

HOMEMISSIONS

WELS HOME MISSIONS UPDATE – FALL 2023/WINTER 2024

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The Board for Home Missions (BHM) met again in September 2023 and approved an additional new start and four new enhancements toward our synod’s goal of starting 100 missions and enhancing 75 ministries in the next 10 years.



FALL 2023 HOME MISSIONS NEW START

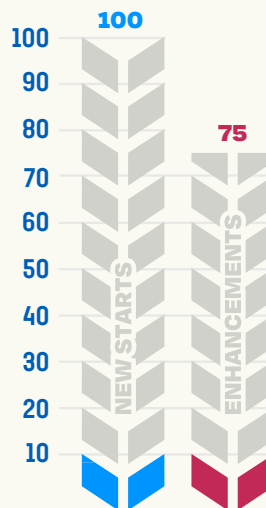
Buffalo, Wyo.: A group of 27 WELS members living in the Buffalo area have been worshipping weekly in the local civic center since March 2020, led by the pastor from Lord of Lords in Casper, Wyo. Core group members have started three different Bible study/book study opportunities outside of Sunday worship and Bible study and are actively inviting friends to join.

FALL 2023 HOME MISSIONS ENHANCEMENTS

Mount Calvary, Redding/Anderson, Calif.: Mount Calvary in Redding and Faith in Anderson merged into one unified congregation worshipping at two locations and received unsubsidized mission status in the spring of 2022. As their ministry continued to grow, the Board for Home Missions was asked to provide additional enhancement funding to call a full-time staff minister who could help make the most of the many gospel outreach opportunities being presented.



Christ the King, Palm Coast, Fla.: Christ the King will receive short-term Home Missions support to call a campus pastor to reach out to school families in its growing Christ the King Academy. The academy currently has 279 students enrolled, of which 125 students have no church home. This new missionary will also assist Christ the King in meeting the anticipated growth of the Palm Coast community, which is expected to double in size in the next ten years.



100 MISSIONS IN 10 YEARS
WELS HOME MISSIONS 2023-2033

GOAL = 100 new starts + 75 enhancements

10%

10 new mission starts in 2023

13%

10 mission enhancements in 2023

READ MORE ABOUT THESE NEW STARTS AND ENHANCEMENTS AT WELS100in10.NET.



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Christ's Love, Our Calling.

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Hope in Deerfield, Wis. (unsubsidized):

St. John in the Town of Lake Mills started a second site called Hope in Deerfield in fall 2021 with support from other local congregations.

Members worship weekly at a funeral home in town and are committed to reaching out with the gospel to their community members.

Unsubsidized mission status gives Hope in Deerfield access to grants

from WELS Home Missions and Church Extension Fund (CEF) as well as support from the district mission board and mission counselor.



Cross of Christ, Las Cruces, N.M.

(unsubsidized): Cross of Christ started in a member's home 11 years ago. As an unsubsidized mission, they will have Home Missions support through their district mission board and mission counselor and access to special grants from Home Missions and WELS Church Extension Fund. The congregation has 73 members and owns land along a major access road where most of the city's new development is taking place and where hundreds of young families are moving.



HOME MISSION MILESTONES

The Mission: A Lutheran Church in Conroe, Tex. (pictured), started public worship on August 6 at a rented funeral home. **Amazing Grace in Dickinson, N.D.**, held their first public worship service on October 15 and dedicated their new worship facility the following weekend. November 12 is the worship launch for **Christ the Rock in Canton, Ga.**, and **CrossLife in Windsor, Colo.**, will be following suite on March 3, 2024, if everything goes as planned. Please keep these young mission congregations in your prayers as they begin serving their members and community with weekly worship!



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.

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