

2020-2021

HOME

and

WORLD

MISSIONS

PROJECTS



Prepared by LWMS and WELS Mission Office

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Foreword

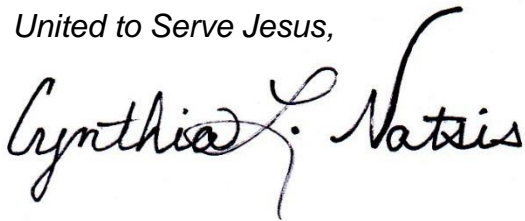
The beloved hymn “Lift High the Cross” was the hymn that the assembly sang the first time I carried a flag at a Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society (LWMS) convention. The thrill of being part of something so important filled me up and inspired me to try to do more for missions. If the Holy Spirit has ever moved you to do more for missions, this booklet will help you achieve that goal.

LWMS exists to increase awareness of, interest in, and support of the mission outreach of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). This booklet is prepared jointly by WELS and LWMS. It includes project descriptions, prayers, maps, remittance forms, and mission board contacts that will help you achieve your mission-minded financial outreach. All the projects have been approved by the WELS Joint Missions Office, but many are not fully funded by your regular Congregational Mission Offering. LWMS is dedicated to promoting WELS missions and lifting high the cross in our nation and beyond, so remember to support these projects with your prayers and treasures.

Do you have a group that is interested in lifting high the cross of our Savior? Perhaps your LWMS circuit, your Pioneer group, your women’s organization, or your Lutheran elementary school is looking for a project to support. Be sure to share this book with them and other Christians who want to work toward the goal of spreading the gospel around the world.

Once again, the Church Extension Fund is partnering with us to cover the printing costs of this booklet. We are thankful for this financial assistance as together we lift high the cross!

United to Serve Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Natsis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "N".

Cynthia Natsis, president
LWMS Board of Directors

A Message from the Missions Office

Dear Mission Donors,

The projects listed in this booklet receive gifts and thank offerings from various sources including individuals, congregations, and groups such as LWMS circuits. Many of these projects are supported, in part, by the synod mission budget. However, many mission fields need more than what congregational mission offerings can provide.

Your support for these projects will allow missions to plan events or increase outreach efforts. With the Lord's blessings, your support for these projects will allow the missions to reach more lost souls with the precious gospel message.

Please refer to the gift remittance form in this booklet for recording your project and gift amount. It is requested that all gifts supporting the missions projects be sent directly to the WELS Missions Office, N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188, accompanied by the gift remittance form. Reproductions of the form are permitted.

To learn more about requesting a mission speaker and available promotional resources, please go to wels.net/missions or contact Missions Promotions at missionspromotions@wels.net or call 414-256-3279.

E-mail information for district mission board members and administrative committee mission field contacts is provided in this booklet. Questions can be sent to these men and the Central Africa Medical Mission Committee chair with a copy to jmo@wels.net. The members of the missions boards, committees, and missionaries thank you in advance for your prayers and gifts.

Prayer for Home Missions

*Dear Jesus,
As I live my life, I realize that I am surrounded by people who desperately need Jesus. Work through our missionaries to reach many people with the saving truth of the Bible. Give our missionaries conviction to remain true to your Word, strength to carry out the work of evangelists, and patience to trust your Word to work. Work also through me, dear Savior, that I might see the mission field you have placed before me and take action. And above all, keep my eyes focused on you that I might enjoy heaven with all who have come to know you as their Savior. Amen.*

HOME MISSIONS PROJECTS

HOME MISSIONS NEEDS – Starting a new home mission from scratch, figuring out how a neighborhood is changing, or restarting a mission can be a daunting task. These projects will assist in finding lost souls and straying sheep in each home mission situation.

Project #HM-2020-01: First Public Service Assistance

The Board for Home Missions authorizes the start of new missions. After those missions receive a pastor, planning takes place for the first worship service. Advertising materials and mailings need to be completed and service folders and welcome signs produced. Creative ways to get the word out may have additional costs. New mission congregations want the first service to be well received and want to promote a warm invitation to their community. Your gifts will fund these needed preparations and encourage those who will expend countless hours of effort.

Project #HM-2020-02: Equipment Fund

When a new mission begins, usually its members meet in a storefront, a local school, or a rented facility. Sometimes equipment like tables and chairs or basic equipment and supplies are needed. Sometimes the pastor is setting up an office in these locations and doesn't have the basic office items to conduct ministry. Your gifts will help these young congregations begin acquiring some of the needed items and supplies, which can be used for years to come.

Project #HM-2020-03: Children's Ministry Outreach

When a mission church would like to begin a children's ministry or start a childcare center or preschool, the lack of up-front funds may prevent them from doing so. The WELS Early Childhood Director's expertise will be used to direct mission congregations on how to better reach out with the gospel of Jesus Christ through early childhood ministry. Devotions and weekly Bible themes, prayers before meals, and law/gospel discipline are a few ways



teachers can share God's Word at a children's center. Your gifts will be used to help develop new children's ministry programs at home mission congregations.

Project #HM-2020-04: Tools for Outreach

To reach out effectively, mission churches need to understand the makeup of their neighborhoods. Several organizations have become useful resources for this type of information. New ministries are encouraged to purchase these studies to help them plan their outreach efforts.

Mission congregations have various options to become known in their community: preparing, purchasing, and distributing fliers; writing news articles; running radio/TV ads; and developing and maintaining a website. A useful tool to get information out to the community about new missions is subscribing to a monthly newcomer list. Having a way to obtain names and addresses allows the mission to get its message out in an efficient manner. Your gifts will help support these various outreach ministry approaches.

Project #HM-2020-05: Musical Assistance

Home mission congregations are not always blessed with a pipe organ or even a piano. They often use portable equipment such as electronic keyboards, computer-generated music, or CD players with sound amplification. The costs for computers, software, and sound equipment are a challenge when establishing mission congregations. Your gifts will enrich their worship services as they acquire these electronic tools to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

Project #HM-2020-06: Bible Study Material for Children and Adults



New and useful material to encourage and promote Bible study for all ages is continuously being developed and updated. This includes Sunday school, vacation Bible school, and adult Bible study materials. Young mission congregations cannot always find funding to replace outdated materials or even provide appropriate teaching materials. Your gifts will help home mission congregations reach out to new and potential members through these materials.

Project #HM-2020-07: Kids Summer Bible Camps

Kids summer Bible camps often cost more than traditional vacation Bible schools because these camps focus on music, sports, art, or other types of activities. The overall goal is to provide an opportunity to share the gospel with children. Your gifts will provide funds for home mission churches to offer a kids summer Bible camp to help them reach out to the children in their community.

Project #HM-2020-08: Family Ministry Outreach

Every home mission congregation hopes to draw in new people from the community and ultimately serve their spiritual needs. Family ministry programs are being developed to specifically welcome parents/caregivers and their young children to congregation-based social gatherings. While such programs foster friendships, communication skills, positive

relationships, and child development, congregations can do so much more when integrating the love of Jesus and truths based on God's Word. Your gifts will assist home mission congregations looking to begin programs to reach this special demographic by sharing Jesus through music, crafts, and fellowship as parents/caregivers and their young children interact in a safe, caring, and welcoming environment.

Project #HM-2020-09: Vans for Missions

Some of our home mission congregations provide outreach programs that are poorly attended because of a lack of transportation in their communities. This is especially true with our multi-cultural home missions and in other areas where public transportation does not exist. Your gifts will assist congregations that need to purchase vans for their outreach efforts.

Project #HM-2020-10: Language Training

Our called workers receive training in the biblical languages during their college and seminary years. However, they do not have the time in their schedules to become proficient in the languages that are spoken in the ethnic communities of our mission fields throughout North America. To enhance the outreach efforts of the home mission congregations and to better serve the communities, WELS Home Missions assists the pastors and/or lay members to study foreign languages that are representative of their local communities. As a result, we can reach more of the lost with the gospel. Your gifts will assist Home Missions in providing the needed language training.



Project #HM-2020-11: English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs

Many home mission congregations realize they are located in changing neighborhoods. They search for ways and means to reach their neighbors, although many in their communities do not speak English. Often an ESL program is the answer. Your gifts will assist home mission congregations establish or enhance an ESL program.

Project #HM-2020-12: Home Missionary Conferences

WELS congregations share many commonalities in terms of geography, demographics, and age of churches. Helping these churches reach the lost with the gospel and see opportunities to plant new churches will, with God's blessing, be a great asset to WELS and Lutheranism in general. Mission Conferences that help Lutheran congregations, new and old, share strategies to reach the lost are important. Your gifts will assist congregations as they consider additional ways to spread the gospel message.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEEDS – This ministry assists young men and women during one of the most challenging times in their lives. With your assistance these projects will help students to grow spiritually, build on their Christian roots, and reach out to other students on campus

Project #HM-2020-13: WELS Campus Ministry Support

Students on college campuses are often faced with many new choices, not all God-pleasing. During their college years, students are often living away from home for the first time—it is critical for them to have guidance from God's Word that is both meaningful and practical for daily living. The Campus Ministry Committee (CMC) assists congregations in ministering to college students and other young adults with the means of grace so they may grow in their faith, be trained for service, and reach out to the lost. One of the main ways the CMC assists congregations is in maintaining a synod wide database of college students to help campus pastors reach and serve students while they are at college. The CMC also provides materials for campus pastors and congregations, funding for new ministry initiatives and ongoing ministries, counsel to ministries requesting assistance, and opportunities for campus pastors to grow spiritually and to network ideas through regular staff conferences. Your gifts to the CMC will help assist congregations to reach out and serve these young people on college campuses with the Word of God.



MISSION CONGREGATIONS AND STUDENTS – There is a special need for each of these projects which help equip workers and assist gospel outreach.

Project #HM-2020-14: Summer Student Assistants

In this ten-week program, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary students receive valuable experience and home mission congregations receive needed assistance. Interest has grown in this program as more students and home mission congregations see the benefits of students serving in summer ministry. With increased participation, additional funds are needed as this program is funded solely through special gifts.

Project #HM-2020-15: Vicars in Mission Settings

This program allows a Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary student to receive field training with a home missionary in an actual mission setting. Although money is available through budgetary funding, your support of this project will allow even more students to participate in this training.

Project #HM-2020-16: Caribbean Scholarship Fund



Since the 1970s, WELS home missions in the Caribbean have benefited from the WELS called workers who serve there. In order to help meet the national churches' need for highly trained workers, the national congregations hope to train more of their Caribbean members for service in their three congregations and two schools. WELS home mission congregations in the Caribbean all have access to Martin Luther College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, and many gifted young men and women are interested in studying for the ministry. Your gift to this scholarship fund will help future Caribbean

called workers receive training and return to their homeland to continue teaching and sharing the saving gospel message.

Project #HM-2020-17: Cross-Cultural Mission Conferences and Training

This project assists Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) graduates and current PSI students to gather for growth in God's Word and for training in ministry. Your gifts will allow various cross-cultural and people-group ministries to gather for training conferences and be encouraged to faithfully serve in gospel ministry.

JOINT MISSIONS PROJECTS

JOINT MISSION NEEDS – WELS Joint Missions supports mission opportunities that are the responsibility of Home Missions, World Missions, and Ministerial Education. Much of this work centers on people-group ministries, where immigrants who have joined our fellowship in the United States and Canada are able to take the gospel back to friends and family in their country of origin. These projects will support the rapidly expanding mission opportunities that are being presented to the Joint Mission Council.

Project #JMC-2020-01: Pastoral Studies Institute

The Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, in partnership with WELS Joint Missions, guides and assists spiritual leaders around the globe through their preseminary and seminary training. The PSI connects with these spiritual leaders through WELS world mission work and through outreach to immigrants and refugees in the United States and Canada. They are able to evaluate and serve these international groups and synods that want support, training, and a connection to a church body that shares the gospel message in its truth and purity. Your gift will help cover travel expenses for new exploratory training visits, scholarships, and school expenses for PSI students.

Project #JMC-2020-02: Hmong Ministry

God has opened many doors into the Hmong community. There are currently five Hmong congregations in the United States that are all served by Hmong Americans. The Global

Hmong Committee (GHC), established by the WELS Joint Mission Council, facilitates mission work to the Hmong people in the United States and their outreach efforts back to their home countries in Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. Your gifts will support the training of future Hmong pastors and evangelists as well as new Hmong outreach opportunities at home and abroad.

Project #JMC-2020-03: Hispanic Ministry

By God's grace, WELS Hispanic ministry is growing. There are 19 locations offering weekly Spanish worship services with 2,200 Hispanics in worship. In addition, 15 congregations offer Hispanic Bible studies. Even more congregations are exploring their communities to see if they might offer Hispanic ministry. While these outreach costs usually aren't substantial, having some financial assistance available may give congregations encouragement to take the needed steps to begin Hispanic ministry. And for those congregations already involved in this type of outreach, there may be opportunities to enhance their current ministry. Your gifts will assist congregations in establishing or enhancing Hispanic ministry and training future Hispanic/Latino evangelists and church leaders throughout North America.

Project #JMC-2020-04: Mission Journeys

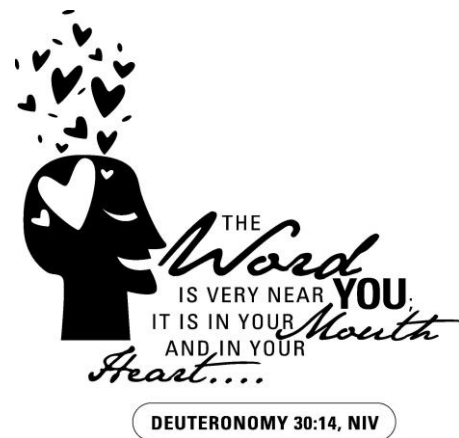
WELS Mission Journeys, the official WELS program for short-term mission trips, provides an opportunity for all WELS members to walk together in the Great Commission. Through church- or school-based volunteer trips to WELS mission fields at home and abroad, members have the opportunity to engage in Christian service. Pre-trip training led by a congregational team leader equips volunteers to have significant impact during their trip. While volunteering, the learning and sharing of outreach ideas will allow teams to explore how they can use their God-given abilities to lead an outreach event upon their return home. With the Lord's blessing, these trips will inspire a lifelong journey of service and outreach for all who volunteer. Our goal is to have 200 churches and schools involved with the program by 2021. Funding for this program would go toward organizational support to match volunteer groups to mission locations and volunteer training.



Project #JMC-2020-05: Joint Missions Special Projects

WELS Joint Missions is currently working with over 15 different people group ministries while also managing the Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) and WELS Mission Journeys. Some of these ministries have been around quite a long time and have large operations, like the Hispanic and Hmong ministries. Other Joint Mission ministries are relatively new to our synod or are limited in their scope to a single location. Many of these groups are working to share the gospel in their own communities and are also reaching back to their home countries with the saving message of Jesus Christ. Your gifts to this fund will support cross-cultural and people group ministries like the ones listed below:

- **Asian** – Many Asian men from Chinese, Vietnamese, Laotian, and Korean backgrounds have been trained to be pastors. These men are now ready to work in the mission field among their relatives and friends and to build congregations.
- **South Asian** – An International Friendship Center operating out of Christ Lutheran Church in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, was created to provide programs and activities to engage internationals in the community. Their goal is to share the gospel through friendship evangelism efforts. The Joint Mission Council is also working with a South Asian man in a large city in the Midwest who is training to become a WELS pastor and is conducting outreach in the United States and back in his home country.
- **African Immigrant** – Two Liberian refugees (in Las Vegas, Nevada, and New Hope, Minnesota) have connected with WELS and are in the middle of training to become pastors through the Pastoral Studies Institute. Besides leading congregations of African immigrants in the United States, both men also lead churches in Liberia. They are working with the Pastoral Studies Institute and the One Africa Team to take the gospel message back to their home country.
- **Sudanese** – Eight different congregations are ministering to South Sudanese refugees in their communities. Many South Sudanese men are stepping into leadership roles and taking classes through the Pastoral Studies Institute to become pastors. They are also reaching out to South Sudanese refugee camps in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda with the gospel message. The Joint Mission Council established The Global South Sudanese Committee in 2018 to facilitate this outreach at home and abroad.
- **Latin American** – Natives from Cuba, Puerto Rico, Ecuador, Paraguay, Venezuela, and even more cultures who are now members of WELS congregations in the United States want to share the Good News with their family and friends in their home country. The Joint Mission Council is connecting these people with the Latin American missions team in order to partner in their efforts to share the gospel.



WELS HOME MISSIONS MAP

WELS WORLD MISSIONS MAP

EUROPE & RUSSIA



*Countries where missionaries reside

WELS WORLD MISSIONS MAP

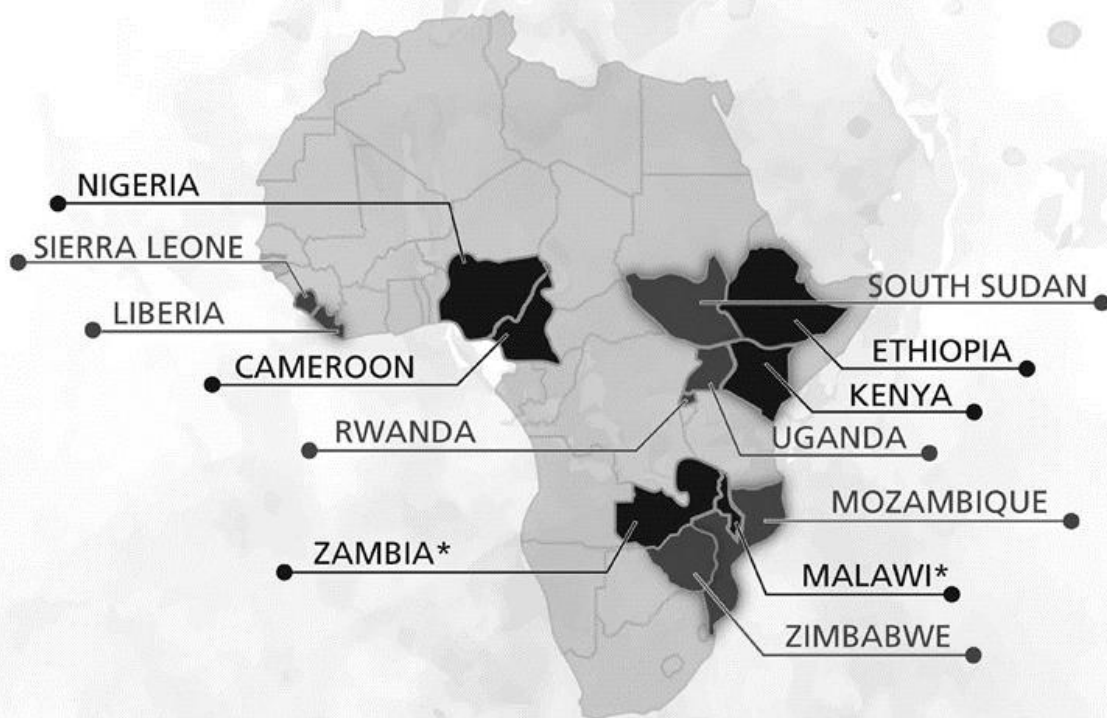
NORTH AMERICA & SOUTH AMERICA



*Countries where missionaries reside

WELS WORLD MISSIONS MAP

AFRICA



MISSION PARTNERS

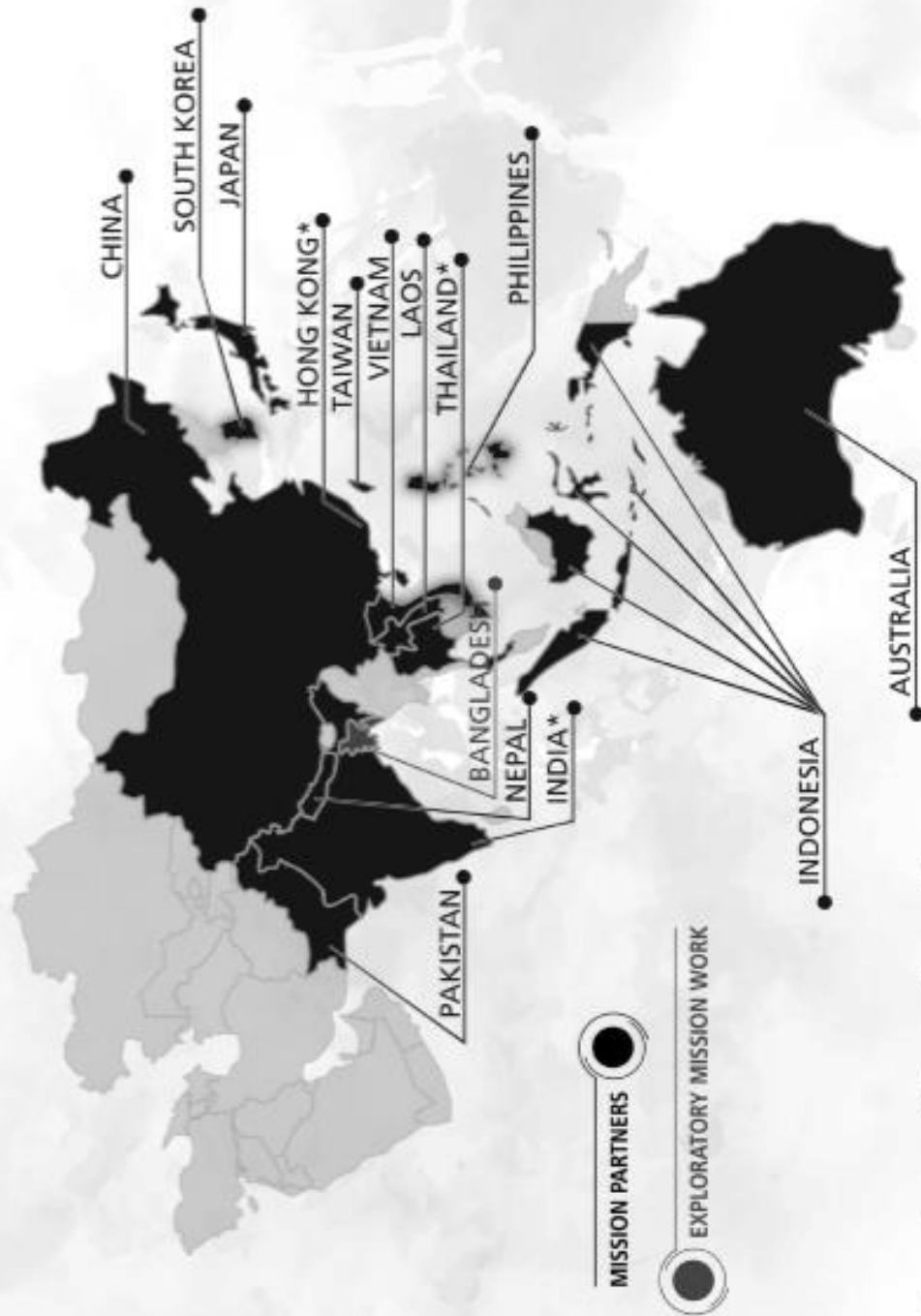


EXPLORATORY MISSION WORK

*Countries where missionaries reside

WELS WORLD MISSIONS MAP

ASIA & AUSTRALIA



*Countries where missionaries reside

Prayer for World Missions

Dear Father,

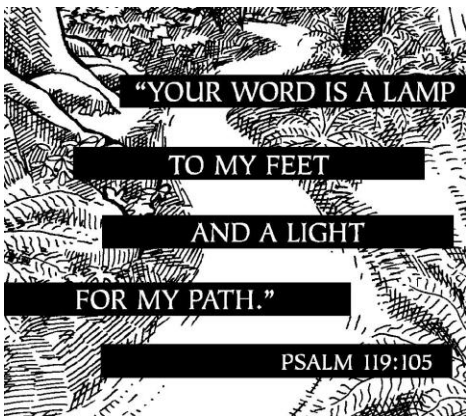
You have graciously given us your Word, which is powerful and effective. Use it to accomplish your purposes, to soften the hearts of unbelief into living hearts of faith. Your Word knows no boundaries. It works to gather people from every nation, tribe, people, and language. Bless the work of our missionaries, as they look to expand your kingdom to all parts of this world. Grant faithfulness, strength, and success to your servants. Use them as vessels to carry the message of Jesus Christ to people sitting in the darkness of sin and unbelief. Bless your Word, that it might liberate those held captive by sin to see the great love that you have lavished on us all through Jesus. Urge us, through your love, to continue to pray and support your work throughout the world. Amen.

WORLD MISSIONS PROJECTS

WORLD MISSION NEEDS – Help with outreach efforts is provided through mission field visits, which give encouragement, and printed materials in various languages, which build bridges to the gospel.

Project #WM-2020-01: Missionary Family Reunion

World missionaries and their families form bonds with other missionary families that will last



into eternity. These friendships are the ready support network for birthdays, holidays, and the ups and downs of life when other family and friends are very far away. The Missionary Family Reunion, held each July while missionaries are typically home on furlough, allows world missionary families to connect with those who are serving in similar circumstances.

Missionaries and their families gather at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary to relax, be recharged, make new friends, and have some fun. This event is entirely funded through special gifts. Your gifts will allow these missionary families to continue to gather together once a year for fun and fellowship.

Project #WM-2020-02: World Missionary Conference

Once every three years, missionaries from our world mission fields gather for a one-week conference. This conference allows for much-needed fellowship with their missionary brothers and encouragement for one another. It also provides a forum to share best practices along with valuable professional growth opportunities. The most recent conference was held in October 2018 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The cost of lodging, food, and transportation for a conference is usually between \$25,000 and \$30,000 per event. The conferences are not in the budget due to the possibility of postponement in the event the

money is not available. Your gifts will enable us not only to pay for this extra-budgetary gathering, but it also frees up the money to be used for further mission expansion.

Project #WM-2020-03: International Missionary Wives Conference

The first conference for all the wives of world missionaries was held in February 2017 in Athens, Greece. This type of conference strengthens the faith of world missionary wives through Bible study, fosters fellowship with other missionary wives, creates a network for sharing ideas, and creates bonds of friendship that will allow them to share their burdens with fellow sisters in Christ who are serving in similar situations. The costs for these conferences include airfare, lodging, meals, and local transportation. Thanks to past LWMS support, the second conference is being held in March 2020 in Barcelona, Spain. These conferences are only planned only after funding is secured. Your gifts will allow this type of conference to continue for many years to come.



Project #WM-2020-04: Repatriation Conferences

These conferences assist returning missionaries, their spouses, and children to adjust to leaving a foreign mission field and returning to an American ministry, life, and culture. The Board for World Missions considers this program absolutely necessary to help mission families transition to their new life. These beneficial gatherings are only possible when funding is available. Your gifts will assist with these much-needed conferences.

Project #WM-2020-05: LWMS Mission Trips

Trips to mission fields have been beneficial not only to the LWMS representatives making them, but also to the women of the national churches and the families of home and world missionaries. The LWMS visitors provide inspiration and gospel motivation to those they visit and receive a warm response in return. The excitement that is shared on the trip is brought back to the Annual LWMS Convention and shared with LWMS circuits throughout North America. Although most of the travel costs for these goodwill visits are provided by special funds of the mission board, this project provides financial assistance to help defray other costs. All LWMS trips will be approved by the Board for World Missions with visits scheduled every other year or as funds are available.

Project #WM-2020-06: Multi-Language Publications Projects (MLP)

Multi-language Publications (MLP), an arm of WELS World Missions, has produced more than 2.9 million print items, audio and video resources, and online training resources in more than 53 languages to date. Through these resources MLP can assist and enhance outreach for all churches, especially in places where WELS does not have resident missionaries. The majority of MLP products are evangelism and Bible study materials to be used by anyone who sees a need for ministering to others in Christ. Your gifts will help to fund the following projects and others as needed:

- **Digital Outreach** – Developments in technology have allowed MLP to focus much of their support in the form of digital outreach. MLP assists our world mission field in Latin America by supporting Academia Cristo—a Spanish-language website that offers video and audio Bible studies and live online training to reach out to non-Christians as well as to teach Latin American church members how to share their faith. About 1.3 million people follow Academia Cristo on Facebook, and 40,000–50,000 people visit the website each week. The TELL Network is modeled after Academia Cristo but is offered in English to people around the world. Other digital outreach supported by MLP includes websites in Urdu (Pakistan), Japanese, and many more.
- **Print Outreach** – While digital outreach is a large part of MLP's work, there is still a large need for print materials in regions of the world where Internet connection is limited or nonexistent. MLP continues to print items for outreach in South Asia, Africa, Indonesia, the Philippines, Russia, and East Asia. Popular publications include *Doctrine in Pictures* and *Who is Jesus* (both of which teach the saving message of the gospel through illustrations to those with low literacy) and *The Promise*.
- **Music Outreach** – MLP has a full-time missionary dedicated to creating culturally appropriate worship music and art to be used in sharing the gospel across WELS world mission fields. Current projects include producing music appropriate for Latin American, African, Pakistani, and Apache cultures.



Project #WM-2020-07: Proclaimers

There can be many benefits from *hearing* God's Word spoken to you rather than reading it off a written page. Proclaimers are solar-powered audio Bibles that help our missions reach more people with the saving gospel message. Some pastors use this tool to play selections of the Bible before worship. The device can also help overcome language/dialect barriers by removing the pastor's native accent and making it easier for the congregation to understand and follow along in Scripture. It also is a way to reach out to our visually-impaired brothers and sisters. Your gifts would help buy additional Proclaimers for use in our mission fields around the world.

AFRICA

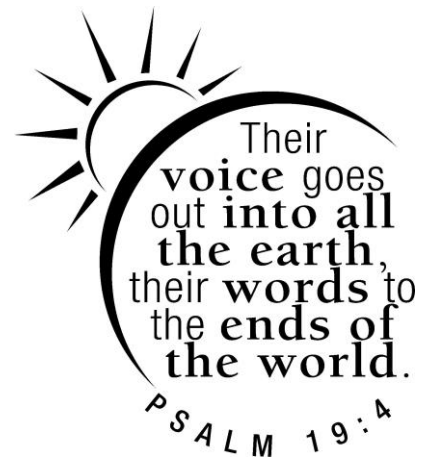
Project #WM-2020-08: Africa

The Lord is presenting the One Africa Team with many new opportunities for gospel outreach across the continent. The One Africa Team currently partners with sister church bodies in six different countries: Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, and Zambia. In these countries we are in fellowship with nearly 60,000 Lutheran brothers and sisters. Recently, an additional nine African countries have reached out to us for fellowship and theological training! While this is a tremendous blessing, such opportunities are stretching our current resources. Our primary mission focus is on theological training of African nationals to help them become qualified pastors, teachers, and lay leaders in their respective church bodies. Projects are based on the One Africa Team priorities rather than by country. Your gifts will help to fund these projects and others as needed:



- **African Outreach** – As a result of recent fellowship requests from individuals or groups in nations such as South Sudan, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zimbabwe, we assist with travel expenses and host these church leaders requesting fellowship with us. This process requires WELS missionaries, national leaders of the African synods, and United States supporters to exchange and vet theological beliefs, train leaders, and prepare synods and congregations for fellowship with the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conferences and WELS. This fund will offset unbudgeted travel and meeting expenses and provide gospel training materials.
- **Africa Theological Education** – WELS offers financial support for the seminaries in Zambia, Cameroon, and Nigeria and the preseminary facility (Lutheran Bible Institute) in Malawi. In addition to supporting WELS and national professors, teachers, and workers, funds are required for campus infrastructure improvements including classroom and library expansions. These updates will accommodate theological training to meet the growing demands for training parish pastors and offer continuing education for existing pastors.
- **Africa National Parsonage Buildings and Church Worship Facilities** – National synods are growing daily, and as congregations grow, church buildings are needed. Many congregations have provided specific requests with detailed project plans and local commitments that are currently waiting for funding. As congregations grow and pastors become trained for full-time gospel ministry, local congregations need support to build and furnish modest homes for pastors and their families.

- **Africa National Pastors and Vicar Support** – Most national pastors serve multiple congregations in multiple locations. To facilitate efficient ministry, motorbikes are utilized by pastors for transportation between locations to perform regular worship services and baptisms, distribute Holy Communion, officiate funeral services, and visit members. Pastors and vicars also benefit from Internet, cell phones, and access to continuing education for themselves, their wives, and children.
- **Africa WELS Asset Maintenance** – WELS currently supports nine resident missionaries and one operations director and their families in Africa. Homes, training facilities, and furnishings require maintenance and updating.
- **Africa Special Projects** – There are many other project requests across Africa that enhance our gospel ministry efforts. One particular need is to identify and fund volunteers who can work temporarily in our mission fields. Project requests include improving communication, publications, materials, and ministry tools.



Project #WM-2020-09: Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM)

The Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM) started in 1961 in Lumano, Zambia. Today, CAMM oversees a permanent clinic called the Lutheran Mission Rural Health Centre in Zambia on the same property as one of the Lutheran churches of Central Africa. CAMM also operates the Lutheran Mobile Clinic in Malawi, which travels to four different villages throughout the week. The buildings used in these villages serve as clinics during the week and as churches on Sundays. The Zambia clinic is completely run by national health care workers, and the Malawi clinic is served by two United States employees who work alongside other nationals. Prior to clinic work starting for the day, a brief devotion is given to all who attend. Both clinics focus on providing Christian counseling and testing for HIV, education and treatment of malaria, immunizations, wellness education, and treatment of other minor injuries or illnesses. By partnering with the Lutheran Church of Central Africa and WELS missionaries, CAMM provides help for the spiritual and physical needs of the people in Zambia and Malawi. CAMM operates solely on donations. Your gifts will allow CAMM to continue touching the lives of over 90,000 individuals on an annual basis.

ASIA

Project #WM-2020-10: Indonesia Projects

Gereja Lutheran Indonesia (GLI) is a sister church of WELS. The 1,000+ members of Gereja Lutheran have a wonderful evangelical spirit and are sharing the Word with various linguistic and ethnic groups spread across the archipelago. Like WELS, GLI has an active worker training program called Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Lutheran (STTL), which is preparing future ministers and leaders.

Indonesia is the fourth most populous country in the world with a population that is 90 percent Muslim. This creates unique opportunities and challenges for gospel outreach. Still, the Lord is blessing the work being carried out across the islands of Indonesia. Your gifts will help to fund the following projects and others as needed:

- **Early Field Experience** – Funds are needed to cover the cost of transporting seminary students of STTL to regional preaching posts to participate in practical aspects of parish ministry, such as leading worship, preaching, and teaching Sunday school. Early field experience is a valuable part of training for future evangelists and pastors of GLI.
- **Construction of Church Buildings** – Funds will allow for the purchase of building materials for the construction of multi-purpose church facilities for worship, Bible classes, and meetings. Each local congregation supplies the land and the labor.
- **Early Childhood Education** – Funds to provide training and materials for an early childhood education program will allow the congregations to provide a natural bridge to the gospel for young Muslim families.
- **Ministry and Building Materials** – Bibles, hymnals, and stewardship seminars are items needed for GLI. Dormitory furniture, books, and computers are needed for the seminary.

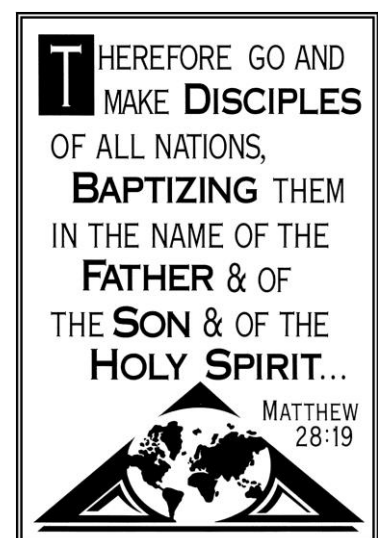
Project #WM-2020-11: Philippines Projects

In a country where 81 percent of the population is nominally Roman Catholic and the majority of the people speak English, God is opening doors for the proclamation of the gospel. The national pastor shepherds a confessional Lutheran mission congregation in Novaliches, a suburb of Manila, and is exploring outreach in Cavite. The pastor reaches out into his community with worship services and Bible classes for all ages. Your gifts will subsidize the outreach of Law and Gospel Evangelical Lutheran Church until the congregation can achieve self-supporting status.

Project #WM-2020-12: Thailand Projects

The Lord continues to open doors and bless mission endeavors in Thailand and the surrounding countries of Southeast Asia. Mission efforts continue to focus on helping the missions in Thailand to become an organized church body which will someday be able to sustain itself and continue the vital role it plays in the spread of the gospel to the people of Southeast Asia. Your gifts will help to fund projects such as the following and others as needed:

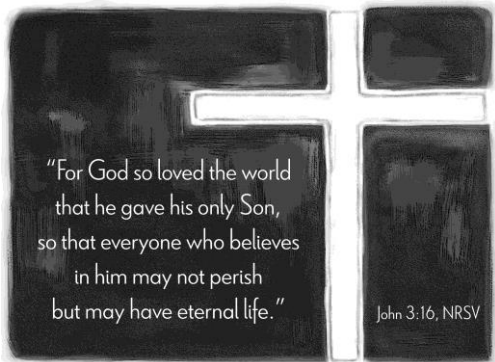
- **Student Assistance Fund** – Assists students as they attend the seminary for pastoral and evangelist training



- **Equipment Fund** – Provides needed computers and other office equipment for instruction, and vehicles for national workers to use when serving village congregations
- **Bible and Christian Literature Fund** – Provides Bibles, Christian instruction books, and textbooks for students
- **Building Fund** – Provides funding to assist village churches with land and facilities for worship and outreach

Project #WM-2020-13: Hmong Outreach in Vietnam Project

In 2011, a leader of the Hmong Fellowship Church (HFC) in Vietnam reached out to Rev. Bounkeo Lor, a Hmong WELS pastor in Kansas City, Kansas, with a request for theological training. Lor began making trips in 2012 to train 60 leaders of the HFC in the truths of the



gospel. Since training began, the HFC has grown from 55,000 to more than 120,000 members and the message of grace has brought peace to their church body. The Communist Vietnamese government noticed this positive change and invited WELS to build a theological training facility in the capital city of Hanoi in 2017. A synodwide campaign has brought in the funds necessary to buy the land and build the training facility, but additional funds will be needed on an annual basis to pay for the continued

training and operation of the facility. Your gifts will support the ongoing Hmong training in Vietnam and, with the Lord's blessing, outreach to the 2 million Hmong living in Vietnam and the surrounding countries of East Asia, Laos, and Myanmar.

Project #WM-2020-14: India Project

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Ministries (CELM) consists of more than 5,000 souls and nearly 150 congregations in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Madhya Pradesh. They are served by more than 50 national pastors, and another 26 men are currently enrolled in the seminary program. Your gifts will support general ministry in India and projects such as the ones below.

- **Transportation** – Indian Christians do not always live close to where their pastor lives. Many Indian pastors serve more than one congregation. Bicycles allow them to serve their congregations and members with the gospel more easily.
- **Church construction** – Many Indian congregations have no worship facility. Other congregations have churches that need repair. Building grants are given by the CELM to congregations that first raise 25 percent of what they need for the project.
- **Equipment** – In our worker training program, students use computers for a variety of purposes: e-mail, word processing, studying the Bible using online resources, and continuing education online classes.

- **Humanitarian aid** – Many of the CELM members have major healthcare needs which require treatment that they cannot afford. We give the CELM money each year to help members who have extraordinary medical needs such as major operations.

Project #WM-2020-15: India Children's Homes and School Projects

There are 20 million orphans in India today. Of all the poor people and orphans in India, 97 percent do not know Jesus Christ as their Savior. In order to care for poor children, we support and supervise six children's homes in India. In these homes, 200 children have a safe place to live, food, and clothing, and, most importantly, the gospel of Jesus Christ. We also support and supervise Gentle Shepherd Lutheran School, an elementary school that offers free, quality education to 220 children. And more importantly through daily devotions, Bible stories, and memorization these children also hear the good news that they have a Savior.

Project #WM-2020-16: Nepal Projects

Around 4,000 people are served with the saving gospel message through our mission work in Nepal. Nepal is a Hindu country and one of the poorest in Asia. WELS outreach is accomplished through the training of workers in a Bible Institute and Seminary with regional workshops and the translation and distribution of Christian literature, Proclaimers (see Multi-Language Publications), and humanitarian aid.

Your gifts will support general ministry in Nepal and projects such as the ones below:



- **Workshops and training** – While security concerns will not allow a missionary to reside in Nepal, national pastors and evangelists are trained for ministry through workshops and training courses.
- **Church construction** – Many Nepali congregations do not have a building in which to worship. You may help by providing up to 25 percent of the cost for a new church.
- **Humanitarian aid** – Christians, who make up only 1 percent of the population, are often the poorest in the nation. Some of our Christian brothers and sisters live in desperate circumstances. The leadership of our church in Nepal will disburse funds to widows, orphans, and those with unusual medical needs according to their knowledge of each individual situation.

Project #WM-2020-17: Pakistan Projects

The church in Pakistan is experiencing inward and outward growth. Online Bible Institute classes are being held to train students and their wives. These students take what they've learned back to the 56 house churches and 17 Sunday schools throughout Pakistan. Your gifts will support general ministry in Pakistan and projects such as the ones below:

- **Bibles and Christian Literature** – Printed Lutheran materials are important to the work in Pakistan as online security is always a concern.
- **Theological workshops and student scholarships** – Workshops are held to train house church leaders and Sunday school teachers in the gospel.
- **Sunday School** – Our mission to Pakistan has 17 Sunday schools with 688 children who attend. Funding is needed for supplies, refreshments for the children, and workshops for the dedicated teachers. Sunday school is the only school many Christian children will ever attend.
- **Nonformal schools** – In Pakistan, Christians comprise only 1 percent of the population. Only one in 12 Christians can read. Many children work in the fields and will never attend a school. We have opened 13 nonformal schools which are open from 3-6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Some children will come running from the fields at the end of their workday to attend the school. We teach the major subjects in these schools along with English and Bible lessons. Knowing English will help these children find better employment later in life.

EAST ASIA

Project #WM-2020-18: Asia Lutheran Seminary

This fund supports WELS worker training in East Asia through Asia Lutheran Seminary (ALS). Primarily, ALS equips men to serve as pastors, teachers, and church planters. Secondly, ALS works to equip all East Asian Christians with the truth so that they reach out with the gospel to as many people as possible.

Project #WM-2020-19: East Asian Outreach Project

This fund supports the work of church-planting in East Asia. While attending ALS, students must begin sharing the gospel and gathering new converts into small groups. Through a mentoring process and further theological education, these students work to grow their groups into self-sustaining congregations. Funds are used to provide full-time mentors, online training, and travel for face-to-face meetings with mentors. Occasional limited support is given to students who are unable to work at a paying job while studying and working to grow their group into a self-supporting congregation.

Project #WM-2020-20: Hong Kong

This fund supports church-planting and outreach efforts made by South Asian Lutheran Evangelical Mission (SALEM) in Hong Kong. A full partnership has developed between SALEM and WELS to grow existing SALEM churches and plant additional SALEM churches. Funding would support SALEM as they conduct outreach in East Asia, train leadership, provide worker training, produce confessional Lutheran materials, and practice good stewardship. Funding can also be used to help SALEM members visit WELS groups in America.

Project #WM-2020-21: Taiwan

This fund supports the church in Taiwan founded by WELS missionaries. Four congregations make up the Chinese Lutheran Evangelical Church (CLEC). Funds are used to send WELS missionaries and teachers to train students and teachers in CLEC. Funds are also used to send CLEC students and teachers to Hong Kong to receive or provide training. Some funds are used for student scholarships.

Project #WM-2020-22: East Asia Special Projects

This fund supports unforeseen special projects that may arise. Special projects may include specific training or presentations by a missionary, student, or professor. Special projects are sometimes related to facilities, Internet use, and additional travel expenses. Funds are also used for special and emergency situations associated with committee members' support of WELS work and workers in East Asia.

EUROPE

Project #WM-2020-23: Albania Projects

Three national pastors serve locations in Durres and Tirana. Their preaching and teaching is a gospel light in this Muslim country. Most new contact with souls comes by way of English as a Second Language classes. Your gift to Albania Projects will help supply the teaching materials needed for this ministry.

Project #WM-2020-24: Outreach to Roma

In 2015, a national pastor was installed in Bulgaria and called by the WELS Europe Committee to serve as the coordinator for the outreach to Roma (Gypsy) ministry, using his home congregation in the Romani village of Dunavtsi, Bulgaria, as his base. Since beginning this outreach, many Gypsies have been baptized, congregations have hosted well attended vacation Bible school programs, and Gypsy youth groups are thriving. Your gifts will supply materials for the children's Bible camps and cover expenses for outreach work in new areas.

Project #WM-2020-25: Russia Projects

One missionary and four national pastors serve five congregations and one preaching station in the Russian Lutheran Church. Visiting professors make regular teaching trips to help train our seminary students and deaconesses. Deaconesses in Iskitim conduct a thriving children's program including Sunday school, vacation Bible school, children's seminars throughout the year, as well as publishing an impressive children's newsletter. The Russian Lutheran Church is currently working on improving its use of media, including a website, and distribution of sound Christian literature. Your gifts will help to fund these projects and others as needed:

**I AM NOT ASHAMED
OF THE GOSPEL
FOR IT
IS THE POWER OF
GOD FOR
SALVATION!
ROMANS 1:16**

- **Outreach in Sevastopol, Crimea** – In March 2016, Crimea (formerly Ukrainian territory) found itself a part of Russia. Our sister synod, the Ukrainian Lutheran Church, had one congregation in Crimea, in the port city of Sevastopol. The Sevastopol congregation re-registered with the Russian government as part of the Russian Lutheran Church and now receives support from our Russian Mission. Project money will support the national pastor and the work of his congregation. Sevastopol is 2,250 miles west of Novosibirsk, our mission's center. The pastor and the congregation are quite isolated. Project money will cover quarterly travel between Sevastopol and Novosibirsk to foster fellowship as well as to further mentoring and study for the national pastor.
- **Sevastopol Church Building** – Sevastopol's church building is located in the heart of the city. The congregation worships in the basement because the main floor is currently unfinished. The congregation is thankful for any offerings to help them construct their church.
- **Outreach in Tomsk** – Tomsk, a center of culture and learning in central Siberia, lies four hours north of Novosibirsk. Since there is no missionary or Russian pastor in Tomsk, the missionary and national pastors take turns traveling there each month for worship, Bible class, and adult instruction classes. Your mission offerings pay for the rented facility, travel expenses for the missionary and national pastors who travel between Tomsk and Novosibirsk, advertisements, and church supplies.
- **Outreach in Chelyabinsk** – Chelyabinsk, a large industrial center in the southern Ural Mountains, lies 21 hours west of Novosibirsk. One national pastor serves a small congregation in Chelyabinsk and travels four hours south each month to serve another group in the town of Magnitogorsk. Project money will support the national pastor and the work of his congregation, as well as the quarterly travel expense between Chelyabinsk and Novosibirsk for further mentoring and study for the national pastor.

Project #WM-2020-26 Ukraine Project

WELS is the primary support for the 22 congregations of the Ukraine Lutheran Church (ULC). Your gifts will help support the ULC to stabilize the congregations in this country that is struggling financially as conflict with Russia continues. Your gifts will also help fund continuing education, which will enable ULC pastors to attend conferences led by visiting professors.

LATIN AMERICA

Project #WM-2020-27: Academia Cristo Project

The primary focus of our Latin American mission team is Academia Cristo (Christ Academy). Academia Cristo is a multi-faceted effort which seeks to 1) make disciples in Latin America by sharing the message of God's grace with as many people as possible, 2) identify and train potential leaders, and 3) encourage those leaders to make disciples who make disciples. The Spanish-language website offers video and audio Bible studies and live online training to reach out to non-Christians as well as to teach Latin American church members

how to share their faith. Today more than 1.3 million people follow the Academia Cristo page on Facebook, 40,000–50,000 people visit the website each week, and hundreds of thousands have downloaded resources after being directed there by our social media presence.

Every Spanish speaker is invited to take a 10-lesson introductory class to learn truths about God's Word and simple ways to teach Bible stories to others. Those who successfully



complete the class are invited to continue studying in the program, connected with a pastoral mentor who encourages and guides them as they grow in the knowledge of the truth, work to share God's good news with others, and ultimately strive to plant and develop churches in their communities that clearly and faithfully teach God's Word. These efforts have led to more than

20 new church planting groups working with us to spread the good news! Your gifts will help support this online outreach, the development and maintenance of a mobile application, and the online training that occurs through Academia Cristo.

Project #WM-2020-28: Latin America Special Projects

There are many other project requests across Latin America that enhance our gospel ministry efforts. Your gifts will help to fund projects such as the following and others as needed:

- **Church-Planting Support** – Once someone takes all the online courses offered through Academia Cristo and are identified as promising leaders and church planters, Latin America missionaries will make on-the-ground training visits and offer seminars to continue mentoring them and supporting them in their outreach to their communities. The Latin America missions team has already made these kinds of visits in Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, and many more.
- **Sister Synod Support** – World Missions has been working to share the gospel message throughout Latin America for many years. The Lord has blessed that effort, and strong independent sister synods now exist in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, Peru, and Puerto Rico. Much of our work in Latin America has turned to the outreach efforts through Academia Cristo, as national pastors have taken over what had been the work of the missionaries in their church. However, we continue to partner with our sister synods in outreach and sometimes support them financially.

NATIVE AMERICAN

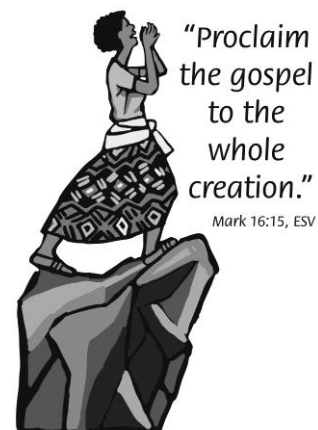
Project #WM-2020-29: Native American Special Projects

WELS Native American Missions are currently located on the Fort Apache and San Carlos Apache Reservations in eastern Arizona. Between the two reservations, there are eight churches, one preaching station, and two Lutheran schools. Four world missionaries, two Apache pastors, and one Apache evangelist currently serve on the Apache Reservations in addition to the two teaching staffs.

Apache Christians are asking to be equipped to share Christ's love with more people on their own reservations and even into other tribes. Apache Lutheran leaders have connections with different Native American tribes and are ready to reach out with the saving message of the gospel to the more than 500 reservations scattered across North America.

Your gifts will support the following projects and others as needed:

- Exploratory visits and online outreach to other Native American tribes
- Materials for outreach, Sunday schools, youth ministry, small group Bible studies and support groups, grief counseling, addiction recovery ministries, and more
- Property repairs and renovations at the churches, schools, parsonages, and teacherages
- Continuing education for the pastoral and teaching staff
- Humanitarian aid projects



Project #WM-2020-30: Apache Christian Training School (ACTS)

ACTS provides theological courses to train and equip White Mountain and San Carlos Apache Tribes for ministry. In addition to classroom work, the men and women have the opportunity to practice and model ministry in the congregations. The goal is Apaches serving Apaches in this life, so that more can attain the goal of eternal life. The program trains Apaches to be pastors, evangelists, deacons and deaconesses, certified Lutheran teachers, and lay leadership within their churches. The time commitment is significant. Many ACTS students struggle to make ends meet while attending evening classes in various locations. Most students have families to support and often have menial jobs.

Your gifts will help fund student subsidies, additional staffing, facility costs and renovations, training materials, promotional and travel expenses, and other projects as needed.

Project #WM-2020-31: Partners in Apache Learning (PAL)

Peridot-Our Savior's Lutheran on the San Carlos Apache Reservation and East Fork Lutheran on the Fort Apache Reservation are supported by PAL money. With the challenges of broken families, substance abuse, and gang violence, PAL funds help schools to daily

bring God's message of strength and hope to the Apache children. Working with families to develop tomorrow's leaders in his church continues to be a marvelous blessing. Your gifts will help fund tuition assistance grants for individual families and students and curriculum support and technology needs for the two schools. Tuition assistance is distributed by local Apache school boards to families facing economic challenges. Curriculum support is administered by the local Apache school boards.



Prayer for Missions

God our Father, Lord of the Church, in eternity you chose your own and made them members of your kingdom in Christ. In time, you use human instruments to gather those chosen into your kingdom by preaching the gospel. Humans are by nature dead in sin and have no desire to hear your Word or be part of your kingdom; yet, you promise that your Word is powerful. It cuts through sinful hearts, and where the word of Christ is, there the Holy Spirit creates faith in Jesus and brings more people into the Church as he daily and fully forgives sins. We know that this happens where and when it pleases you, Lord, but do not let this discourage us. Rather, let this encourage us all the more to see the harvest fields all around us. You have given us Christ crucified and resurrected to preach, and you have promised that the seed of your Word will grow all on its own, even as we sleep. May we be planters of the seed you grow. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

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Project Name: _____

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Please note on your check the project # and project name.

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