



POP NEWS BLAST



Reminders

Make sure you follow us on social media and sign up for POP's weekly announcement emails.

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office@popphoenix.org

HAPPY
easter

3641 N. 56th Street, Phoenix AZ 85018 | 480.945.9537



April 2022

Pastor Rick Sherrill



ONE

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.” 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

There is an oft-circulated cartoon of an elephant with this pleading, perplexed and frightened look on its face. It's precariously balanced right on the very edge of a cliff, just ready to fall. The only thing keeping it from plummeting over the edge is the fact that it has its tail wrapped around the stem of a daisy. The caption, reads: "Sometimes you just gotta hold on!"

There's a lot of truth in that. Life is hard, and if anyone tries to tell you differently, they're probably trying to sell something. At times it's all we can do just to hold on. Life can deal out some pretty nasty blows and when it does, it really gets hard to hold on. We grasp at almost anything. We feel like the elephant: frightened and perplexed.

When life grabs us and gives us a good shake, when we find ourselves hanging on like that elephant, what do we do? Where do we turn?

As followers of Jesus, we turn to Him, and then we turn to each other, the body of Christ. That's why this passage from 1 Corinthians is so important. It speaks of the unity of God's people, of real teamwork, of living in an extraordinary way. This passage gives us some unusual marching orders that look downright silly and old school in our culture. Unity in a dog-eat-dog world?

Teamwork in a time when most people think the phrase "Look out for #1" is really in the bible? That's right! Whether we recognize it or not, Christians around the world and around the block have ONE Spirit.

As the Body of Christ, we are all born of ONE Spirit. We've all received the same baptism from the same Lord and consequently we're all filled with the same spirit, God's Holy Spirit. I cringe when people say "I was baptized Lutheran," because there is really no such thing as an exclusive "Lutheran Baptism," as if somehow we've got a corner on the market. I don't care if you've got a Catholic, Baptist, Methodist or Inter-Denominational background or if you were raised in the holy church of St. Sleep-in-on-Sundays – what matters is that followers of Jesus have ONE Spirit.

It's this ONE Spirit that holds us together in the hard times of struggle and the hard times of tragedy and trial. When there are people praying together in a hospital room, that's the Holy Spirit at work. When there are people making meals for families that are struggling with illness and death, that's the Holy Spirit at work.



When there are people who are willing to sit and hold someone whose heart is breaking, and cry with them, that's the Holy Spirit at work. We don't do these things because we're "nice" people, we do them because we're the body of Christ and we have ONE Spirit.

Think of it this way. When the Christian church is functioning at its best, we have many hearts, but ONE HEARTBEAT. Feel your heart for just a moment. Now imagine that everyone in our community is on the same beat. When we are at our best we are. ONE heartbeat for those in pain, ONE heartbeat for those who are celebrating, ONE heartbeat for those who our society has no use for, ONE heartbeat for those welcoming new babies, ONE heartbeat for those who those people who have no family, ONE heartbeat for those who are sick and dying, ONE heartbeat that's in tune with God's own heart.

I thank Jesus everyday that I am a part of His body in our little corner of the world. Sometimes life throws us curves. Sometimes we can't help but smile. Together we can help each other hold on and together we can make this world a different place. Why? Because in our best and worst moments, we still have ONE Spirit and ONE heartbeat.

Peace,

Pastor Rick



Holy Week - Everyone Welcome!



Palm Sunday

April 10

9:30 am

at Prince of Peace



Maundy Thursday

April 14

6:30 pm

at Shepherd of the Hills



Good Friday

April 15

12:00 pm

7:00 pm

at Prince of Peace

He is
Risen



at Prince of Peace

Easter Sunday

April 17

8:00 am Outside

9:30 am Inside

Easter Egg Hunt following
the 9:30am Service!



Mark your calendars!

Attention all BG's!

Next Meetup is scheduled on:

**Friday, April 29th
at 4:00pm**

Meet at Kelly's at Southbridge

7117 E. 6th Ave, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Join us for Bible Study!

Theology Pub at Fate Brewery

Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Rick

Tuesday Women's Bible Study



Calling all 6th-12th Grade Youth!

Youth Mission Trip - Summer '22

July 24-29, 2022 in San Diego, Ca

Students in 6th - 12th Grade Join us for this amazing mission event!

Fun. Service. Games. Faith. Laughter.

Friends are welcomed to join us!

\$250 per person/\$100 deposit due May 31st



Learn more about the trip



Register Here

For info call Chad Diegle (480) 437-4977 | or chaddiegle@popphoenix.org



New Members



The Westby Family!

Michael, Jasmine, Addison and Olivia!

The Allin Family!

Taylor, Sarah, and Easton!

The Herrmann Family!

Pam and Tom

The Koury Family!

Alex, Amzi, and Naila!

The Grintjes/Powers Family!

Nathan and Lindsay

YOUR 2022 New Council Board Members!



Abby Brown

President

Kris Kainass

President Elect

Scott Smidlein

VP Preschool

Jack Ranby

Personnel

Josh Hoffner

Secretary

Phil Pierce

Treasurer

Laurel Edgar

Financial Secretary

Jan Beebe

Member at Large

Tony Hammond

Member at Large

Gwen Jacobs

Member at Large



Thank you to Steve Edgar and Brenda Johnston for completing their congregational council service!

Ashes To Go Ash Wednesday



Lent 2022



In partnership with Shepherd of the Hills

POP PRES



Temple Music and Performing Arts
Summer Camps at Prince of Peace!

Check
it
out



Addams Family

Ages 13-17

June 6-9, 13-16, 19-23

M-Th 5p-9p, Sat 1p-4p



The Wizard of Oz Camp

Ages 7-12

May 31-June 10 (Mon-Fri)

9am-3pm

Kids On
Stage
PERFORMANCE
CAMPS



Kids on Stage

Ages 7-14

June 13-23, Mon-Thurs

9am-3pm

<https://www.templeperformingarts.com/>



Thank you to Steve Crofton, Steve Edgar, the Packathon planning team, community and sponsors for making this happen!
We packed over 100,000 meals!



Awesome team of volunteers!



over 500 people of all ages volunteered to pack food!



Arcadia Cares Food for Kidz Packathon -2022 Sponsors

Golden Bowl Sponsors

**10,000+
Meals**

- Earl Fuchs & Laurie Peterson
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Foundation
- Prince of Peace Preschool
- Mark, Ginny & Kevin Wooden

Silver Bowl Sponsors

**5,000+
Meals**

- Arcadia Camelback Mtn Nghbrhd Assc
- Grand Canyon Synod of the ELCA

Bronze Bowl Sponsors

**2,000 +
Meals**

- Ironman Foundation
- Susan and Paul Gilbert



THANKYOU



We LOVE our community!

*God's Work.
Our hands.*



March Outreach helped the 2022



ACFFK Packathon pack over 100,000 meals!



April - Water for the homeless is the Outreach of the Month



Bring in bottles of water or Donate \$ towards the purchase of cases of water.

- Narthex
- Preschool Office
- Church Office



Donate on website
Text your donation to (833-441-0048)
*Enter the amount as your text message
*Press send.
*You'll receive a registration link.
Click on it then tap "process."

Ministry Partner of the Month

March 10th, 2022



Operation Bootstrap Africa

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
3641 N. 56th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85018

5701 Kentucky Ave N
Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55428
T: 612.871.4980
Toll: 1.888.755.1318

info@bootstrapafrica.org
www.bootstrapafrica.org

Dear Friends at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for making a difference in Africa. It has come to our attention that you have made a generous gift of \$2,200.00 to Operation Bootstrap Africa for Sembeyo Loibanguti and Ester Lomnyaki's school fees. We want to express our most sincere gratitude. This expression of appreciation is a reflection of those whom your gift helps in Africa. Your donation creates opportunities that can change lives for generations to come.

Operation Bootstrap Africa has been changing lives since 1965. Today our work supports a variety of needs including scholarship funds for secondary and post-secondary education, primary school breakfast and lunch programs, teacher salaries, school construction, special needs education, healthcare and health education programs, and more.

When we visit our projects in Tanzania, Kenya, and recently in Madagascar, the students and teachers ask us to thank the generous donors who have made their education possible. "We have nothing to give in return other than our prayers."

Thousands of people have gained access to education and healthcare thanks to OBA donors like you! Your generous gift brings hope to those who have few opportunities in their lives—**thank you!**

In service to the people of Africa,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Bergmann".

Jason Bergmann
Executive Director



For 57 years Operation Bootstrap Africa has been making a difference in Africa as an independent 501©3. Charity Navigator has recognized OBA as one of the most fiscally responsible organizations in the US for 8 years running with a 4/4 rating. Your contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Please keep this letter as your tax receipt. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your gift.



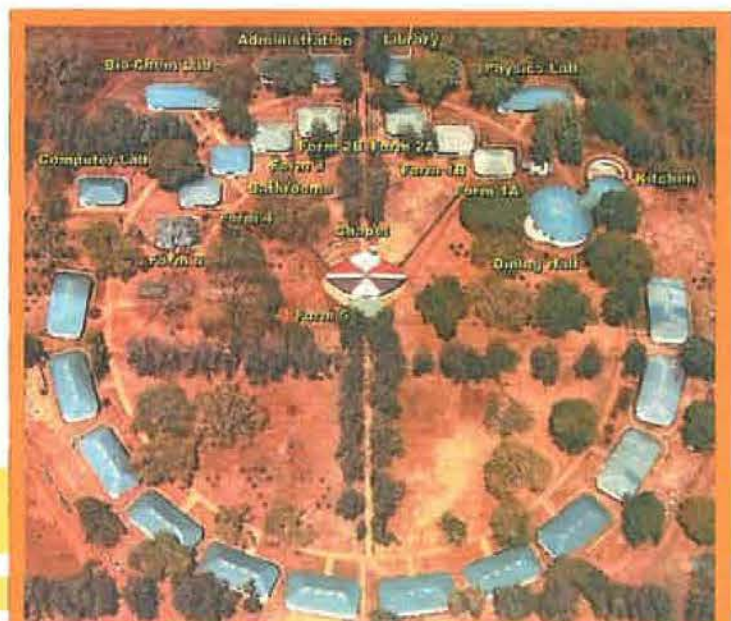
About MaaSAE Girls Lutheran Secondary School (MGLSS)

MGLSS is a first-of-its-kind residential secondary school for girls from the Maasai tribes of Tanzania. MGLSS was founded in 1995 and celebrated its first graduating class in 1999. Since that time, more than 800 students have graduated from the school.

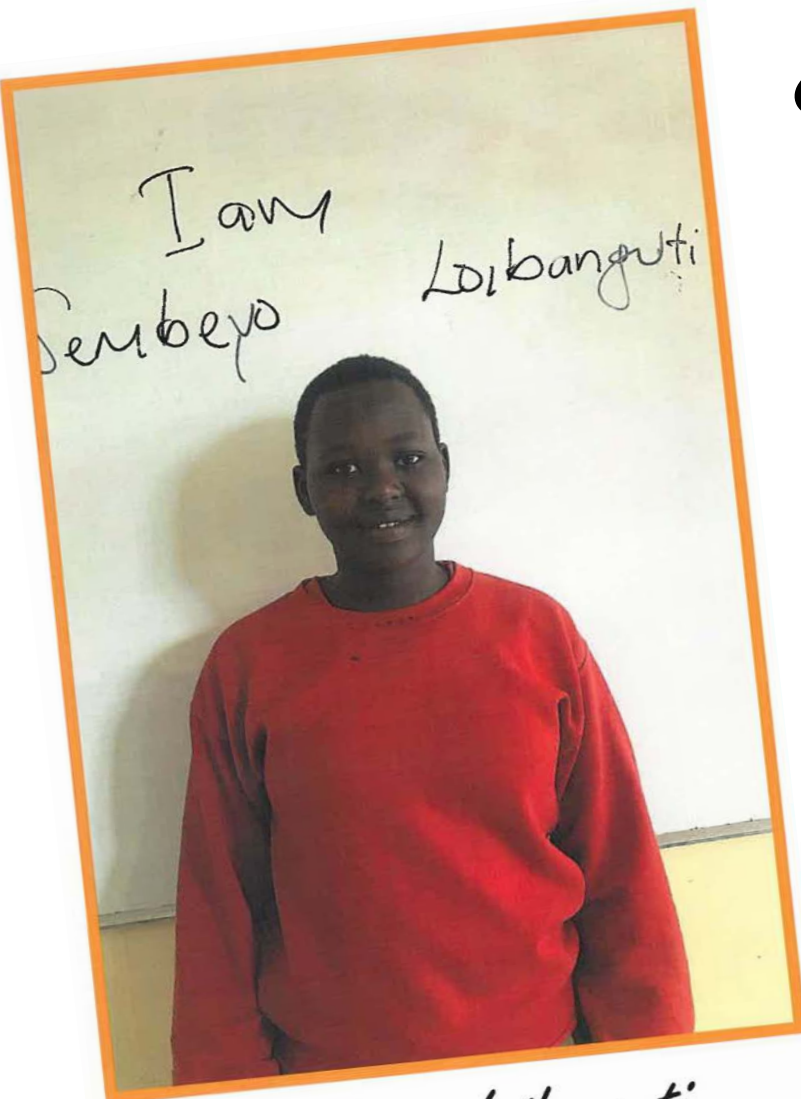
MGLSS is unique in having created a 3-month “Preform” program that allows students entering their Form 1 year to better prepare for a secondary education. This is necessary as the quality of primary schools in Tanzania varies greatly. Girls education is also not strongly valued by the Maasai people, and so students may need additional support in their early years at the school to catch up to grade level, or may even repeat one year of school. MGLSS strives to create every opportunity for disadvantaged girls to succeed.

Each year Operation Bootstrap Africa and our sponsors provide scholarships for more than half of the students at MGLSS. A scholarship covers the cost of a secondary school education for a student who would otherwise be unable to afford it.

Students come to the school primarily from rural and often distant villages, and return home during breaks two times each school year. OBA and MGLSS commit to providing a safe and healthy environment for students while they are away from their families.

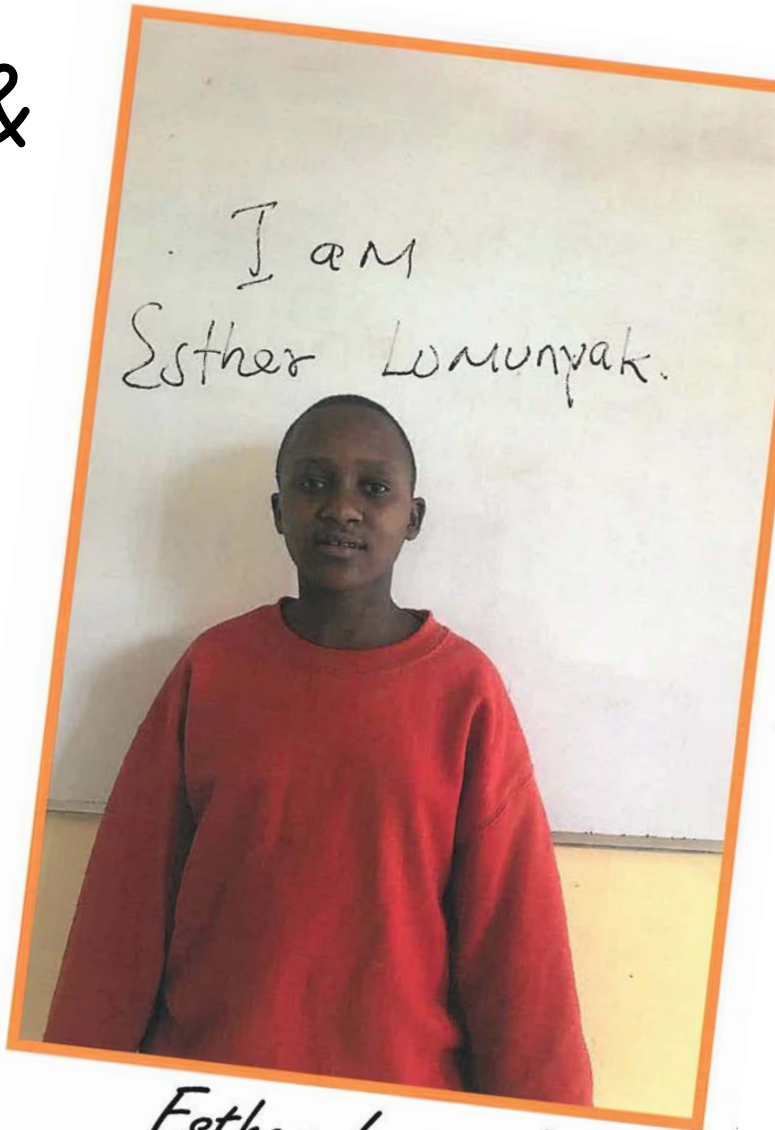


Our sponsored students Meet Sembeyo and Ester!



Sembeyo Loibanguti

&



Esther Lomnyaki

Education in Tanzania

School is free and government-provided in Tanzania, but in a public school one teacher will have an average class size of 160 students.

Less than 30% of students achieve a secondary school education, and less than 3% attend university.

Population: 59,586,490
Population Below Poverty Line (<\$2 per day): 49.1%
Average Annual Income: \$900
Official Languages: Swahili and English
Literacy Rate: 77.89%

Academic Calendar

Forms 1-4 attend school January–October. This is the equivalent of a junior high and early high school education. After Form 4, students take their national exams and are either placed in a technical school or continue on to Forms 5-6 of secondary school.

Forms 5-6 attend school July-May. This is the equivalent of the first year of university. After graduation, Form 6 students take additional national exams. Those students who pass their exams are able to continue their studies in university and are placed in a school by the Tanzanian government.

MGLSS is ranked in the top 7% of schools in Tanzania. Most students continue on to careers in education and healthcare.



Get to Know Your Student

Name: Esther Lomnyaki

Age: 17

Birthday: July 7, 2005

Village/Hometown: Lendikinya

Esther has 12 people in her family who live in the same boma (hut) including her father Lomnyack, her mother Anna, her cousins Namnyack, Qwini, and Molari, and 6 siblings.

Esther's favorite subjects in school are science and mathematics. She hopes to become a doctor someday.

Esther helps around the house by cooking and doing the laundry. In her free time she enjoys playing basketball and soccer (football).

English is
their 3rd
language!



*We can send encouraging notes directly
to the girls!*

Get to Know Your Student

Name: Sembeyo Loibanguti

Age: 18

Birthday: January 1, 2005

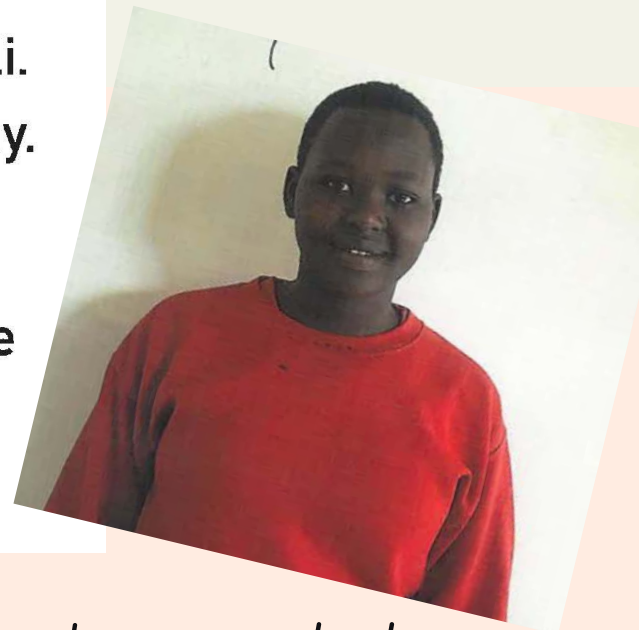
Village/Hometown: Loiborsoti

Sembeyo has 19 people in her family who live in the same boma (hut) including her father Loibanguti, her mother Naini, and 15 siblings.

Sembeyo's favorite subjects in school are biology, mathematics, and Kiswahili. She hopes to become a doctor someday.

Sembeyo helps around the house by collecting water, cooking, and doing the laundry. In her free time she enjoys playing netball.

*We will
receive
updates
directly
from the
girls!*



Sponsorship lasts 4-7 years and covers tuition, housing, meals, uniforms, textbooks, fees for an entire academic year!

Prince of Peace recently donated \$5,000 to Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest - below is part of the Thank you letter we received.

"You made an incredible difference in 2021 with your support for people in need. Along with other congregations, you helped to collect hundreds of comfort kits for children in foster care, over 1,100 new bed sheets for older adults, hundreds of coats for refugees and children in foster care, thousands of snack packs for asylum seekers, and enough hygiene and cleaning supplies for people in all of our programs.

Volunteers are providing safety and love to people experiencing homelessness, refugees, children in foster care, and more. Additionally, your prayers, cards, and kind words have sustained our staff and volunteers in doing this work throughout the past year. We are so grateful for you.

We look forward in anticipation to another year of partnership with you, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Even in times of difficulty, you stand strong in your faith, trusting in the hope of a new day. We know that there are more people in need than we can reach, but we will answer the next call, meet the next older adult or family in need, care for refugees and asylum seekers as if there were not hundreds behind them. Together we seek to do God's work with our hands."

In peace and gratitude,

Connie Phillips, President & CEO Lutheran Social Services
of the SW

Prince of Peace recently donated \$460 to Lutheran Campus Ministry at Arizona State University - here is a Thank you note we received.

Dear Pastor Rick and members of Prince of Peace:

I am writing to thank you for your gift of \$460.00 to the ministry of Christ through Lutheran Campus Ministry, Arizona State University. We are grateful for your generous and continued support of our outreach to students.

This has continued to be a hybrid year in terms of how our ministry operates. Some of that is good. For our in person and online Bible study we have alumni as well as current students take part. One alum is a grad student in Germany and stays up to 2am to take part each week.

Most of our current students are new to our ministry this year. With our usual avenues for recruitment taken from us, we are happy with the number of new students who sought us out looking for a safe and welcoming community.

Thank you, as always, for your partnership in our ministry. We work hard to provide leaders for the church (4 alumni are now in seminary) and to serve students, faculty, and staff of ASU and surrounding community colleges. Thank you for helping to make this possible.

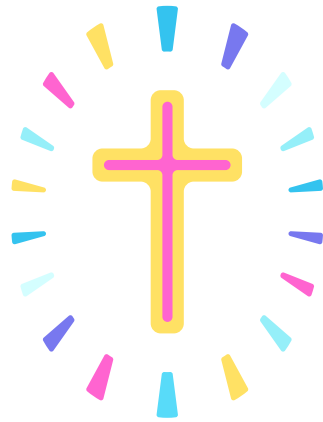
Gratefully in Christ,

Gary N McCluskey Pastor, University Lutheran Church, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Arizona State University

Thank you Grace Swanson for refreshing the Columbarium with beautiful flowers!



Wishing you a Blessed Easter!



www.facebook.com/poppoenixaz



www.instagram.com/poppoenix



office@poppoenix.org

