

CHANGING PATHS

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Whether at church, home, or in our community, we have experienced God's rich blessings of affirmation in this ministry. We continue to witness people responding to the need to gather together, in Word and Sacrament ministry, and also as a body of believers participating in a life of fellowship and mutual encouragement. Much of this fall has revolved around our local church of International Lutheran Church. 'Worldly' tasks such as working together to upkeep the grounds (#1) are important, but even more so is the chance to learn and teach, even through the mouths of children. Our annual Reformation Drama (#2) reminded the congregation (and the children acting it out) that it is through faith alone on account of Christ that we are saved by grace. Our family was also happy to play roles in organizing Oktoberfest (#3) and the long-standing ILC tradition of an 'old-fashioned' Thanksgiving dinner (#4). These provide outlets for inviting school friends and others in the community who otherwise wouldn't necessarily be willing to come to church. The youth group at church has grown more (but still all girls!) and a special one-day Women's Retreat (#5) was organized by Chenhsi Hanson and catered by Dee Dee. We were also happy to welcome a colleague from Taiwan, Barb Rebentisch, to present as a special speaker.

Matt's schedule included an important gathering of all of the LCMS Asia missionaries at our main office in Taiwan (#6). There, he was able to collaborate with colleagues, strengthen friendships, learn more about our sending organization and the ways it supports us in this work, and plan for future ministry opportunities.



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He also traveled to Concordia University Nebraska for a meeting with fellow volunteer coordinators who work with short-term mission teams. This was immediately followed by the annual Beautiful Feet Missions Conference (#7), where he was able to present to university students interested in serving overseas as well.

On a more personal note, Olivia turned 16 (#8) and we attended two weddings, one of which was of a dear friend from our church whose family has ties to Lutheran ministry in Mexico and the U.S. (#9). Lily is a high school senior and this fall has kept her busy with applications and interviews. She turned in her first official university application on October 4 (#10) and she waits on the Lord's direction as admission decisions will start to come out in December.

We (#11) are grateful to serve here as your partners in the Gospel. We sincerely thank you for all that you do to make this possible - through notes, emails, cards, prayer support, one-time gifts, long-term pledges, and even just your thoughts of encouragement and concern. As we head into Advent, we await the Prince of Peace to be born for all humankind, so that through His life, death, and resurrection we might know His heavenly peace forever.



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