



2022-2023

**HOME & WORLD
MISSIONS PROJECTS**

Prepared by LWMS & WELS Missions Office

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11200 W. Greenfield Avenue | West Allis, WI 53214-2240
Phone: 414-321-6212 | Email: lwms.org

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).

FOREWARD

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" (Isaiah 52:7).

Beautiful feet? I think not! Rarely, if ever, are feet thought of as beautiful. Usually, we do not think about feet at all, unless they are hurting after a run, hike, or long walk. Ailments that affect our feet are embarrassing or disgusting to even mention. Likely, missionaries have never described their own feet as beautiful. But what a wonderful reminder given to us through this verse in Isaiah. The feet of those who share the life-saving gospel message are indeed beautiful!

LWMS exists to increase awareness of, interest in, and support of the mission outreach of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). This mission projects booklet is prepared jointly by LWMS and WELS. All the projects have been approved by the WELS Joint Missions Office but are not funded by your regular Congregational Mission Offering. 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.

Use this booklet also as a resource to inform. It includes project descriptions, prayers, maps, remittance forms, and mission board contacts that will help you achieve your mission outreach goals. Share with your congregation, school children, and others. They will benefit from learning about these missions and their own ability to provide support with gifts and prayers. May we, as women united to serve Jesus, continue to witness God's love and grace in our homes, churches, workplaces, communities, and the mission fields he provides.

The Church Extension Fund is partnering with us to produce this publication. We thank them and praise God for this partnership.

United to Serve Jesus,

Patsy A. Kramer, president

LWMS Board of Directors



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.

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 forms 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 414-256-3279.

Email information for district mission board members and administrative committee mission field contact 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



Mission Prayer

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

Dear Jesus,

As I live my life, I realize that I am surrounded by people who desperately need you. I ask you to work through our missionaries in the United States and Canada 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-2022-01: 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 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 they want to present a warm invitation to their communities. Your gifts will fund these needed preparations, and encourage those who will put in countless hours and effort.

Project #HM-2022-02: Equipment Fund

When a new home mission begins, its members usually meet in a storefront, a local school, or a rented facility. Sometimes equipment like tables, chairs, altars, and other basic supplies are needed. Sometimes as the pastor sets up an office in these locations, he 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 that can be used for years to come.

Project #HM-2022-03: Children’s Ministry Outreach

When a home mission church would like to start a formal early childcare center or preschool, a lack of up-front funds may prevent them from doing so. A trained WELS Early Childhood Director will help mission congregations learn how to better reach out with the gospel of Jesus Christ through their 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 childcare center. Your gifts will be used to help develop new early childhood centers and preschools at home mission congregations.

Project #HM-2022-04: Tools for Outreach

To reach out effectively, home 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 use various methods to become known in their communities: 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-2022-05: 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 or computer-generated music with large speakers. The costs for computers, software, and sound equipment are a challenge when establishing home mission congregations. Your gifts will enrich worship services as new congregations acquire these electronic tools to “make a joyful noise unto the Lord.”

Project #HM-2022-06: 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 home 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-2022-07: Kids Summer Bible Camps

Kids summer Bible camps can sometimes 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, which will help them reach out to children and their families in their communities.

Project #HM-2022-08: 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, such as Mornings with Mommy and other similar 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-2022-09: 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. Currently, vans funded by this program are used by the Navajo Indians in Colorado and New Mexico, as well as by missions in Fresno, California, and St. Paul, Minnesota. Your gifts will assist congregations that need to purchase or maintain vans for their outreach efforts.

Project #HM-2022-10: Language Training

To enhance the outreach efforts of home mission congregations and to better serve their 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-2022-11: English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs

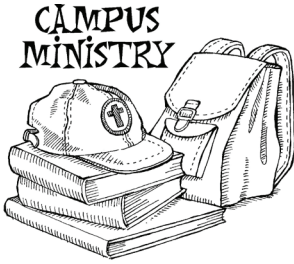
Many home mission congregations are located in changing neighborhoods. They search for ways and means to reach their neighbors, although many in their communities do not speak English. Often an ESL program is the answer. Your gifts will assist home mission congregations establish or enhance ESL programs.

Project #HM-2022-12: 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-2022-13: WELS Campus Ministry Support

Students on college campuses are often faced with many new choices, not all of them 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 synodwide 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 in reaching out and serving 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-2022-14: 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. 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 because this program is funded solely through special gifts.

Project #HM-2022-15: 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-2022-16: 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.

Project #HM-2022-17: 100 Missions in 10 Years

WELS Home Missions has the ambitious goal to plant 100 new home mission churches and enhance 75 existing ministries from 2023 to 2033. Home Missions currently funds about six new home missions and three ministry enhancements per year. We hope to increase that number to ten new missions per year while continuing to support ministry enhancement requests. This is a big challenge, even seemingly impossible. But 100 Missions in 10 Years isn't just about planting more churches; it's about sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. It's about aggressively reaching lost souls. Trusting in the Lord who is able to do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20), we boldly move forward knowing God will bless us and his kingdom.

JOINT MISSIONS PROJECTS

JOINT MISSIONS NEEDS – WELS Joint Missions supports mission 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-2022-01: Joint Missions Special Projects

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 as new Joint Missions outreach opportunities arise.

Project #JMC-2022-02: Pastoral Studies Institute

In partnership with WELS Joint Missions, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary's Pastoral Studies Institute provides pre-seminary and seminary training to North American students from a variety of countries and cultures. In addition, many Christian individuals, churches, or 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 stands ready to assist regional world missions teams in the evaluation process and to provide consultation and support in the area of theological education leading to fellowship. Your gift will help cover travel expenses for new exploratory training visits and scholarships and school expenses for PSI students.

Project #JMC-2022-03: Sudanese Outreach

At least eight 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-2022-04: 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. A 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-2022-05: South Asian Outreach

The Joint Mission Council supports a South Asian 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 U.S. they share the gospel through friendship evangelism efforts. The Joint Mission Council is also working with a Bangladeshi man in Michigan who is training to become a WELS pastor and is conducting outreach in the United States and back in his home country. Your gift will support current South Asian ministries as well as future ministry expansion.



WELS WORLD MISSIONS MAP

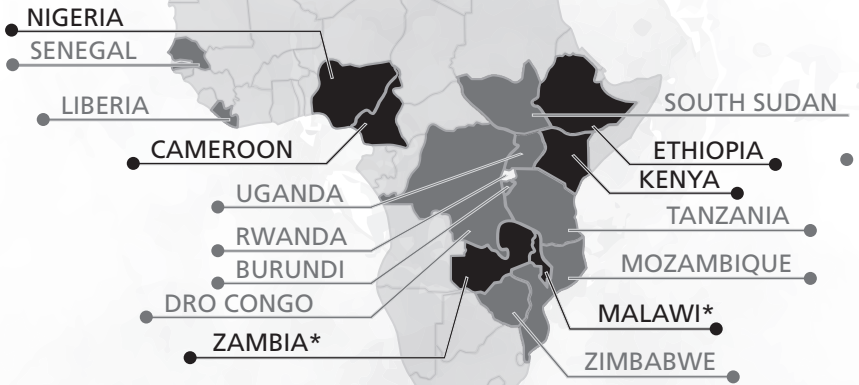
NORTH AMERICA & SOUTH AMERICA



*Countries where missionaries reside

WELS WORLD MISSIONS MAP

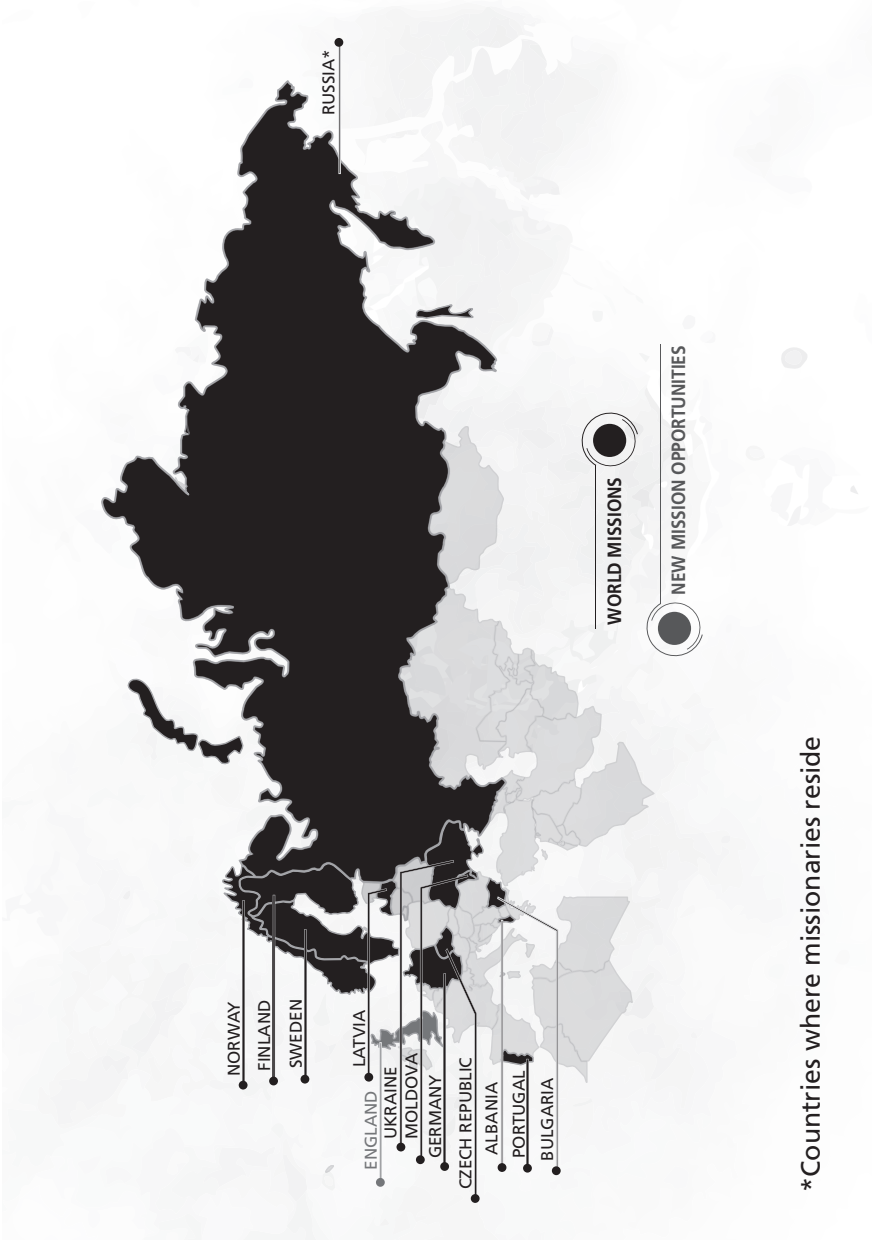
AFRICA



*Countries where missionaries reside

WELS WORLD MISSIONS MAP

EUROPE & RUSSIA

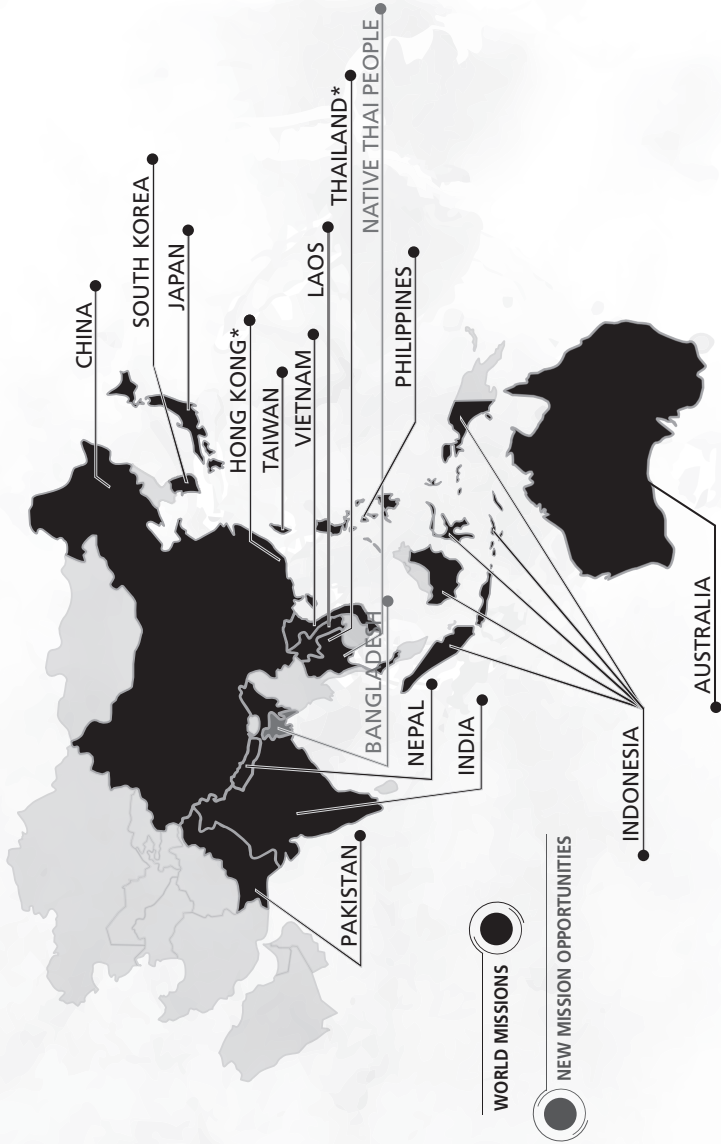


*Countries where missionaries reside

WELS WORLD MISSIONS MAP

ASIA & AUSTRALIA

*Countries where missionaries reside



A 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 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 to support your work throughout the world. 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 the various world mission teams because they have need for funding and because of the rapidly expanding mission opportunities that are being presented.

Project #WM-2022-01: 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 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 if money is not available. Your gifts will enable us not only to pay for this extra-budgetary gathering, but it also frees up money to be used for further mission expansion.

Project #WM-2022-02: International Missionary Wives Conference

These conferences are very beneficial. They strengthen the faith of world missionary wives through Bible study, foster fellowship with other missionary wives, create a network for sharing ideas, and establish 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 2020 in Barcelona, Spain. These conferences are planned only after funding is secured. Your gifts will allow this type of conference to continue for many years to come.

Project #WM-2022-03: 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 possible only when funding is available. Your gifts will assist with these much-needed conferences.

Project #WM-2022-04: 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 Board for World Missions, 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-2022-05: 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 Missions

approved a new mission field in Bangladesh, is exploring new world mission fields in London and Senegal, and will be providing additional missionaries to support thriving world mission work in Latin America and Thailand. Your gifts will allow for thorough follow-up research as well as multiple 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-2022-06: Multi-Language Productions (MLP) Projects

WELS Multi-Language Productions (MLP) produces confessional Christian content in more than 56 languages to date. The majority of MLP products are evangelism and Bible study materials in the form of video, music, podcasts, and print. Your gifts will help to fund the following projects and others as needed:

- **Digital Outreach** – The MLP online training platform called TELL (Think, Evaluate, Learn, and Lead) has been bringing the gospel to English-speakers around the world with the help of TELL partners worldwide. TELL partners teach online courses and create online content to share with anyone seeking to know the saving message of the gospel. TELL is modeled after *Academia Cristo*, a Spanish online training tool used by our Latin America Mission team. The TELL initiative has also launched its first TELL Mandarin online video course. These three training initiatives currently make up the TELL Network. TELL courses are also being translated into Tagalog to continue online outreach and training in the Philippines.

- **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, including popular publications like *The Promise*, *Doctrine in Pictures*, and *Who is Jesus*, all of which 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 Latin American, African, Chinese, Pakistani, and Apache cultures.

AFRICA

Project #WM-2022-07: Africa Special Projects

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. Additionally, we are developing relationships with partners in every part of the continent. Our primary mission focus is to work with these existing 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 complete a church or parsonage** – Our partner churches in Africa are growing, and their members are working hard to build their churches and parsonages for pastors. In many cases our partners supply the land, labor, and the materials that are needed to build these structures. The One Africa Team grants financial assistance when necessary to help the church purchase materials needed to complete the project.
- **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 appropriate forms of transportation to



help the pastor easily travel to worship services and baptisms, distribute Holy Communion, officiate at funeral services, and visit members. One example of this help is the gift of small motorbikes to the 16 graduates from the seminary in Nigeria. At a cost of \$1,000 per motorbike, it will cost \$16,000 to grant this request.

- **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 the unexpected. When these unexpected opportunities or challenges come about, the answer often is the Africa Special Fund.
- **Help refurbish a missionary home** – There are currently ten One Africa Team families who live in Africa, and we pray more will be added. Whether these families live in rented or WELS-owned homes, the cost and responsibility of general maintenance and improvements falls on the mission. Mission families are hesitant to spend budgeted money on such items, but little home improvements often make the life of a missionary's family more comfortable. Helping with this project lifts the spirits of the families who willingly followed and support the missionaries who faithfully carry out this work.

Project #WM-2022-08: 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 U.S. 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. Your gifts will allow CAMM to continue touching the lives of over 60,000 individuals on an annual basis.

ASIA

Project #WM-2022-09: Asia Special Projects

The Asia One Team consists of eight missionaries serving the countries of Thailand, Laos, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, the Philippines, and Vietnam.

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. Your gifts will support theological education, church planting, new outreach initiatives, and other general mission expenses throughout Asia.



**MISSIONS
IN ASIA**

Project #WM-2022-10: Bangladesh Projects

Haris (name changed due to the sensitive nature of his work), a young Christian 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 Bibles in Bangladesh and other general support for the mission work occurring in North America and in Bangladesh.

Project #WM-2022-11: Nepal Projects

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-2022-12: 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 138,000 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 two million Hmong living in Vietnam and the surrounding countries of China, Laos, and Myanmar.

Project #WM-2022-13: Pakistan Projects

The Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Church of Pakistan is experiencing inward and outward growth. The WELS mission in Pakistan has 28 house churches, 22 Sunday schools, 14 non-formal schools, one formal school, and a Christian high school with 400 students. An online Bible Institute teaches 150 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. WELS Christian Aid and Relief continues to provide humanitarian aid through free medical clinics, earthquake and flood relief, charity for the poor, and sewing classes. Your gifts will provide needed support to the 1,000 children in Pakistan Sunday schools and the 350 children in non-formal schools who have no other opportunity to learn how to read and write or hear Bible stories.

Project #WM-2022-14: Indonesia Projects

Gereja Lutheran Indonesia (GLI) is a sister church of WELS. The 1,000+ members of Gereja Lutheran are very mission-minded and are sharing the gospel with people-groups of different languages and cultures across the islands of Indonesia. Like WELS, GLI has an active worker training program. Called Sekolah Tinggi Teologi

Lutheran (STTL), this program is preparing future ministers and leaders. They also operate a high school that provides Christian education for students, including those who will continue their training at the seminary. Your gifts will support the dormitory students at the high school; the building of new churches throughout Indonesia; Bibles, hymnals, and stewardship seminars; and dormitory furniture, books, and computers for the seminary.

East Asia

Project #WM-2022-15: Asia Lutheran Seminary

This fund supports WELS workers training in East Asia through Asia Lutheran Seminary (ALS). Primarily, ALS equips Chinese men to serve as pastors, teachers, and church planters. Secondly, ALS works to equip all Chinese Christians with the truth so that they can reach out with the gospel to as many Chinese people as possible. The goal is to initiate and sustain a confessional Lutheran church-planting movement among all Chinese-speaking people in the world.

Project #WM-2022-16: Chinese 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 Chinese 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 Chinese 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-2022-17: 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-2022-18: Europe Special Projects

WELS World Missions conducts gospel outreach throughout Europe, partnering to share Christ's grace in Russia, Albania, Bulgaria, and Ukraine while supporting sister church bodies in seven additional European countries. A single resident missionary resides with his family on the continent, in Russia. The focus of European mission work is changing. Instead of leading congregations, our missionary is focusing 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. Funds are needed to help cover transportation costs for guest lecturers and students, and to help those tent ministers attend continuing education classes.

Project #WM-2022-19: Albania Project

Two national pastors continue to serve locations in Durres and Tirana, and a third man is currently taking seminary-level classes to become a pastor. 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 (ESL) classes. Your gift to Albania Projects will provide seminary training to this new student and supply the teaching materials needed for ESL classes.

Project #WM-2022-20: Portugal Project

WELS is in fellowship with the Lutheran Church of Portugal, led by Pastor Artur Vallares and one other national pastor who serve confessional Lutheran congregations in Lisbon and Porto (Gaia) and are exploring outreach in Ponte de Lima. The Lutheran Church of Portugal has come in contact with other Lusaphones (Portuguese speakers) in Portugal, Brazil, and even Guinea-Bissau, who are interested in learning more about



their Savior and studying to become leaders in a church. The Lutheran Church of Portugal also just declared fellowship with a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LC-MS)-trained pastor from Brazil who is conducting outreach in Belo Horizonte. Your gifts will allow the Europe team to pursue outreach opportunities on these three continents and help pay travel costs for theological educators as they visit these promising contacts.

LATIN AMERICA

Project #WM-2022-21: *Academia Cristo* Projects



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 plant churches. *Academia Cristo* begins by training people through a mobile app. 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 that they continue sharing the gospel message with others in their communities. Today more than 1.3 million people follow the *Academia Cristo* page on Facebook; 1,300 people have completed self-led courses on the mobile app; and 73 *Academia Cristo* students have said they are sharing what they've learned with a group.

Your gifts will help support this online outreach, the maintenance of the mobile application, and the online training that occurs through *Academia Cristo*. 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. Workshops have already been held in Mexico City, Mexico, and Bogota, Colombia, and the team hopes to host more in the future.

Project #WM-2022-22: Ecuador

Quito, Ecuador, serves as a base for Latin American outreach in central Latin America and is home to two world missionary families. In 2021, the Latin America mission team also hired an *Academia Cristo* digital and field assistant from Martin Luther College for a one-year term to help with digital outreach occurring through *Academia Cristo* and to assist the missionaries that are on the ground in Quito with local outreach. The team hopes to make this position an annual hire and would need additional funding to make sure that can happen. Any excess gifts will be used to support general mission work in Ecuador.

Project #WM-2022-23: Paraguay

Asunción, Paraguay, serves as a base for Latin American outreach in southern Latin America and is also home to two world missionary families. The team would like to hire a second *Academia Cristo* digital and field assistant from Martin Luther College that would be based in Asunción. This person would also help with digital outreach through *Academia Cristo* and assist missionaries with local outreach for one year. Additional funding would make that second position possible. Any excess gifts will be used to support general mission work in Paraguay.

Project #WM-2022-24: 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 the following projects and others as needed:

- **Missionary Family Retreat** – 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 a retreat. Distances mean that costs are high, but the benefits are also very high.
- **Church Planting Support** – Once students take 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 to continue mentoring them and supporting them in their outreach to their communities. Your gifts will help support these training visits and the new national church planters who are taking the true gospel message to their communities.

- **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 eight Latin American countries. Much of our work in Latin America has turned to the outreach efforts of *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. Your gifts will go to support sister synods in their outreach as needed.

NATIVE AMERICAN

Project #WM-2022-25: 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 want to share Christ's love with more people on their own reservations and even in 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-2022-26: Apache Christian Training School (ACTS)

ACTS provides theological courses to train and equip Apache members for ministry. In addition to classroom work, these men and women have the opportunity to 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 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-2022-27: Partners in Apache Learning (PAL)

Peridot-Our Savior's Lutheran School on the San Carlos Apache Reservation and East Fork Lutheran School 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 the church continues to be a marvelous blessing. Your gifts will help fund tuition assistance grants for individual families and students as well as 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.

FOCUS ON



MISSIONS

WELS MISSIONS CONTACTS

Missions Office:
jmo@wels.net

Director, Missions Operations
Mr. Sean Young
sean.young@wels.net

Missions Promotions
missionspromotions@wels.net

Joint Missions Council Contact

Chairman
Rev. Paul Prange
paul.prange@wels.net

Board for Home Missions (BHM) Contacts

BHM Chairman
Rev. Mark Gabb
pastorgabb@stpauls.edu

BHM Administrator
Rev. Keith Free
keith.free@wels.net

District Mission Board (DMB) Contacts

DMB CHAIRMAN
Arizona-California
Rev. Jonathan Kolander
jkolander@stmarkslutheran.com

Canada
Rev. Harland Goetzing
goetzh@sympatico.ca

Colorado
Rev. Matthew Frey
freymp@hotmail.com

Dakota-Montana
Rev. Jonathan Werre
jwerre@gswels.org

Michigan
Rev. Robert Krueger
pastorbobkrueger@gmail.com

Minnesota
Rev. Steven Waldschmidt
pastorsteve@christ-alone.church

DMB REPRESENTATIVE
Arizona-California
Mr. Noel Ledermann
cp85noel@gmail.com

Canada
Mr. Werner Lomker
whlomker@gmail.com

Colorado
Mr. Matt Dettmann
mattdett@gmail.com

Dakota-Montana
SMSGT Jerry Pepke
mtjbird45@gmail.com

Michigan
Mr. Thomas Metzger
tfmetzger@gmail.com

Minnesota
Mr. David Sauer
daconsauer@usfamily.net

Nebraska

Rev. Frederic Berger
 pastorberger@gmail.com

North Atlantic

Rev. Kevin Wattles
 wattles@gracefallschurch.org

Northern Wisconsin

Rev. Benjamin Enstad
 pastor@stjohnvalmy.com

Pacific Northwest

Rev. Craig Wasser
 pastorwasser@gmail.com

South Atlantic

Rev. Benjamin Zahn
 zahn.email@gmail.com

South Central

Rev. Nathan Sutton
 nsutton@osl-sa.org

Southeastern Wisconsin

Rev. Michael Zarling
 pastorz@wateroflifelutheran.com

Western Wisconsin

Rev. Jeffrey Mahnke
 pastorm@mysaintpeter.org

Nebraska

Mr. Dallas Christ
 big.d.nebr@gmail.com

North Atlantic

Mr. Paul Hahm
 paul.hahm@frontiernet.net

Northern Wisconsin

Mr. John Deschane
 deschanejohn@yahoo.com

Pacific Northwest

Mr. Mel Kam
 melkam48@gmail.com

South Atlantic

Dr. Douglas Rall
 doug.rall@gmail.com

South Central

Mr. Mark Hartman
 markhartman82@gmail.com

Southeastern Wisconsin

Mr. Steven Wolf
 wolffhaus5@gmail.com

Western Wisconsin

Mr. Scott Krause
 skrause4644@gmail.com

Campus Ministry Contacts

Mr. Scott Stratil
 sstratil@gmail.com

Rev Joel Naumann
 joel@stmark-wels.org

Board for World Missions (BWM) Contacts**BWM Chairman**

Rev. Paul M. Janke
 revjanke@stmartinschurch.com

BWM Administrator

Rev. Larry M. Schlomer
 larry.schlomer@wels.net

Administrative Committee (AC) Contacts**Africa AC Chairman**

Rev. David F. Bivens
 dfbivens@gmail.com

Central Africa Medical Mission Chair

Ms. Shelly Sievert
chairman.camm@gmail.com

Asia AC Chairman

Rev. Robert Raasch
pastor.raasch@mountoliveappleton.com

*India, Indonesia, Nepal,
Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand
Hmong outreach in Vietnam*

East Asia AC Chairman

Rev. Jonathan Leach
pastorjonleach@gmail.com

**Asia Lutheran Seminary,
East Asia, Hong Kong, Taiwan**

Europe AC Chairman

Rev. Michael Ewart
ewrtmj@gmail.com

Europe

Latin America AC Chairman

Rev. Timothy Westendorf
teewest@yahoo.com

Latin America

**Multi-Language Publications
Chairman**

Rev. Joel Heckendorf
pastorh@lightofthevalleys.org

Director

Rev. Nathan Seiltz
nathan.seiltz@wels.net

Native American AC Chairman

Dean Timothy Dolan
pastord@immluth.org

Native American Mission

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***Note on your check the Project Number and Project Name,
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**Do not send checks to LWMS or the contact person.*

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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
Center for Mission and Ministry
N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188-1108
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West Allis, WI 53214-2240
414-321-6212