

The Voice of Renewal

NEWSLETTER OF LUTHERAN LAY RENEWAL OF AMERICA

*Renewing faith and promoting spiritual growth in individuals and congregations
with renewal weekends, retreats, workshops, and conferences*

Celebrating 53 Years!

July, A.D. 2026

WATER PROJECT IN OJEBURUN, UGANDA

"I want to let you know that the Lutheran Church of Uganda, in partnership with the Global Health Ministries, provided a borehole for the Christians of Ojeburun. This borehole will provide the church, school and the whole community with water." – Rev. Peter Maganda, Dean, Lutheran Church of Uganda, Eastern Deanery



The new borehole with the new church and school building in the background.

We are delighted to see the new borehole on church land in Ojeburun, which is a real blessing to the people of this village. Although Lutheran Lay Renewal did not need to fund the borehole, we have provided funding for the land purchase and building construction in this remote area of Serere District. We hope to have construction completed soon, but more funding is still needed.

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NEWS FROM RWANDA

"Praise the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Currently things are not easy. You know well the problems caused by the Strait of Hormuz, where the cost of transport is double and the government of Rwanda told us that we must travel only when it is necessary; the cost of food is now double. And now because of EBOLA: all borders (Ports of Entry) of Rwanda and Democratic Republic of Congo are closed. And again we have the problem of sun (drought) in Eastern province which caused the low harvest and many will not harvest because of this sun. The hunger (need of food) is continuing to be a problem.

May you remember God's people in Rwanda in your prayers in regards of the need of food and hunger. Please, share this prayer request to men and women who donate to LLRA, hoping they will help and support in Jesus' name. God bless you and God bless the leaders of LLRA, and God bless the USA." – Rev. Jean Claude Maniragaba, President, Martin Luther Evangelical Church of Rwanda

Editor's note: Many thanks to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, West Falls, NY, Ascension Lutheran Church, Rolling Hills Estates, CA and an anonymous donor, for providing LLRA with funds to send to the MLELC of Rwanda to help with drought relief, and also to buy Bibles for the people of Rwanda. Of course, more help is still greatly needed.

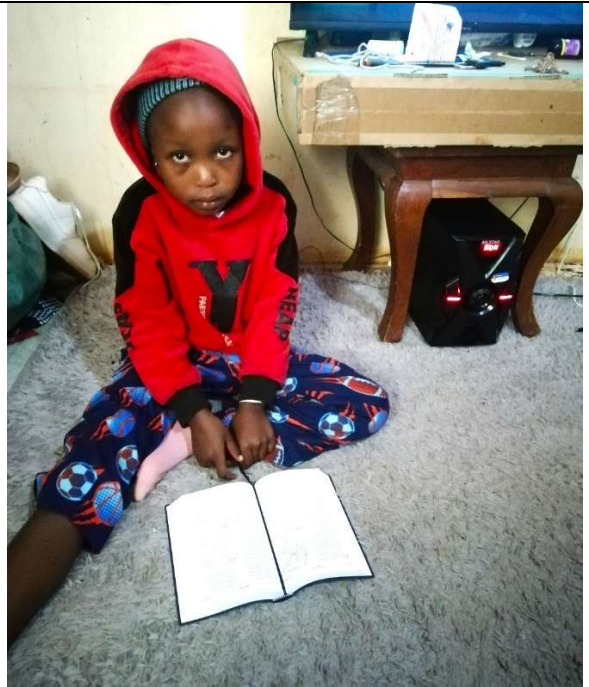


Food Distribution at a Lutheran Church in Rwanda in June

Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' – Matthew 25:34-36

NEWS FROM KENYA

"Here's a very interesting picture that I took from my pastoral visit this week. This young girl and her mother became Lutheran members early this year. From the record they were not actually members of any congregation for a long time and to my surprise the family never had any copy of the Bible with them. Luckily enough, during their confirmation we were able to gift them this copy. The child read the verse from John 3:16 and a few others that she has memorized from the Bible we gifted. The family told us how the Bible has been a blessing to their family devotional life. Special thanks to LLR for bringing this gift to us." – Rev. Rufus Mwandiki, Director of Communications, Mt. Kenya Lutheran Synod



Editor's Note: Thank you to a generous donor who provided the funds to purchase Bibles for Kenya!

AUGUST CONFERENCE IN KENYA

The Evangelical Lutheran Conference and Ministerium of Kenya will be holding a conference during the last week of August, the theme of which is Psalm 119:105 - *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path*. Our Executive Director is honored to have been invited by Bishop Geoffrey Mburugu to be one of the speakers, which Bill is planning to do remotely from the U.S.

Does your congregation need a spiritual boost? Are your people in need of deeper spirituality and understanding? Maybe it's time to schedule one of our LLR retreats, a workshop or renewal weekend. Call our office or check our website for details and informational flyers!

OUR PARTNERS IN AFRICA NEED OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

The financial needs of our partners in Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya are great, as this is a very poor area of the world. Would you or your congregation be willing to help? One hundred percent of any donations to Lutheran Lay Renewal will go to the need designated by the donor or, if you prefer to work directly with a church or ministry in Africa, please contact our office and we will put you in touch with church leaders there.

Lutheran Lay Renewal of America is eligible to receive Choice Dollars Grant Funds from the Thrivent Financial Choice Dollars program. We are grateful to Thrivent Financial, and those individuals who designate their Choice Dollars to us, for their support of LLRA and its ministry!

"The Gospel is true because it deprives men of all glory, wisdom, and righteousness and turns over all honor to the Creator alone. It is safer to attribute too much glory unto God than unto man." — Martin Luther, Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians

"When we become united to Christ by faith, something so tremendous happens that the New Testament cannot find language adequate to describe it. It is a new birth, yes, but also a new creation, a resurrection, light out of darkness, and life from the dead. We were slaves, now we are sons. We were lost, now we have come home. We were condemned and under the wrath of God, now we have been justified and adopted into his family. What subsequent experience can possibly compare with this in importance? We must be careful, in describing deeper experiences, not to denigrate regeneration or to cast a slur on this first, decisive and creative work of God's love." - John R.W. Stott

"Whatever your heart clings to and confides in, that is really your God." - Martin Luther

"We all want progress, but if you're on the wrong road, progress means doing an about-turn and walking back to the right road; in that case, the man who turns back soonest is the most progressive." - C. S. Lewis

"When men choose not to believe in God, they do not thereafter believe in nothing, they then become capable of believing in anything." - G.K. Chesterson

"There are two kinds of people one can call reasonable: those who serve God with all their heart because they know him, and those who seek him with all their heart because they do not know him." - Blaise Pascal

"I believe I am not mistaken in saying that Christianity is a demanding and serious religion. When it is delivered as easy and amusing, it is another kind of religion altogether." — Neil Postman

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Healing for Elaine and Jack Schomaker, Jade, Julie, Dan Klueg
- For the Lord's blessings on our ministry in the U.S., Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya,
- and the financial resources that are needed for this ministry to continue to grow and flourish

Lutheran Lay Renewal of America is a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization (tax ID#35-2442848) and depends on contributions from churches, and individuals, that have benefited from our ministry to help us continue to bring this ministry to more and more congregations all across America - and also in Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya!

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