2024-2025 HOME & WORLD MISSIONS PROJECTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	3
A Message from the Missions Office	5
Home Missions	
Home Missions Map	7
Home Missions Projects	8
Campus Ministry Projects	11
Mission Congregations and Students Projects	12
Joint Missions Projects	13
World Missions	
World Missions Maps	16
World Missions Projects	20
Africa	23
Asia	24
Europe	27
Latin America	28
Native American	30
WELS Missions Contacts	32
Gift Remittance Form	35



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Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) is women dedicated to serving Jesus by increasing awareness of, interest in, and support of the mission outreach of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

- FOREWORD -

Opportunity allowed me to journey on a medical/humanitarian mission trip to Thailand through Christians Forward Southeast Asia (CFSA). While there, we were asked to see a teenage boy in a nearby village. Entering the barren earth floor of his hut, we found him to have a severe bed ulcer resulting from paralysis after being shot. Although the family was not Christian, they allowed us to pray. For five days we prayed and treated him with the minimal supplies we had.

As the family was non-Christian, I was greatly troubled when our time came to depart, knowing that without more medical care the ulcer could result in his death. In attempts to comfort me, our native Hmong WELS pastor who served as the interpreter said, "We can only plant the seeds and leave the rest to God."

LWMS exists to increase awareness of, interest in, and support of the mission outreach of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). This missions projects booklet is prepared jointly by LWMS and WELS. All the projects in the booklet have been approved by the WELS Missions Office but are not fully funded by your regular Congregational Mission Offerings. LWMS members are positioned to support these projects through rally offerings, special offerings, and invitations to those serving in the mission fields to speak at rallies or other mission-focused events. Also, use this booklet as a resource to inform and educate. It includes home, joint, and world project descriptions, prayers, maps, mission board contacts, and remittance form that will help you achieve your mission outreach goals. Share with your congregation, school children, and others. They will benefit from learning about missions and their own ability to provide support with gifts and prayers. May we, as women united to serve Jesus, continue to plant seeds in our homes, churches, workplaces, communities, and the mission fields he provides.

We thank WELS and the WELS Church Extension Fund for partnering with us to produce this publication.

United to Serve Jesus,

Jacky Stoll, president LWMS Board of Directors



N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive Waukesha, WI 53188-1108 414-256-3234

A MESSAGE FROM THE MISSIONS OFFICE

Dear Missions Donors,

The projects listed in this booklet receive gifts and thank offerings from various sources including individuals, congregations, and groups such as LWMS circuits. The projects included were specifically selected because they are the highest areas of need within each mission category at this time. Many of these projects are supported, in part, by 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 the gifts supporting the missions projects be sent directly to the WELS Missions Office, N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188, accompanied by a Gift Remittance Form. (Reproductions of the form are permitted.)

To learn more about requesting a mission speaker and available promotional resources, please visit us online at wels.net/missions or contact Missions Promotions at missionspromotions@wels.net or 414-256-3246.

Email information for the 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.

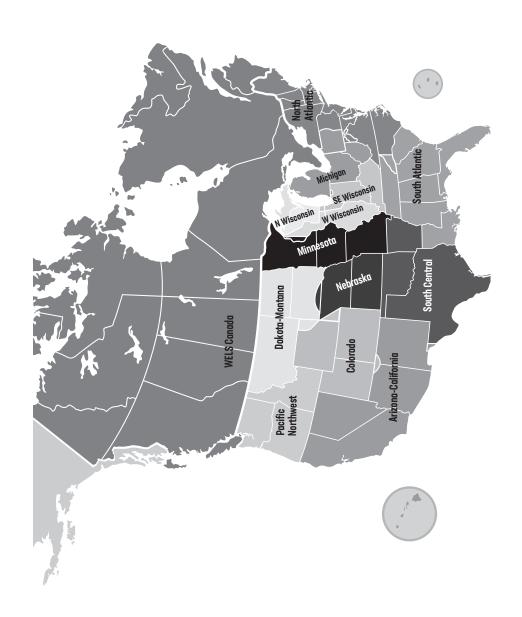
WELS Missions Office



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.

WELS HOME MISSIONS MAP



A Prayer for Home Missions

God of the prophets, you inspired Isaiah to declare, "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation!" Bless our home missionaries and their families as they serve in a part of the country different from where they grew up. Bless their feet and guide their steps as they stand on the street corner, sit at the kitchen table, and scour the countryside, inviting everyone to call on the name of the Lord and be saved. Grant them special insight to know the people and establish the bond of trust so that they may proclaim your gospel clearly. Send your Holy Spirit to open the ears, minds, and hearts of those who listen, that they may believe in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and be saved. 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-2024-01: 100 Missions in 10 Years

In 2021, synod convention delegates approved an ambitious new goal that allows WELS Home Missions to plant 100 new home mission churches and enhance 75 existing ministries from 2023–2033. Our Savior directs us to reach more souls with his good news. This initiative isn't as much about planting more churches as it is about sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Home Missions previously funded about six new home missions and three ministry enhancements per year. Your gifts will help WELS Home Missions as they look to increase the number of new starts and enhancements approved each year to meet our goal.

Project #HM-2024-02: First Public Service Assistance

The Board for Home Missions authorizes new mission starts. After those missions receive a home missionary, planning takes place for the first public worship service. Social media campaigns, 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-2024-03: Equipment Fund

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

Project #HM-2024-04: Family and Children's Ministry Outreach

Every home mission congregation hopes to draw in new people from the community and ultimately serve their spiritual needs. Family and children's ministry programs, such as Mornings with Mommy, early childhood ministries, Sunday Schools, and other similar programs are being developed to specifically welcome parents/caregivers and their young children to 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-2024-05: Tools for Outreach

To reach out effectively, home mission congregations 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: developing a website; running ads on social media platforms; preparing, purchasing, and distributing flyers; ordering signage; writing news articles; and running radio/TV ads. Another useful tool to get information out to the community about new home missions is subscribing to a monthly newcomer list. Having a way to obtain names and addresses of newcomers in the neighborhood allows the mission to get its message out in an efficient manner. Your gifts will help support these various outreach approaches.

Project #HM-2024-06: Musical Assistance

Home mission congregations are not always blessed with a pipe organ or piano. They often need to use portable instruments such as keyboards, guitars, or computer-generated music with speakers. The costs for these instruments and sound equipment can be a challenge when establishing home mission congregations. Your gifts will enrich their worship services as they acquire musical tools and instruments to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

Project #HM-2024-07: Children and Adult Bible Study Material

New and useful materials 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 home mission congregations cannot always find funding for appropriate teaching materials. Your gifts will help home mission congregations reach out to new and potential members with Bible study materials.

Project #HM-2024-08: Kids Summer Bible Camps

Kids summer Bible camps can sometimes cost more than the traditional vacation Bible school because these camps focus on music, sports, art, technology, 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 congregations to offer a kids summer Bible camp to help reach out to the children and their families in their community.

Project #HM-2024-09: Home Missionary Conferences

WELS congregations share many commonalities in terms of geography, demographics, and age of churches. Mission conferences that help Lutheran congregations—new and old—share strategies to reach the lost are important. In addition, WELS Home Missions supports a Church Planter Intensive Weekend for new home missionaries and their spouses to gather to network, ask questions of experienced church planters, and create a practical ministry blueprint for their unique mission settings. Your gifts will assist in hosting these conferences as home mission churches 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 this project will help students to grow spiritually, build on their Christian roots, and reach out to other students on campus.



Project #HM-2024-10: WELS Campus Ministry

Students on our 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) provides resources, support, and encouragement to WELS congregations that serve college students around the United States and Canada. One of the main ways the CMC assists congregations is by 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 will help assist campus pastors and congregations reach out and serve these young people on college campuses with the Word of God.

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

Project #HM-2024-11: Summer Student Assistants

In this ten-week program, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary students receive valuable experience and home mission congregations receive needed assistance. It's almost like a mini vicar experience. There has been growing Interest 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-2024-12: Vicars in Mission Settings

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

Project #HM-2024-13: Cross-Cultural Mission Conferences and Training

This project assists congregations with various people groups 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.



A Prayer for Joint Missions

Lord of the Church, you have commanded your people to go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Bless us as we speak the truth in love to our friends. relatives, acquaintances, and neighbors. Especially bless those who proclaim your good news in places we have never gone and to people we have never met. Whether they serve in a nearby town or faraway country, grant your home and world missionaries confidence to share salvation with others. Though the teaching, tasks, and travels may be arduous, tedious, and frustrating at times, grant your servants patience. Remind them that their calling is just to be faithful; God will produce the results. Assure them of your abiding presence and guiding hand in all things. Move us to remember them with our prayers, encourage them with words of support, and enable them to continue to serve with our offerings. Amen.

JOINT MISSIONS PROJECTS

JOINT MISSIONS NEEDS – Joint Missions supports opportunities that are the responsibility of Home Missions, World Missions, and Ministerial Education. The projects listed below were selected due to the need for funding because of the rapidly expanding mission opportunities that are being presented to the Joint Mission Council.

Project #JMC-2024-01: Joint Missions

WELS Joint Missions is currently working with at least 15 different diaspora (people-group) ministries while also managing the Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) and WELS Mission Journeys. 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 supplement all current cross-cultural and people-group ministries and provide funding when new joint missions outreach opportunities arise.

Project #JMC-2024-02: 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. Your gift would provide organizational support to match volunteer groups to mission locations and volunteer training.

Project #JMC-2024-03: Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI)

In partnership with WELS Joint Missions, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary's Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) provides pre-seminary and seminary training to North American students from a variety of countries and cultures. They also provide consultation on curriculum and educational practices in World Mission fields. In addition, many Christian individuals, churches, and synods are seeking support, training, and connection to a church body that shares the truth of God's word and the good news of salvation through Christ. PSI assists regional world mission teams in the evaluation process and provides consultation and support in the area of theological education leading to fellowship. Your gift will help cover travel expenses for new exploratory training visits, scholarships, and school expenses for PSI students.

Project #JMC-2024-04: Sudanese Outreach

At least ten different congregations in North America 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 of their local Sudanese congregation. They are also reaching back to South Sudanese refugee camps in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda with the gospel message. Your gift will support current Sudanese ministries as well as future ministry expansion.

Project #JMC-2024-05: North American Asian Outreach

The Joint Mission Council is assisting in various Asian outreach opportunities in North America to Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese people-groups. The North American Asian ministry consultant works with individuals to improve their personal Asian intercultural witnessing skills as well as congregations to design and implement outreach programs to reach their Asian community members. Your gift will support current North American Asian ministries as well as future ministry expansion.

Project #JMC-2024-06: South Asian Outreach

The WELS Joint Mission Council supports a Pakistani WELS pastor and his wife as they reach out to South Asians in their country of origin as well as South Asians residing throughout North America. In their own community in the United States, they share the gospel through friendship evangelism efforts. Your gift will support current South Asian ministries as well as future ministry expansion.

Project #JMC-2024-07: LWMS Mission Trips



Trips to mission fields have been beneficial not only Lutheran Women's to the LWMS representatives taking them, but also to the women of the national churches and the families of home and world missionaries. 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. All LWMS trips will be approved by the Board for Home or World Missions. Your gifts will allow these trips to continue for many years to come.

> "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:13-15)

NORTH AMERICA & SOUTH AMERICA



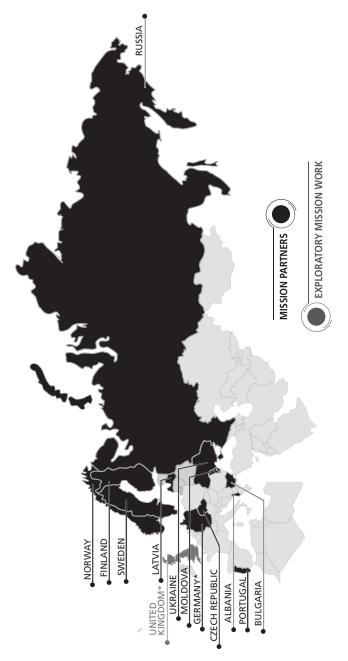
^{*}Countries where missionaries reside



EXPLORATORY MISSION WORK

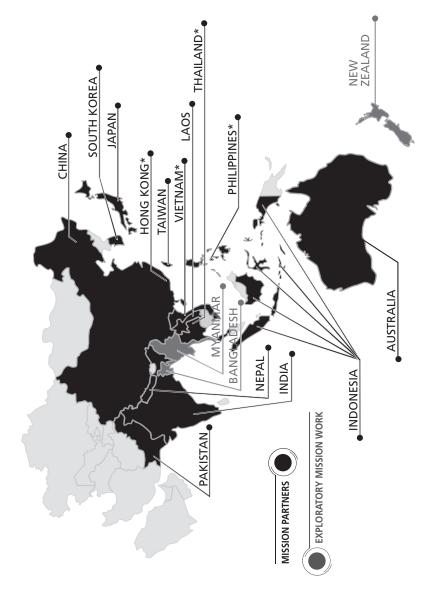
^{*}Countries where missionaries reside

EUROPE & RUSSIA



*Countries where missionaries reside

ASIA & AUSTRALIA



*Countries where missionaries reside

A Prayer for World Missions

Risen and ascended Lord Jesus, you have commanded us to go and make disciples of all nations. We pray that you would send out workers into your harvest field, that repentance for the forgiveness of sins is preached in your name to all nations. Bless our world missionaries and their families as they serve in a culture, climate, and language unfamiliar to them. Grant them a spirit of adventure and adaptability to their new surroundings. Whenever they feel discouraged because they are foreigners, remind them that while you were on earth you paid special attention to the lonely and the outcast. May the good news of Christ crucified and risen be the great communicator and unifier in their lives and ministry so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. Amen.

WORLD MISSIONS PROJECTS

WORLD MISSIONS NEEDS – World Missions bring the light of God's Word to the world through evangelism efforts, church planting, the training of national workers for ministry, and provision of religious materials in foreign languages. The projects listed below were selected by WELS World Missions because they have need for funding and because of the rapidly expanding mission opportunities that are being presented.

Project #WM-2024-01: 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 April 2022 in Texas. 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 provide valuable funding for this gathering.

Project #WM-2024-02: International Missionary Wives Conference

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 was held in March 2023 in Thessaloniki, Greece. These conferences are only planned once funding is secured. Your gifts will allow this type of conference to continue for many years to come.

Project #WM-2024-03: 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-2024-04: New World Mission Fields

More than 7,000 people-groups in the world live without access to the good news of Jesus Christ. With these unreached people-groups and the Great Commission in mind, the Board for World Missons is looking to approve new locations to plant world mission fields. Mission fields have already been planted in London and Bangladesh. Locations being explored include Senegal, Dubai, New Zealand, Native American tribes, and Australia. Your gifts will allow for thorough follow-up research as well as exploratory trips to each new location. We pray that these explorations will allow WELS to send missionaries who will learn a culture and language, plant churches, and start the journey of raising up leaders who will be able to pastor them in the future. While much more time is needed to investigate, plan, and prepare for potential mission work in these areas, it is our prayer that the Lord of the harvest might use WELS to reach into more of the earth's darkest corners to reach people with the light of Christ.

Project #WM-2024-05: Multi-Language Productions (MLP)

Multi-Language Productions (MLP), an arm of WELS World Missions, has created more than 2.9 million video, audio, and print materials and is growing their online training resources in more than 56 languages to date. The majority of MLP products are evangelism and Bible study resources to be used by anyone who sees a need for ministering to others in Christ. Your gifts will help fund the following projects and others as needed:

- **Digital Outreach** The MLP online Bible-based training platform called the TELL Network (Think, Evaluate, Learn, Lead), has been bringing the gospel to those who speak English, Mandarin, Spanish and Tagalog around the world. TELL students are encouraged to, complete self-study courses, participate in live online classes, and lead their own groups in Bible study and worship. TELL hopes to train men and women to become Christian leaders in their communities.
- **Print Outreach** While digital outreach is a large part of MLP's work, there is still a need for print materials in regions of the world where internet connection is limited or nonexistent. MLP continues to print items for outreach that teach the saving message of the gospel through illustrations to those with low literacy.
- 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 African, Apache, Asian, Latin American, and Pakistani cultures.



— AFRICA —

Project #WM-2024-06: 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 seven different countries: Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zambia. In these countries we are in fellowship with nearly 60,000 Lutheran brothers and sisters. The new work before



WELS missionaries is outreach, as individuals and church groups in six additional African countries have reached out for fellowship and theological training. The One Africa Team is working with current and potential partner churches throughout Africa to gather, develop, and strengthen healthy congregations. Your gifts will help support this goal through the following initiatives:

- Help support African outreach Outreach trips have been made to churches in Liberia, Mozambique, South Sudanese refugee camps, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. The TELL program from Multi-Language Productions (MLP) has also identified 30+ promising individuals from across the continent who are ready to have conversations about doctrinal agreement and be paired up with a mentor to help them teach others what they have learned through the program. Funding is needed to visit these contacts, provide additional theological training, and assist them with their outreach efforts.
- Help a pastor visit his churches and members Most African pastors serve multiple congregations in multiple locations. The One Africa Team provides grants for motorbikes and other forms of transportation to help the pastor easily travel to worship services and baptisms, distribute Holy Communion, officiate funeral services, and visit members. Motorbikes typically cost \$1,000 per bike.
- **Help with the unexpected** Despite the best efforts of the One Africa Team and our mission partners to plan for and budget what is needed to carry out our work, there is always an unexpected need.

Project #WM-2024-07: Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM)

The Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM) oversees a permanent clinic called the Lutheran Mission Rural Heath 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. Both clinics are completely run by national health care workers. 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 illness. 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. Your gifts will allow CAMM to continue touching the lives of close to 80,000 individuals on an annual basis.



- ASIA -

Project #WM-2024-08: Asia

The Asia One Team is a team of missionaries serving 17 different countries throughout Asia. Their growing home base in Chiang Mai, Thailand, is helping facilitate a stronger team, better supported missionaries, healthy families, and more effective ways to serve hard-to-reach parts of Asia. The team looks to equip, encourage, and empower others to bring the good news

of Jesus Christ to 1.8 billion unreached souls. Your gifts will support theological education, church planting, new outreach initiatives, and other general mission expenses throughout Asia.

Project #WM-2024-09: Bangladesh

Haris (name changed due to the sensitive nature of his work), a Christian young man from Bangladesh, became a member of a WELS congregation in a large city in the Midwest. Haris expressed the desire to share the gospel with more Muslims, both in his new city in America

and in his homeland, and he enrolled in the Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI). Close to this time his father passed away, and Haris inherited the responsibility of overseeing two Bible schools in Bangladesh that train evangelists. He has asked WELS to provide solid scriptural training for the teachers and students. WELS representatives have made multiple visits to assist in this training, and plans are being made to provide additional training to previous graduates in addition to current students and teachers. In addition, WELS is working with Haris to run two international friendship centers in his Midwest city and across the border in Canada. Your gifts will provide support for the mission work occurring in North America and in Bangladesh.

Project #WM-2024-10: Nepal

More than 5,000 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, the translation and distribution of Christian literature, and humanitarian aid. Your gifts will support humanitarian aid administered through the leadership of our sister church, the building of new churches, and other general mission expenses in Nepal.

Project #WM-2024-11: Hmong Outreach in Vietnam

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, KS, with a request for theological training. Since training began in 2012, the HFC has grown from 55,000 to more than 145,000 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. The first class of 55 pastors graduated and the new building was dedicated in 2023. The next cohort of 60 students have begun their studies, a third cohort is waiting to be trained, and a rural training program is teaching Biblical truths to the hundreds of rural church leaders and members who are eager to learn more about their Savior. Your gifts will support ongoing Hmong training in Vietnam and, with the Lord's blessing, outreach to the two million Hmong living in Vietnam and the surrounding countries.

Project #WM-2024-12: Pakistan

The church in Pakistan is experiencing inward and outward growth. The WELS mission in Pakistan has close to 30 house churches, many Sunday and non-formal schools, one formal elementary school, and a Christian high school. An online Bible institute teaches over 100 adults every month, and a WELS website in English and Urdu, the main language in Pakistan, offers a great array of Christian literature along with videos of Bible stories. World Missions continues to partner with WELS Christian Aid and Relief to provide humanitarian aid through free medical clinics, earthquake and flood relief, charity for the poor, and sewing classes. Your gifts will support theological education, national pastors and lay leaders, house churches, and other general support of mission work in Pakistan.

Project #WM-2024-13: Asia Lutheran Seminary

Asia Lutheran Seminary (ALS) has transitioned from being a seminary for only East Asia to becoming a regional seminary for all of Asia. ALS is now a fully-accredited, Master of Divinity-granting seminary that coordinates the training and equipping of leaders throughout Asia. There are plans to establish a regional branch of ALS in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in addition to the location in Hong Kong. There is also a Regional Theological Education Program within the seminary to assist with meeting the needs of sister churches throughout Asia. Your gifts will support these theological education efforts throughout Asia through ALS.

Project #WM-2024-14: Chinese Outreach

While attending Asia Lutheran Seminary, East Asian students begin sharing the gospel and gathering new converts into small Chinese groups. Through a mentoring process and further theological education, these students work to grow their groups into self-sustaining congregations. Your gifts will support church planting efforts in East Asia, which includes full-time Chinese mentors, face-to-face meetings with mentors, online training, occasional support for church planters studying for ministry, and more.

— EUROPE —

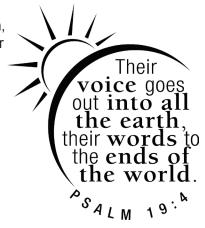
Project #WM-2024-15: Europe

The Europe mission team partners to share Christ's grace in Albania, Bulgaria, London and the U.K., Portugal, Russia, and Ukraine, while supporting sister church bodies in seven additional European countries. There are currently three WELS missionaries residing in Europe. A large emphasis of mission work in Europe is focused on equipping and training national pastors to lead their own congregations and facilitating continuing education for our national church partners, many of whom are tent ministers who preach and teach on weekends and support themselves with secular work during the week. Your gifts will support theological education, church planting, new outreach initiatives, and other general mission expenses throughout Europe.

Project #WM-2024-16: London and the United Kingdom

London is one of the most diverse and important cities in the world. Since the 1980s, the WELS European chaplaincy program has held monthly services in London for WELS-connected believers in the area. In recent years, many members from WELS' sister churches around the world have been moving to the United Kingdom. For example, more than 20 percent of members and leaders from WELS' partner church in Hong Kong have already moved to the U.K., with more on the way. In response to this opportunity, WELS World Missions has planted a new mission field in the U.K. Missionaries

have been assigned to begin serving the group already gathering in London, connect with contacts from other sister church bodies, and launch outreach efforts. With the Lord's blessing, it is the prayer this mission work could provide a springboard for further outreach in the U.K. and the entire continent of Europe. Your gift will be used to help support initial outreach and church planting efforts in London and the greater United Kingdom.



— LATIN AMERICA —

Project #WM-2024-17: Academia Cristo

The primary focus of the 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 plant churches. Academia Cristo begins by training people through online, self-led courses. After completing these courses, students can sign up for live classes with a WELS missionary or national partner via Zoom. The various levels of live classes provide additional training so students can be brought into fellowship with WELS and begin sharing what they've learned with others by starting small groups. It is the prayer that these small groups turn into new church plants, and they continue sharing the gospel message with others in their communities. Today more than 1.9 million people follow the Academia Cristo page on Facebook, 2,000+ people have completed self-led online courses, and there are 79 Academia Cristo students who are now in fellowship with WELS.

Your gifts will help support the maintenance of the online training tools, live online training by missionaries, mentoring visits to *Academia Cristo* students, and more. In addition, gifts will be used to host in-person *Academia Cristo* conferences where there are small clusters of students who would like to gather to meet each other, network, and learn through in-person workshops.

Project #WM-2024-18: Iglesia Cristo WELS Internacional

Iglesia Cristo WELS Internacional is a new synod that was formed in 2021 through the partnership of WELS sister churches across five countries throughout Latin America. This new synod allows these churches to do mission work together, train pastors together, and support each other with prayers and fellowship. It also provides a place to go for new churches formed out of Academia Cristo training efforts. A new church in Cochabamba, Bolivia, was the first one planted through Academia Cristo outreach efforts and invited into fellowship with Iglesia Cristo WELS Internacional in February 2023, a milestone for mission work in Latin America. There are over 25 additional groups being led by *Academia Cristo* students that are on this same path to church fellowship. Your gifts will support travel costs for synod leaders to visit the developing church plants spread across Latin America as well as

a future worker who will travel extensively to build and maintain bonds of fellowship between the new synod and its new membership groups.

Project #WM-2024-19: Latin America

There are many other project requests across Latin America that enhance gospel ministry efforts. For example, the Latin America mission team is growing, and the team is widely scattered throughout Latin America. They realize that healthy families are a very important part of the team's success, and they would like to bring everyone together for biannual Mission Family Retreats. Distances mean that costs are high, but the benefits are also very high. Your gifts will help fund projects such as a Missionary Family Retreat, general unbudgeted mission expenses, and other unexpected costs that might arise.



Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

(Matthew 28:18-20)

- NATIVE AMERICAN -

Project #WM-2024-20: Native American Missions



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 want 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 into new 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-2024-21: Apache Christian Training School (ACTS)

ACTS provides theological courses to train and equip Apache members for ministry. In addition to classroom work, the men and women can practice and model ministry in their home 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 leaders within their churches. The time commitment is significant. Many ACTS students are carrying out their training in addition to

family and other work responsibilities. 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-2024-22: Peridot-Our Savior's Lutheran School

Peridot—Our Savior's Lutheran School on the San Carlos Apache Reservation has seen rising enrollment, and requests for solid, Christian education continue to roll in. Additional classrooms, building repairs, faculty, and resources are desperately needed to catch up with enrollment growth. Your gifts will help present-day ministry at the school and support the various projects that will allow Peridot—Our Savior's to reach more children and their families with the gospel.



Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

(Colossians 4:2-6)

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Project Name, and mail form and check to:

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*Do not send checks to LWMS or the contact person.

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