to finally meet Dr. Justin from Ejeda Hospital. We discussed the great need for these programs and how they help the hospital to continue to have patients come for treatment, even if they do not have money to pay for their treatment. In Madagascar the family must provide the food for their family members in the hospital. So, if they do not have food, they do not come to the hospital. We are also working to begin a Drip Irrigation Program, to help families with a new way of growing an adequate food supply. It is a very arid region and often the region suffers starvation.

SUPPORT FOR THESE MISSION PROJECTS IS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED!

SPECIAL GIVING --- January through October 2016

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|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1) Thrivent Choice Gifts (22 donors) | \$1,559.00 |
| 2) Memorial Gifts | \$1,875.00 |

In Memory of

LaVonne Braaten
Erv Toso

Mark Vaagenes

Mildred Knudson

Captain Aaron Eidem
Enoch Thorsgaard
Duane Koenig
Joann Toso
Tom Mikkelsen
Mike Morris

In Honor OF

Al Bergh's birthday
David Lerseth

Morris Vaagenes's birthday

Given by

Carl and Ruth Vaagenes
Arlene Lelleid
Roger and Janet Ose
Peter and Judith Dryud
Nancy and Bruce Godfrey
David and Diane Lerseth
Kirsten and Jeff Schlicht
Lorraine Simba
Carl and Ruth Vaagenes
Chuck and Penny Eidem
Daniel and Linda Zawack
Chuck and Penny Eidem
David and Diane Lerseth

Given By

Phoebe Bergh
Christ the King, Bloomington, MN
(for his year of interim ministry)
Robert Lockwood

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 3) Gift from a Will | \$125,000.00 |
| Judith Ann Kidd, of the United Kingdom | |

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE FOMM

If you have an interest in being a part of God's global mission we are seeking persons with the following GIFTS to help build FOMM's mission organization..

- 1) Our web master,
- 2) Our grant writer, or
- 3) Representing FOMM in a your area.

If these opportunities interest you and you wish to partner with us, please contact us to discuss how this might work!

Friends of Madagascar Mission (FOMM)

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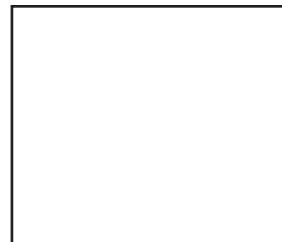
www.MadagascarMission.org

Welcome to our mission!

The Rev. David P. Lerseth, President



P. O. Box 46381
Eden Prairie, MN 55344



WHO ARE WE?

We are a Christian mission organization, incorporated as a nonprofit with approval by the IRS as a 501(c)3 organization with a nine-member board of directors consisting of Lutheran pastors and laypersons. All financial gifts are tax deductible, and donors will receive regular reports on the progress of the project you support.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Individuals who have qualifying Thrivent Financial annuities and/or insurance products will accumulate Choice Dollars. If you qualify, please consider designating them to Friends of Madagascar Mission (FOMM). Visit www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 1-800-847-4836 for details on how to designate and give.

HAVE YOU INCLUDED PLANNED GIVING IN YOUR WILL?

Do you have a will? If so, do you review it annually? With our busy lives we have many things to do and often neglect our wills! FOMM encourages you to contact your financial advisors and prepare or update your will. We also encourage you to remember nonprofit, Christian organizations like FOMM and your local congregation.

FRIENDS OF MADAGASCAR MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

In August 2014 the FOMM Board of Directors established an endowment Fund. At that time we did not know that we would be receiving a gift from the estate of Judith Ann Kidd. It was as if God was telling us to get ready for a large gift and create an Endowment Fund. And so when we received this gift, the FOMM Board of Directors placed the funds in our Endowment Fund, to grow and provide a steady stream of income. God is full of surprises! Thanks be to God!