

# Eastern Mission

## Apostolic Lutheran Church of America

**June 2019**

**Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.**

Whenever I read a book I hope to gain something from it more than knowledge of the facts. R.A Long was a Christian logger who worked hard to build a very successful lumber business in the Midwest, at 68 had it made and could have retired with millions in the bank. But he was not done yet, so he polled the men that had helped him get to where he was and they all wanted to continue with another venture. So, out west they came, found the rich fir timber in Cowlitz and Lewis County (now the Ryderwood Tree farm in Washington State) bought it, begin to look at millsites and in the end had the vision to build a town that would endure longer than the timber supply and the mills that would cut it. Costs were always more than he had thought, but he dug into his own pockets to keep things going even during the depression years, he hired lawyers to save Long Bell from being stolen by jealous/envious men, and died not ever seeing his dream of Longview really come into its own.

He is a good example for us to follow, for sometimes as we get older we begin to think that we can fold up our tents and coast away into doing nothing with what we have been given. What an example he can be to us, in that he considered the lives of those who would have been affected if he had "retired" and who could have blamed him? As we continue in the ministry with its opportunities and possibilities as well as it challenges and struggles, may we renewed in strength, optimism and inspiration to not be weary in pressing forward with the Gospel of Good News to a world that so desperately needs to hear and to receive it.

May the words of Apostle Paul remind us of the privileges we yet have as partakers of grace and of distributors of grace. Having received the Gospel, we are to commit it to others who will in like manner teach those who come after them.

KJV 2 Timothy 2:1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

1 Timothy 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

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Pastor Orval Wirkkala