

Psalm 139:23-24

# The Christogram

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

March, 2023  
Volume 61 Issue 3



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[clclakeland.org](http://clclakeland.org)

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd  
Lakeland, FL 33805  
863-682-7802

**Serving in March**

**CHRIST LUTHERAN STAFF**

**Pastor**

Rev. Christopher Hazzard  
(cell) 863-732-1322

**Office Secretary**

Terry Krum  
863-682-7802

**Council Officers**

**President** ..... John Freer  
**Vice-President** ..... Ted Nelson  
**Secretary** ..... Robin Fox  
**Treasurer** ..... Jon Lindstrom  
**Finance Secretary** ..... Emma Block  
**Christian Ed** ..... Annie Smith  
**Outreach & Missions** ..... Blake Albright  
**Stewardship** ..... Kim Kaniecki  
**Trustees** ..... Sandy Spanier  
**Youth Group** ..... Kyle Welch  
**Communications** ..... Kris Welch

**Board of Elders**

Carlos Orellana (Head)  
Lee Crapo  
P.J. Nunez  
Steve Rosane  
Fred Sterns

**Committee Chairpersons**

**Fellowship Coordinators**

Vi Zabel & Belinda Freer

**Altar Guild**

Barbara and Alfred Miller

**Choir Director**

Connie Timmons

**Endowment Fund**

Becky Schwarz

**Mary-Martha Guild**

Belinda Freer

**E-Mail Addresses**

**Pastor**

pastor@clclakeland.org

**Office**

clcsecretary@gmail.com

**Christ Lutheran Guiding Statement**

Christ Lutheran Church is a growing family of believers who love, accept, and welcome all, so that we may share God's love in word and deed.

**March 1 - Lent**

Elder..... Steve Rosane

**March 5**

Elder..... Fred Sterns  
Lector.....  
Ushers.....  
Greeters ..... Joann Shepker  
Audio..... Kyle welch  
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch  
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

**March 8 - Lent**

Elder..... Fred Sterns

**March 12**

Elder..... Lee Crapo  
Lector.....  
Ushers.....  
Greeters .....  
Audio..... Maria Hazzard  
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch  
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

**March 15 - Lent**

Elder..... Steve Rosane

**March 19**

Elder..... Steve Rosane  
Lector..... Kim Kaniecki  
Ushers.....  
Greeters ..... Bev Roberge  
Audio..... Kyle welch  
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch  
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

**March 22 - Lent**

Elder..... Lee Crapo

**March 26**

Elder..... Steve Rosane  
Lector.....  
Ushers.....  
Greeters .....  
Audio..... Maria Hazzard  
Video..... Video TD: Kris Welch  
GFX/Stream: Robin Fox

**March 29- Lent**

Elder..... Fred Sterns

**ALTAR GUILD SERVICES**

Rita and George Czanko

**SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP @ 5:30 PM**

Elder..... Lee Crapo/Steve Rosane (3/11)  
Lector..... Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten  
Audio..... Lee Crapo/Robin Fox



**The Infirm  
and  
The Homebound**

*Remember to keep these  
people in your daily  
prayers.*

- Vi Bertsch
- Sen & Dale Campbell
- Ken & Joanne Ditton
- Donita Duncan
- Marilyn Gillette
- Hazel Gust
- Katherine Hamann
- Sally Henning
- Al Herman
- Fran Klug
- Dorothy Lovelace
- Don & Nancy Matter
- Nell Morgan
- Fran Murphy
- Lois Smith
- Norma Tipton
- Amy Wilson



Gayle Thomas .....	Mar 2
Helen Borgwardt.....	Mar 4
Sen Campbell.....	Mar 6
Maria Hazzard.....	Mar 7
Rita Czanko.....	Mar 7
Shirley Lindstrom.....	Mar 15
Barbara Szymanski.....	Mar 16
Art Reinert,.....	Mar 18
Henry Veal.....	Mar 18
Vern Rudolph.....	Mar 19
Virginia Hazlett.....	Mar 20
Alicia Bade.....	Mar 24
Carol Kloha .....	Mar 25
James Kloha.....	Mar 26
Gloria Nelson .....	Mar 26
Elizabeth Wilkens.....	Mar 27
Norma Miller.....	Mar 28
Richard Hanson.....	Mar 30



Lee and Audrey Crapo.....	Mar 1 (43 yrs.)
Rick and Debbie Smith.....	Mar 2 (49 yrs.)
Ronald and Jane Roy .....	Mar 10 (50 yrs.)
Henry and Judy Veal .....	Mar 23 (39 yrs.)
Tom and Nancy Funtsch.....	Mar 27 (24 yrs.)



Thank you to Rita and George Czanko who served for the month of February.  
Rita and George Czanko will also serve for the month of March. Thank you for your service to the Lord and Christ Lutheran Church.

## Baptismal Birthday Blessing

(Leader reads:)

Loving God,

You created all the people of the world, and you know each of us by name. We thank you for *(Name)* who celebrates the anniversary of *his/her* baptism. Bless *him/her* with your love, that *he/she* may grow in wisdom, knowledge, and grace. May *he/she* love *his/her* family always, and be ever faithful to God. Grant this through Christ our Lord. (All:) **Amen**

*(Place your hands on the person's head or shoulders.)*

May God, in whose presence our ancestors walked, bless you (All:) **Amen**

May God, who has been your shepherd from birth until now, keep you. (All :) **Amen**

May God, who saves you from all harm, give you peace. (All:) **Amen and Amen**

Steve West .....	Mar 1
Skylar Peterson.....	Mar 1
Heather Gordon.....	Mar 1
Kris Welch.....	Mar 1
Kyle Welch.....	Mar 1
Ted Nelson.....	Mar 1
Amanda Peterson.....	Mar 1
Gary Hancock.....	Mar 3
Fred Sterns.....	Mar 4
Richard Smith.....	Mar 19
Gayle Thomas .....	Mar 22
Kim Kaniecki .....	Mar 25
Elizabeth Wilkens.....	Mar 27
Sarah Sicheri.....	Mar 28
Norma Tipton.....	Mar 29
Jane Roy.....	Mar 30



## **DON'T FORGET BAGS FOR TALBOT HOUSE —**

Thank you to all of you who continue to support this ministry! Talbot House does extraordinary things to help the homeless. We are blessed to share in that ministry! Their doors are open to both men and women and they provide meals, shelter, & clothing, and direct them to medical care as needed. We collect offerings of canned goods-meat, vegetables, fruit, soup, paper goods-paper towels, toilet paper, napkins; cleaning supplies; soap-dishwashing, personal soap, laundry; toothbrushes & toothpaste. We also collect gently used clothes -free from stains, and have working zippers and buttons. There are especially marked baskets in the mail room at the back of the church to place your offerings. Our pickup day is the second Tuesday of every month. We also have a box on top of the table where you may place unused medicines, empty pill bottles, and unopened bottles of over the counter medicines. Talbot House uses the empty pill bottles to measure out soap and shampoo for the residents. Please remove labels from the empty bottles. Large containers of spices, flour, and sugar are real blessings.



## *From the Pastor.....*

Thank you, Carol!



Carol Ceagske retired from the organ bench on Transfiguration Sunday after years of dedicated service to our congregation, first as a substitute organist, and then as the sole organist. We pray that she experiences well deserved rest following many long hours of faithful service.

We welcome our new Director of Music, Marvin Dalton!

Marvin earned a Bachelor of Sacred Music degree from Morehead State University in Kentucky with a major in Organ and Voice in Music Education. He earned a Master of Science from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with a Major in Church Music and Organ. He has had a long career as a church musician, serving Lutheran churches in the cities of Greenville and Miamisburg in Ohio, and in Lakeland, Florida. Professionally, he started his career as a public-school music educator before moving into a role in administration. He is the owner of Sun Living Mobile Home Sales.

We look forward to seeing and hearing how the Lord will use him to make a joyful noise, and to spur others to use their musical gifts to the glory of God.



*Programa Binacional de Educación Migrante  
México - Estados Unidos*

We will be hosting a day camp from June 5<sup>th</sup> to July 14<sup>th</sup> for children of migrant workers. Representatives of the Mexican Consulate were referred to us after originally reaching out to Hope Lutheran in Plant City, which has a long history of working with migrants. The program is run under the auspices of PROBEM, a joint program of the Mexican and United States governments dating from the George H. W. Bush administration to address some of the needs that children of migrants experience. The youth participating in the program are United States citizens, and/or are in the country legally. Youth will learn about the history, culture, art, music, and dance of Mexico while having a safe and supportive place to thrive.

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The program is self-supporting through donations by parents and the community, but additional resources such as school supplies would be appreciated, as well as volunteers to work with the children. They are also looking for lodging for the teachers traveling from Mexico as part of this exchange program. Spanish language outreach materials will be available, and we will be working with Pastor John Cobos, the Spanish speaking pastor at Hope, to help any unchurched people see Jesus. Our participation helps us fulfill the Rev 7:9 vision: "After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb..."

Fasting with Intention

*"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites..." (Matthew 6:16)*

*Who receives this sacrament worthily? **Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training.** But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." (Luther's Small Catechism)*

Many of us decide to "give up something for Lent." The idea is that when we miss the thing we give up, we refocus our attention to God. This kind of fast can be very good for our individual spiritual growth. Jesus words "when you fast" assume that fasting will be part of His followers' lives. Martin Luther commends fasting a "fine outward training" in preparation to receive communion. Whenever we are prompted to turn our thoughts to God, it is a good thing. When we voluntarily fast from a food or a behavior, we send the signal that we want to align our lives to God's will for us.

This Lent, I invite you to also turn your thoughts to your neighbor as you fast. Consider fasting with the intention to pray for those who do not yet know him. Fasting can be both inward focused and outward focused at the same time as we pray that the Lord sends workers into His harvest field.

Exponential Conference

I will be out of the office the week of March 6th. I will be attending the Exponential Outreach Conference in Orlando as a guest of the Florida Georgia District LCMS.

Pastor Chris

## Mary Martha



Mary Martha will meet on March 8 for our Spring Luncheon at Huntington Hills. Our meeting will be held in the fellowship hall at 10am- we will depart to Huntington Hills with an arrival time of approximately 11:30. All ladies of the congregation are invited to join us! Please sign up and give your entree choices on that sheet!

Mary Martha guild would like to thank all of the guests, workers, vendors who were in attendance of our Fashion show held on February 18! We raised money for Top Buttons and we had a fun time!

All women of the congregation are invited to the Winter Haven Zone Rally on March 4, 2023. The exciting rally will be led by Wendy Sue Fluegge! (You may follow her on FB) She is a very exciting leader! The rally will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Zephyrhills. Cost will be approximately \$12, lunch is included! We encourage you to bring extra cash for additional missions, if you are able! If you wish to carpool, we will leave at approximately 8:00 am from our Church parking lot! Y'all call Charlotte if you need additional info or a ride! 863-409-6270!

Mary Martha will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 11, 2023 from 4-7 pm. We will have eat -in, to go, and drive up curb side service to accommodate everyone! The meal includes spaghetti with meat sauce, garden salad, roll, dessert and if you eat in, a drink. Cost is \$10 per adult, \$5 per child under 12. Ticket sales will be available after Sunday Church services in the courtyard. To reserve tickets you may contact Belinda Freer at 863-602-5159. This event will benefit "Trinity Orlando Comfort Dogs, Peace the Comfort Dog," in particular. They have a dog in training named "Jeremiah." These dogs are very heavily trained in comfort. We encourage you to look on Facebook to view their ministry and all of the friends they visit! Please encourage everyone to attend. If you need tickets for your community, we can provide, no obligation to sell them all!



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Looking for Christ Lutheran in social media? Check us out at our website: [www.clclakeland.org](http://www.clclakeland.org)  
Feel free to leave comments! We are also on Facebook at: Christ Lutheran Church Lakeland-LCMS. Please like, follow, and share on your Facebook page. You may also leave comments on our Facebook page.



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The National LWML convention will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-25, 2023. The theme is Lord of the Nations. For registration and more details, visit the LWML website.

 The logo features a large, stylized, cursive letter 'L' in a reddish-orange color. The 'L' is flanked by decorative, symmetrical flourishes that resemble scrollwork or floral patterns. Below the 'L' and flourishes, the words "LADIES RETREAT" are written in a dark purple, serif, all-caps font.
 

## LADIES RETREAT

The Florida/Georgia District retreat will be held in St Augustine September 22-24! Please put this date in your planners, ladies. Details about registration will be posted soon! All ladies of the congregation are invited!

Donations for the Rummage Sale on March 25th, 8am - 1pm



The Rummage sale this year is a collaboration with the Mary Martha and the Outreach Board. Starting March 15th, we will begin accepting donations. Please pull around to the north/west door of the Fellowship Hall to drop off donations according to the following schedule.

Reminder: No appliances or furniture

Wednesday, March 15th - 9am - Noon

Thursday, March 16th 9am - Noon

Friday, March 17th 1pm - 7 pm (Baseball Parking day)

Saturday, March 18th 9am - 2pm

Sunday, March 19 after Church, 11:30a - 1pm

Monday, March 20 1pm - 7pm (Baseball Parking day)

Tuesday, March 21, FINAL day for donations 9am - 7pm

We will not accept donations after Tuesday.

If you have any questions, please call:

Blake Albright 863-937-6446

Belinda Freer 863-602-5159

Charlotte Mantz 863-409-6270

## Stewardship



The Board of Stewardship launched a new online member directory earlier this year. It's been rewarding to see many people using it. There are, however, still some members new to the system asking for directions on using it. Below is a link that will provide specific instructions for those that access this newsletter online. (Press CTRL plus the link). [Member-Login-OnlineMemberDirectory-Instructions.pdf \(instantchurchdirectory.com\)](#) This instruction sheet will also be available in the mail room on the information counter. Members are also welcome to contact Kim Kaniecki directly for assistance with this. Again, we are hoping this directory provides you with the tools necessary to connect with each other for support and fellowship.

As Pastor has recently mentioned, the church does seem busy with those in service to God around our campus. We are so grateful for all those that are using their time, talents and treasures for the glory of God and improvement of our church! We are still in need of those willing to greet people Sunday mornings. A simple and rewarding act of service! If you feel you can assist in that area, please sign up on the bulletin board sheet. Greeters are asked to be available to greet by 9:30 AM on Sundays. Of course, many other areas of service are available such as help in the Dream Center, the Communications center, and the choir are just a few that come to mind.

Also, as has been mentioned before, the Need and Seed board in the courtyard is still looking a bit neglected! I'm sure there are needs that could be met and I *know* there are seeds that could be posted that could help someone. Please reexamine your own situation and choose to be a blessing to others OR let others bless you! As has been said before, we can't promise that every need can be met every time, but it definitely won't be met if it isn't posted at all. Give others a chance to come to your aid! And, before you donate things to an outside agency, please consider posting its availability on the board for a few weeks before you do. Someone here may be blessed by it.

Lastly, long-time members may recall that we usually honor our Volunteers with a luncheon in March. This year, it will take place in April, which is actually the *National* Volunteer Appreciation Month. So we will be honoring our volunteers this April the Sunday before Easter, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. We hope that many of you will be able to come and enjoy a little celebration of YOU!



Have a blessed Spring season with your Lord and your church!

Kim Kaniecki

### Central America Missions March 2023

Once again, I am getting ready for another mission. As I mentioned before, these are two missions back to back. I will start one week in Honduras and finished the following week in Guatemala. It is not as simple as that, but I'll leave it at that because it is too complicated to explain. The work is tremendously rewarding. We will be serving the poorest of the poor in Honduras. As per usual, the Franciscan Friars at San Benito Jose in Comayagua will be hosting our team.

In Guatemala, we will be working in the gorgeous area of Lake Atitlan. There are twelve towns surrounding the lake. The towns are named after the Apostles. We will be located in San Lucas Toliman. The people of this region of the country are mostly of Mayan descent. They speak 19 different dialects, so most of the time to be bilingual like me is useless. The Guatemalan government has neglected this part of the country.



Interestingly enough, there are some American missionaries who have become their leaders and help the Mayans to coordinate health and education. Some of the Mayan kids can speak English.

There is a Hospital in San Lucas where we work. This hospital is funded and governed by donors from Wisconsin. The surgical team that I work with is coordinated by a Rotary Club in Anacortes, Washington.

Our group is composed mainly of Orthopedics and Podiatrists. In prior missions we have seen a good number of cases of club foot, omniotic bands, hip malformations and other broken bones, like post motorcycle accidents. Motorcycles are the main mode of transportation in these countries. In many of the cases we care for; timing is essential to have good outcomes. The patients are assessed and coordinated by an American missionary Podiatrist. This way, the patients are re-assessed by the specific surgeon in our team.

I am grateful for the support that Christ Lutheran has given to the Central American Mission. As always, your prayers are much appreciated.

Carlos Orellana

*See pictures on page 16*

## Old Stinky Sneakers

**We are collecting old sneakers for the Dream Center. Any kind and in any shape, but not new.**

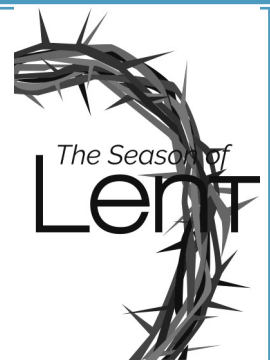
**Please put them in the box in the Narthex labeled for the sneakers.**

**The Dream Center is given money for them and the shoes are recycled into other things.**



## By My Hand For My Sake Lenten Worship Series

This Lent worship series asks, “What is your role in the suffering and death of Christ?” Week by week, this question is addressed— through homilies and monologs by biblical characters who actually did have a hand in the crucifixion of Christ. Characters include Adam, Nicodemus, Judas, Barabbas, Pilate, and the father of the Thief on the Right. Once again, this year, area LCMS pastors will be taking turns leading worship in the 6:30 p.m. Wednesday worship services.



### March 1 • Barabbas

Pastor Andy Ritchie, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lakeland

### March 8 • Judas

Vicar Owen Duncan, Hope Lutheran Church, Plant City

### March 15 • Pilate

Pastor Brendon Moore, Grace Lutheran Church, Winter Haven

### March 22 • The Thief’s Father

Pastor Ron Pennekamp

### March 29 • Nicodemus

Pastor Chris Hazzard, Christ Lutheran Church, Lakeland

Christ Lutheran Church Council Meeting in a Nutshell  
By Robin Fox, Council Secretary, February 13, 2023



**Treasure: Jon Lindstrom**

For the month of January our actual performance is at a negative compared to budget amounts. For YTD our actual performance is at a negative compared to budgeted amounts. Our actual January expenses were Hi-Tech for audio system services, AVLT for final payment for security cameras and smart thermostats and lastly, Randolph's Air Conditioning for new evaporator. Our total bank asset balance is at [REDACTED]. Dedicated funds are [REDACTED] and undedicated bank funds are [REDACTED]. The Stewardship reports our total church income is about XX lower this year than in 2021 at the end of January. There was one noteworthy income item this month for Thrivent Mutual Fund of [REDACTED] for 4th quarter dividend.

**Pastor Report: Pastor Christopher Hazzard**

I am grateful for the tremendous service that Christ Lutheran members and attenders provide to the congregation and community. Carol Ceaglske's last Sunday on the organ bench is February 19<sup>th</sup>. I am grateful for her years of service. I would encourage expressions of thanksgiving to be given to her. LCEF Vision Pathway is ongoing. Rev 7:9: Carlos Orellana has decided to focus his time and energy to provide leadership to the Central American Medical Mission and is stepping away from a formal role in assisting with a Spanish language outreach in Lakeland. I received a request today from Pastor John Cobos to host a summer program for migrant children administer by the Mexican Consulate. Pastor made a motion to approve. Carlos Orellana 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Discussion followed and all approved. I am also pursuing the option to have Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones (Lutheran Hour Ministries) content broadcast on Ritmo 99.9. I recommend that we purchase a set of paraments for Palm Sunday/Maundy Thursday. We currently do not have paraments of the recommended color or theme for the day. Pastor Chris made a motion to purchase the Paraments. The money will be pulled from the Memorial Fund and Altar Guild at 50% from each. Pastor John Flamme has offered to assist with Communion Visitation abiding by the same memorandum of understanding that we have with Pastor Munz and Pastor Block. The district office staff would like at least five representatives of Christ Lutheran to attend an orientation event at St. Paul's on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The meal will start at 5:00 pm, with introductions and discussions occurring between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

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**Christian Education: Annie Smith**

Nothing to report

**Board of Elders: Carlos Orellana**

Attendance is going up. 139 last Sunday. In the 30's on Saturday. Transfers are continuing to come in. We are a very welcoming church. Talk to newbies. Music Director was discussed during the Elders meeting. Lenten Services – Round Robin again at 6:30.

**President: John Freer**

The month of January went smooth- no major issues. We had several volunteers help with landscaping around the church. The Communications group is working with outside consultants, have been able to improve the streaming, camera, and audio systems. The cameras and DVR have been installed to replace the systems damaged by lightning last year. New thermostats for AC/Heating were installed. This will make it much easier to control temperatures in the sanctuary and pastor's office. We continue to see a lot of new visitors coming to our church. Attendance has increase to approximately 150 between the two services. We haven't reached the attendance pre-covid, but we are heading in the right direction. We have interviewed a candidate for the new Music Director position. More details to follow.

**Vice President: Ted Nelson**

Nothing to report

**Stewardship: Kim Kaniecki**

The board of Stewardship met the third Sunday after church. We changed out the narthex bulletin board. We also began discussions on the annual Volunteer appreciation luncheon.

**Board of Outreach: Blake Albright**

Fred and Cathy Sterns got many volunteers for parking. We will not have the food truck available for the baseball parking. Options for Women baby bottles will be returned to the Options for Women's office by me on February 16<sup>th</sup>. The rummage sale preparations are going well. We will pick up the pace and be very busy after March 1<sup>st</sup>.

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### **Board of Communications: Kris Welch**

The Tech Room is now locked and secured, with only a few people with keys. The cameras in the sanctuary are back to being able to be controlled remotely. The choir loft camera is now able to be controlled for different views. We purchased a new program, at the recommendation of the vendor working with us on the streaming, that will greatly streamline the process of building the graphic parts of the service that go out online and are viewed in the sanctuary. We are working with the streaming vendor, MABE, to evaluate the equipment and gear we have, to see what we need, and what is extra. We will then look to sell any extra equipment.

### **Trustee Report: Sandy Spanier**

Two rock gardens have been completed. We received donations for this project , leaving the cost to the church at XXXXXX . The two remaining should be completed this month. A letter of thanks was sent to the donors. We have begun painting all the outside doors. There is one more attic space to be cleaned.

### **Youth Board:**

The Youth went to the Escape Room recently and fun was had by all, even if they didn't escape. Youth will continue meeting every other Wednesday night.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fox

**Movie Night**  
**Saturday**  
**March 4, 2023**  
**6:30 pm**



The movie will be **Part 2 - Unbroken-Path to Redemption.**

There will be popcorn and other snacks. No charge for the movie or snacks.

A free-will offering will be accepted.

See you there!

Central America Missions March 2023

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This is life changing. Giving this little boy a better chance in life.



We only give what God has given us. We must use our vocations to help each other.



Stacey was helping the surgeons.



I wonder what was going through his mind. Probably scared, but hopeful.