



To the Ends of the Earth

Mission News from Jim and Liisa Tino

Summer Issue - July 2024

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Want more news?

As the director of Global Lutheran Outreach, Jim writes a monthly newsletter faithfully, **every month!** It is called "From everywhere to everywhere", and highlights the work of GLO missionaries around the world. If you would like to start receiving it, [sign up here](#).

We will continue to send our "personal" e-newsletter (like this one) about 4 times per year.

Want to print this newsletter?

Printable (pdf) editions of our newsletters are **available online here**.

Our Mailing Address

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Miramar, FL 33023

Dear James,

Leading, or Following?

A thought has been rattling around in my head for a few months now. I think it came from a sermon I heard. The preacher said something like this: "Do you make a decision and then ask God to bless it? Or do you pray for God to guide you, and then follow Him?" In other words, are you asking God to follow you? Or are you following Him?

For me, that's huge. I have to admit that most of the time, I make a decision and then ask God to bless it. Sure, I pray before I make a decision. I ask God to make clear to me the path I should follow. I seek advice from other Christians (sometimes), and so on and so forth. But eventually, I decide and ask God to bless it. I think that's the way most of us have been taught to seek God's will. I know that as a pastor, that is what I have taught my members to do.

I'm wondering now if there's another approach. What about just praying and then waiting for God to act? Why don't I do that? Am I too impatient? Or, is it that I don't really believe that God actively intervenes in my life?

Following God, instead of asking Him to follow me. What a concept! I've been trying to do that, and I'm eager to see what God does... if I'm not too impatient!

Here's what we have been up to!

Now that we are no longer

"deployed" missionaries in Chile, what do we do? Are we still doing mission work? You decide!

In May, we **returned to Chile to work again with the "GLO Chile" team**: missionaries Rev. Adrián and Cruz María Ventura; Coralí García; and Elianeth Pineda (all from Venezuela). We also had the joy of joining in the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Lutheran Church in Chile, and Jim officiated a wedding, among other things!

Also in **May**, we travelled to **California** where we were able to visit more of our supporting congregations, **St.**

Paul's and **Searchlight** Lutheran churches in the Orange County, CA area. It was wonderful to "catch up" with brothers and sisters who have been praying for us over the last 10 years. Without their financial support, there probably would not be a young Lutheran church in Santiago, Chile.

We coordinated our California trip to coincide with our **nephew Tim Christenson's high school graduation!** This included special family time with Linda & Scott Christenson and other family who came in for the big event.

In **June**, we went from California to **St. Louis** for the annual "in-person" GLO board meeting, hosted by **Peter and Carla Kirby** (Peter is the GLO treasurer). The board met at the Lutheran Hour office building in St. Louis. It was great to all be together again to review, discuss, plan, and pray about what God is doing through Global Lutheran Outreach.



ABOVE: Jim preaching at St. Paul's Lutheran in Orange, CA.

BELOW: Family gathered to celebrate Tim's graduation!





After the meeting, we were ready for some **vacation days in New Hampshire!** Our daughters, Nika, Soni and Gabi - with husbands and 7 grandkids - made the trip to New England too! Liisa's brother Luke with wife Vio and baby Ezra were also there. Somehow, we all managed to squeeze into the Mattson homestead.



While in New Hampshire, we gave pastor Schneeflock at **Christ Lutheran Church** a Sunday off and Jim led the service. It is always a joy see old friends at Liisa's home congregation and we give thanks to God for the new people that have joined the church under pastor Scheeflock's faithful stewardship. A special blessing: **a double baptism!** Jim got to baptize our grandson Caiden Sipp (son of Gabi and Daniel), and also our grand-nephew Everett Jordan (son of niece Monique and Silas). Also on that Sunday, Luke and Vio solemnized their wedding vows and received a wedding blessing (they were married about a month earlier by a justice of the peace in Detroit).

TEACHERS BLESSED IN GUATEMALA

After our New Hampshire "vacation",

still in **June** we immediately travelled to **Guatemala** where both Liisa and Jim had been invited to help lead an educational symposium sponsored by **LeadAChild**.

LeadAChild - a GLO partner - is a Lutheran mission agency committed to sharing

the Good News of Jesus through Christian education. The Symposium was for teachers and church leaders of the National Lutheran church of Guatemala.

Under the title of "Our Identity in Christ", **more than 140 participants** shared in 3 days of enrichment in Antigua, Guatemala. **Liisa lead workshops** on utilizing music in the classroom, and **Jim preached**. Both Jim and Liisa were translators for workshops for deaconesses, pastors and teachers as well as for daily worship and devotionals.

One of the benefits of being in Guatemala was spending time with our son **Ben, wife Scarlett & their son Jaakko**. Liisa asked Ben to join her in leading music throughout the symposium, and Scarlett attended all the workshops. Jaakko fulfilled the role of making everyone happy with his ready smiles!

We were happy to help LeadAChild, as they have been eager partners of our GLO missionaries who work with schools or have an "After School program" in their ministry. [Learn more about LeadAChild here.](#)



Feeling the Love!

We would like to tell you about **a new project to help missionaries feel loved and supported**. It's called "Wish Well". Four times a year, Global Lutheran Outreach will send out an email with a list of all the missionaries who have a birthday coming up soon. Just click to select the missionary/ies that you want to greet, and your name will be included on a special greeting on their birthday for just \$1 per greeting! You will also get a reminder the day before the missionary's birthday in case you want to send your own special greeting or include them in your prayers on their special day. **Watch for an email about this exciting project** in the next several weeks. Of course, if you do not want to participate, you can opt out when you get the introductory email.

Coming in August...

On August 4, we will be at **Peace Lutheran Church in Sandusky, Michigan**. We are so thankful for the on-going support of this awesome congregation! If you're in that part of Michigan, you're welcome to worship with us at 9 am and then stay to hear what's new with GLO during our presentation at 10:30 am. [You can visit the Peace](#)

[website here.](#)

PRAYERS AND PRAISE

* We praise you, Heavenly Father, for **the new life granted to Caiden and Everett through the saving waters of Baptism**. Bless and guide Gabriela & Daniel Sipp and Monique & Silas Jordan as they strive to parent their children with your wisdom and grace.

* Divine Healer, we implore your mercies for **Amos Otula** (GLO missionary, Kenya) and **Beverly Osier** (Liisa's aunt), both **battling cancer**. Comfort them in their pain and remind them that You are beside them in this valley of affliction. According to Your will, Lord, heal them.

* Thank you, God of Mission, for providing missionaries **Nathan & Heather Pittman** with special people to assist them during this time of adaptation to their new place of service at the Rift Valley Academy in Kenya. Guard over Nathan's health and watch over baby Jay as his mom & dad use their gifts to serve You.

* We pray for all the young couples and families that are part of the congregation "Divina Providencia" in Santiago, Chile. In particular, we give thanks for the recent marriage of Genesis and Ivan and for the new baby born to Soldany and Luis. Bless them in their marriage commitment and in their role as Christian parents.

* All Glory to you, Almighty God, for the **successful knee surgery for Shirley Mattson** (Liisa's mom). Bless her time of therapy and take away all pain that may keep her from returning to a "normal" way of life.

* Lord of the Universe, we place in your hands **Rev. Samuel & Grace Udofia** who have said yes to being your servants in **Tanzania**, but because of unexpected details, have not yet been able to deploy. Guide the members and leaders of their host diocese in Tanzania to get everything in place, according to your will and timing.

* **We praise You, Omniscient Teacher**, for the successful Lutheran Educator's Symposium in Guatemala. Bless and guide these teachers as they return to their classrooms and point their students to Jesus, the God of Truth. Bless all teachers in the United States during this vacation time and prepare them to begin another school year refreshed in God's love.

* Lord of Love, **shower your grace on Lauren (Jim's niece) and Rick** Stewert as they prepare to make their marriage vows in August. Bless their union in Christ with the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide them in joy, love and forgiveness.

* We magnify your name, Father of the Nations, for the efforts of many sister Lutheran churches to send workers into foreign lands. We pray for **upcoming GLO mission conferences in Paraguay and Guatemala**. Raise up willing souls who are open to using their gifts in a different culture and/or language. Guide the national churches in supporting these brothers and sisters with prayers and finances.

SUPPORT CORNER

"Do you still need support?"

We get asked that question once in a while. People wonder, "Now that you are full-time director of Global Lutheran Outreach, don't you get a salary?" It's a fair question. At this time, however, GLO as an organization is not large or mature enough to pay a full salary. GLO can pay a partial salary, and **our plan is to supplement that through the offerings of our faithful mission partners.** We want to avoid shifting the burden of our support to our other missionaries.

To make an online contribution, [click here](#).

Or, you can mail a check to:

Global Lutheran Outreach

6709 Ficus Dr.

Miramar, FL 33023

(put "Jim & Liisa Tino" on the memo line of the check.)

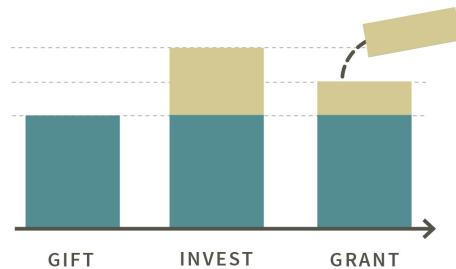
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LEAVE A MISSION LEGACY!

Do you have a passion to see that the Good News of Jesus continues to be shared at home and around the world? Rather than being spent on immediate needs, a gift to the Global Lutheran Outreach Endowment Fund will be invested under the management of the Lutheran Legacy Foundation, and the gains on the investment will provide resources for Lutheran mission work for generations to come! [Learn more here](#).

GLO CAN NOW RECEIVE DONATIONS OF STOCK!

How an endowment fund works



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