

HOMEMISSIONS

WELS HOME MISSIONS UPDATE – SPRING 2020

“Like” the WELS Missions Facebook page at [fb.com/WELS Missions](https://www.facebook.com/WELSMissions).

Home mission congregations hold opening worship: Three home mission congregations held grand opening worship services in the Fall of 2019. **Shepherd of the Valley—Candelas** campus in Arvada, Colo., had 140 people in attendance with nearly 70 first-time guests on October 6. Pastor Jeremy Belter was also privileged to baptize three children from the same family. **Cross of Christ** in North Nampa, Ida., a multi-site congregation in the greater Boise area, held an opening worship service at their second location on November 24. This second site began in a small, 24/7 ministry center but has grown to now include worship services at a local restaurant. **Bethlehem** in Richland Center, Wis., celebrated their grand opening worship service on September 29 with 78 people in attendance. 10 new visitors from the community were interested in learning more about this new church, and they were also blessed to celebrate a baptism during the service.

Home mission congregations break ground on new facilities: Four home mission congregations broke ground on new facilities in 2019. **Living Word** in Waukesha, Wis., broke ground on their new worship center, which will include a community coffee shop and space that will help facilitate outreach to local high school students. **Christ the Rock** in Hutto, Tex., and **Shepherd of the Lakes** in Fenton, Mich., began building their new church buildings. In June 2019, **Grace** in Sahuarita, Ariz., broke ground on a new child learning center that is scheduled to open in August of 2020. Pre-registration already stands at 54 students.

Grants for Kid’s summer Bible camps at home mission congregations: Kids summer Bible camps (variations on a Vacation Bible School) are commonly used at home mission congregations around North America to build bridges to the gospel in their communities. Past camps have included soccer, music, art, science, fitness, computer coding, and even STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) camps. Through generous gifts from the Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society and other WELS members, WELS Home Missions was able to approve 27 grant requests (totaling \$48,255) for home mission congregations to use for their summer 2020 camps. Make sure to watch the March 2020 WELS Connection to see how one home mission start used a STEM Camp to help kickstart their outreach efforts.

New Chinese ministry in Coquitlam, British Columbia (BC),

Canada: Qiang Wang is a member of home mission congregation Saviour of the Nations in Vancouver, BC, Canada, and a recent Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) graduate. With funding from WELS Joint Missions, WELS-Canada, and Saviour of the Nations, Qiang was assigned as missionary to the Chinese population in Coquitlam and was installed on January 18, 2020. A family of three have already been baptized, weekly English as a Second Language classes are averaging 10 people per week, and special events like potlucks and holiday celebrations are often attended by upwards of 30 prospects! Please continue to pray for this growing mission opportunity.



WELS MISSIONS

N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive • Waukesha, WI 53188
414-256-3237 • wels.net/missions

 **WELS**
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

HOMEMISSIONS

WELS HOME MISSIONS UPDATE – SPRING 2020

Subscribe to weekly Missions Blogs
at wels.net/subscribe.

WELS Campus Ministry celebrates 100 years:

In 1920, the first campus ministry program began at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. For 100 years, thousands of young adults have found spiritual comfort, community, and encouragement through WELS campus ministries around North America. WELS Campus Ministry, a ministry of WELS Home Missions, continues that legacy by providing resources and support to congregations that serve these college students during a critical transition point in their life. WELS Missions will have a special emphasis on campus ministry in 2020, encouraging congregations and WELS members to get involved or support campus ministry through their special gifts. For more on the anniversary celebration and to get involved, visit wels.net/cm100.



TASTE OF MISSIONS 2020

The second annual Taste of Missions event will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2020, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wis. Join us for an afternoon of outdoor family fun, ethnic cuisine, fellowship with home and world missionaries, and MORE! Registration is \$10 per person, with children 13 and under attending for free. Registration will open in March 2020. Visit wels.net/tasteofmissions2020 for additional details. Hope to see you there!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We thank God for you! Home Missions is thankful for the generosity of so many. Your gift matters. The gospel is being proclaimed in new communities all around North America through new mission starts and existing home mission congregations. We are also grateful for our partnership with WELS Church Extension Fund and the services and grants they provide that help us reach out to the lost.

Pray for our neighbors who are still in darkness and consider how you can make a difference and share Jesus Christ with many. To give an immediate gift, go to wels.net/hmgift. Watch with us as the Holy Spirit changes earthly lives and opens the door to eternal life for our brothers and sisters in our own backyard.

WELS MISSIONS

N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive • Waukesha, WI 53188
414-256-3237 • wels.net/missions

