

Apache Mission

 wels.net/apache

MISSIONS



The Apache Mission celebrated 125 years of God's blessings in 2018 as the first world mission of WELS. The Apache Mission is located in eastern Arizona on the Fort Apache Reservation and the San Carlos Apache Reservation. Between the two reservations there are eight churches, one preaching station, and two Lutheran elementary schools. The Apache Lutheran churches are currently training future leaders for work as evangelists, teachers, and pastors through the Apache Christian Training School located at the East Fork Mission.

Mission updates

Apache Christian Training School: The school currently has about 60 students enrolled. Pastor Howie Mohlke serves as the Director of the program, where he started in June 2017.

Apache congregations: Congregations at East Fork, Canyon Day, Cibecue, McNary, and Whiteriver on the Fort Apache Reservation to the North continue to be served by one WELS missionary, two native pastors, and one native evangelist. San Carlos, Peridot, and Bylas congregations on the San Carlos Reservation to the South continue to be served by two WELS missionaries. The Native American Mission field coordinator also resides in Peridot. Each location continues to focus on building Christian leaders for the future long-term stability of the church.

Apache schools: East Fork Lutheran and Peridot-Our Savior's Lutheran schools both have

dedicated staffs of teachers who are sharing God's Word. There are approximately 145 students on the Fort Apache reservation attending East Fork Lutheran School (K-12 and approximately 130 students living on the San Carlos Apache Reservation attending Peridot-Our Savior's Lutheran School (K-8. The number of children our schools are serving continues to rise due to the higher academic,well-rounded curriculum, and the Christian education we offer. Our WELS schools are now affordable to more families due to the State of Arizona instituting a voucher system allowing children to attend private schools.

Mission Statistics

Baptized members: 3,600

Organized congregations: 8

Preaching stations: 1

Missionaries: 5

Teachers: 17 (4 Apache

National pastors: 2

Evangelists: 1

Bible Institute students: 60

Praying for Apache Ministry

Please pray for the students of the Apache Christian Training School; for the new youth ministry; and for Apache Christian families, that they stand firm in the face of increasing attacks from those mired in the darkness of traditional religion.