









Len Ministries | Rev. Len Showalter 13856 Danforth Drive S. | Jacksonville, FL 32224 len@lenministries.org | www.lenministries.org (904) 992-0545 | FAX (904) 992-0547

April 2021

Understanding the Times

"to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some." 1Corinthians 9:22 (NKJV)

We must understand the times/season that we are in. We are not to be ruled by any attack, virus, or enemy. We are led by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Now is the time to not retreat, but to take the Good News of Jesus Christ to the highways and byways of our lives. Many that are bound by fear are sick and dying. They need Jesus. Len Ministries was started in 1996 to "never stop taking the Gospel into

the world to seek and to save those which were lost."

Even with the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions Len has continued to evangelize and train others to fulfill their calling. Many churches have felt the pressure to reduce their efforts to reach the lost, but the work must go on.

In this newsletter you will read about the ongoing evangelism in Jacksonville, in Union Correctional Institution

(UCI), and in Siberia. Those to whom the various teams witnessed are hungry for the Good News of Jesus Christ. The results indicate that a larger percentile are giving their hearts to Christ.

To continue reaching more churches to reach more of their communities in Jacksonville and around the world, Len Ministries will be holding its annual friend raising golf tournament event on Friday, May 14, 2021. It will be held at the TopGolf facility, 10531 Brightman Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32246, with all proper protocols. The event will feature great raffles, a silent auction, and many door

prizes.

"Lunch at the Bay" is the theme. Registration will start at noon and the play will begin immediately following lunch at 12:15. There will be six players per team in each bay. Competition will be by team and by player.

If you are a "high or low" skilled player you will have a great time. Even if you are not a "golfer" you would enjoy playing, too. But if you want to come and just watch there is provision for you.

Help the Gospel go forth. Register online to play,

or watch, or sponsor a team at: www.lenministries.org/golf or call the ministry at (904)992-0545.



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Ministry Continues

[ULAN-UDE, SIBERIA] Beginning in 2010 Len Ministries has conducted International Evangelism Schools (IES) in various cities in Siberia, Russia. Much focus has been given to reach the Buryat, an unreached people group. Pastor Sergey Leonidovich and his team in Ulan-Ude attended the IES in 2010 and were equipped and then assisted LMI in training more churches in Siberia. During winter the rivers are frozen for six months and therefore make access possible to remote northern villages along Lake Baikal. Here is their latest [edited] February report:

There are still many villages in Buryatia that you can not reach in summer due to a lack of roads, and you have to use winter time to get there on frozen rivers. This time we had a team of nine people in two cars. The roads are mostly gravel, full of potholes, and there is no asphalt.

Several times there were

moments when our jeep skidded, but God helped us

as we drove more than 1,300 miles.
We stopped in one of the northern villages, Bagdarin, which is 375 miles far from Ulan-Ude; from this village we drove early every morning to more distant villages to preach there. On this trip, we used both literature and food packages for needy families. Our team visited families and met an entire family and prayed for them. The other part of the team went from

house to house and preached the Word of God. On the first day of our trip, the temperature was -40F but during the day it warmed up to -13F, and we thank God that the days became warmer and we could

preach the Gospel. We had breaks and got in the car to drink hot tea

from thermos flasks.

Most of the people in the villages are very open, most of them invited us to a house to drink tea and have a talk. We used this time to be accessible to people and dozens after such meetings prayed the repentance prayer. In the northern villages, electricity is turned on from the diesel station only during 3 to 5 hours a day. When we talked to a young girl, she received Christ into her heart. We were particularly moved by the fact that she shared her pain with grief and tears - she has not been able to get pregnant for a long time. We

and tears - she has not been able to get pregnant for a long time. We prayed for her. Let's hope for God's miracle in her life. There were cases when people themselves came up to us right on the street and asked questions, wanted us to pray for them. In distant villages, there were no missionaries or new people. Guests are rare and that's why "the field is not plowed" and the need for ministers of

spiritual care is great.









Every time we go on such trips, we understand that despite many difficulties and various dangers that we have to overcome, such as frosts, bad roads, lakes and rivers where you can fall under the ice, we understand that this is a good time to learn to trust God more. In such trips your faith grows. You remember well all the promises of God. We understand that God is close to us and He carefully guards and guides us.

God bless you, Sergey and our team.



TO SEE A VIDEO OF THE TRIP:

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Equipping for Soul-winning

[JACKSONVILLE, FL] Len Ministries conducted its annual training for pastors and lay leaders February 22 - 26, 2021. The International Evangelism School was held at Adamec's Harley-Davidson building, 8909 Baymeadows Rd, Jacksonville, FL, 32256. Mark and Chris Adamec and The five-day series of classes were filled staff were very welcoming. with about 4 hours of lectures each day and accompanied with about 2 hours of practicum and a short report session. Len Showalter headed the effort and was assisted by Carla Bitancor as an assistant teacher and by Cathy Russi as a team leader for witnessing. Joe Maddox from Smyrna, TN, was the single student who successfully completed the course and graduated on Friday.



Witnessing occurred Tuesday through Friday. The teams went to the Avenues Mall, Shoppes at Baymeadows and Southside Blvd, and Riverside Park. The weather was very cooperative as were those that were approached. 50% of those that the teams spoke to gave their hearts to Christ or received assurance of their salvation. (See pg. 4 "Just the Facts.")

One interesting story happened with Alliana at the Avenues Mall. Carla and Len approached a

kiosk that sold 3-D pictures imbedded in acrylic. The workers name was Alliana. Len talked to her about Annie, who gave her heart to Jesus and who worked the booth the prior year. It turned out that Annie and Alliana are sisters. They are now sisters in the Lord, too!







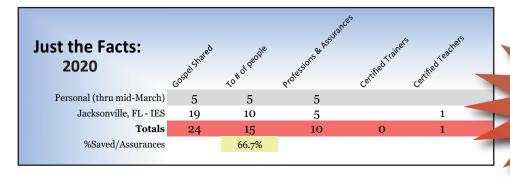
[North Jacksonville Church of God] Pastor Jim Hull of North Jacksonville Church of God, 7600 Kenya St, Jacksonville, FL, 32208, invited Len Ministries to begin equipping Jimmy and Ruth Sutton in their first set of classes in evangelism. They meet on Thursday evenings from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The time together includes an hour of lecture, one and a half hours of visitation, and a wrap-up of 30 minutes. The classes will extend for a 13-week semester and then afterwards more students will be enlisted. Want to join this class or the next? Call Len.

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[Union Correctional Institution - Evangelism Training] Sr. Chaplain Joe Henkle continues to oversee the evangelism ministry at All Souls Chapel on campus at UCI. Chaplains Jeff Campbell and Linard Johnson assist as needed. Pastor Len Showalter continues the teaching of the weekly evangelism class that has been ongoing for ten years. After a brief pause due to the Corona virus shutting down the campus, the ministry is proceeding. Len will preach the Sunday following Easter and enlist new students with the help of the previously equipped inmates. Classes will be held for two hours each week with witnessing spread through out the week as allowed. Want to help teach? Call Len.



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Spend the week on a mission trip Change a nation

Calendar

Please note: event dates and locations are subject to change

(check lenministries.org/wanna-go)

May 14, 2021: TopGolf Tournament Jacksonville, FL

June 14 - 18, 2021:

International Evangelism School Ivanovo, Russia

June 21 - 25, 2021:

International Evangelism School Sakhalin, Russia

June 28 - July 2, 2021:

International Evangelism School Komsomolsk, Russia

September 2021:

International Evangelism School Punta Gorda, Belize

September 2021:

International Evangelism School El Salvador

October 2021:

International Evangelism School Libreville, Gabon

October 2021:

International Evangelism School Kigali, Rwanda

Contact LMI to join a team!

~note possible travel restrictions due to COVID-19~



A Note From Marcia

The first quarter of 2021 has been filled with challenges for many of us. Covid-19 has limited all of us in ways we never thought possible. Despite this, we have been very blessed. We have stayed healthy, our needs have been met, and we have learned to communicate with friends in family in creative ways.

I went through my second knee replacement in February. Nurse Len did an amazing job taking care of me. He was out of his comfort zone but did an exceptional job trying to make me comfortable. Many thanks to you all for your prayers, assistance, encouragement, and meals that helped my nurse out considerably (\circ).

Ruth and Ryan, Quinn, and Blythe (and dog, Ollie) are back in Coronado, CA, as of the middle of March. We look forward to the day when we may visit with them in person as we have not yet met little Blythe.

Beth, Mike, and Isaac (and dog, Darla) are awaiting the arrival of Adrian Malachi as we write this newsletter. We look forward to meeting their newest addition! Mike is scheduled to deploy the first part of May.

Daryl and Sara (and cat, Patterson) continue to work virtually. While we have been enjoying the warmth of Florida,

they have experienced snow. They continue to keep busy with their outdoor activities and work. We look forward to the time we may visit them in person as well.

Although many have been isolated, Len continues to train others in evangelism locally and at Union Correctional Institute, Raiford, FL. He also leads a Bible Study in our home on Saturday nights. All are welcome. Len was part of the Kairos Ministry team at UCI for March 25-28. May 14th is the LMI TopGolf Tournament; and international travel is expected to resume for LMI in June.

Just as Spring brings us a hope of new growth and warmth, may you especially be filled with the promise of the hope that our Heavenly Father provides us through his Son, Jesus Christ.

Your Missionaries, Len and Marcia Showalter (and dog, Medi)

