

# Missouri District LWML

## 2008-2010 Proposed Mission Grants

*Each delegate will be voting for eight (8) mission grants.*

**1. Sharing God's Love with the Asian Community** **\$14,000**

**Light of Christ Lutheran Mission, Olivette**

Light of Christ Lutheran Mission reaches out with the saving Gospel message to the Asian community in and around St. Louis. Many Asians in the area are students, workers and immigrants from Communist countries who have not heard of Jesus' redeeming love. Thirty (30) baptisms have occurred from September 2006 – October 2007! Six of these new Christians have returned to their home countries. With God's help, they will share the message of Christ where the LCMS is not allowed to send missionaries to preach the gospel. Through your prayers and mites the following ministries of Light of Christ Mission would be supported: Scholarships for children to attend a Lutheran Day school, Mandarin/English Bibles for the newly baptized, Parenting and marriage classes, ESL classes, Sunday School/Bible studies and a Christian library in the Mandarin language.

**2. The Big Push Outreach Initiative, Jefferson County** **\$10,000**

**THIS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE BALLOT AT THE REQUEST OF THE APPLICANT.**

**3. Training Materials for Deaf Mission Outreach Centers** **\$9,000**

Deaf Lutheran Missions seeks to establish Deaf Mission Outreach Centers in the central, southwest and/or northwest regions of Missouri. These centers will be located within LCMS congregations (both deaf and hearing) that will donate space, meeting rooms and utilities. At these locations, deaf leaders will be equipped through in-depth training so they may effectively witness to the 94% of deaf people who do not believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. There is a lack of material translated in American Sign Language. LWML mites would provide both signed and printed materials (most copied to DVD's for the deaf to see, etc.) and equipment needed to reach out to the deaf who live among us all across the state.

**4. Black Pastor for Good Shepherd Missionary Lutheran Church, Kansas City** **\$25,000**

The Lutheran Mission of the Good Shepherd is our LCMS Missouri District's cross-cultural and urban ministry in Kansas City, with an African-American congregation in need of strong Christian leadership. Black ministry has always been a part of Good Shepherd Missionary Lutheran Church's "mission in the city." There is a desire among many to rekindle the "mission". This African-American congregation lacks a strong, black pastoral leader to preach the Gospel and spiritually feed this community. LWML mites would partially fund the calling of a pastor by supplementing the initial costs associated with bringing him to the church.

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### **5. Amigos De Cristo Coordinator of Mission Services, Sedalia** **\$10,000**

The goal of Amigos De Cristo is to help immigrant families, primarily Latino, to meet spiritual, physical, emotional, social, and educational needs. It strives to bring peace, strength and comfort to the people through faith in God and to give them a place to worship in their own language. It is a holistic mission that strives to assist immigrant families with assimilation into the culture of the USA, to help them meet their basic needs, and to help them lead safe and healthful lives. Only about 12% of the 3500-4000 Latino people who live in the Sedalia area are currently being reached by the churches, thus leaving a huge potential for growth of the mission. LWML mites would provide one third of the funding for the salaried position of the Coordinator for one year. The remaining balance will be provided by the donations from area and circuit churches.

### **6. Now I Can See Blind Outreach Center, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Springfield** **\$4300**

As a newly formed ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Springfield, Now I Can See Outreach Center provides services that make a big difference in the lives of visually impaired or blind people. The Center is asking for LWML mites to specifically help with four of the projects in the next two years: 1) Provide registration and expenses for three visually impaired or blind people to attend two annual Christian Blind Institute Conferences for the purpose of training them to assume leadership in their Outreach Center and their personal lives; 2) Purchase twenty electronic Bibles that are not available in the public market from Braille Bibles International; 3) Provide for four field trips that could incur admission or transportation cost (concerts, theater trips museums with hands-on exhibits etc.) and visit nursing homes to sing or visit with residents; and 4) Provide for supplies and meals for monthly meetings that are not covered out of Redeemer Lutheran Church's general budget.

### **7. Heit's Point Program Director, Lincoln** **\$24,000**

This grant would cover the costs (salary, housing, etc) of a program director for two years at Heit's Point Lutheran Camp. The program director will be the designated staff member responsible for developing curriculum, relationship building, and program implementation to support outreach programs to reach the unchurched. This programming, once implemented, will generate one-third of the camp's plan to achieve self-sufficiency. Outreach plans include Inner City Family camps, Living History Programs for elementary school children, Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Education Programs, and Public School outdoor education weeks.

### **8. Study Grants for Full-time Church Work Students** **\$12,000**

Mites would fund study grants for students that are enrolled in one of our Synod Universities and are preparing for full-time church work. This grant would give financial assistance to students who find educational costs to be beyond their means. The Church Work Study Grant Committee oversees this task for the Missouri District LWML.

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**9. Shipping Relief Goods to Lutheran Overseas Partners,  
Orphan Grain Train, Missouri-Illinois Division** **\$10,000**

Orphan Grain Train's Mission is in response to Christ, the Servant, to encourage and enable God's people to share personal and material resources in bringing Christ's name and character to needy people far and near. There are significant requests for assistance in sharing God's Word and love in communities in foreign lands (Bolivia, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Uganda and other countries where the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has a mission outreach) by means of humanitarian goods and religious materials. This grant would fund the sending of one overseas container (40' x 8' x 8', holding approx. 1200 boxes) of relief goods and Christian literature. The area to receive such goods will be determined after consultation with LCMS World Mission.

**10. Forward in Faith – International Student Ministry, St Louis** **\$10,000**

12,000 international students and family members from over 50 nations attend the ten colleges and universities in St. Louis. The majority of these students come from nations that are not Christian and do not know Jesus the Savior. International Student Ministry (ISM), St. Louis works in partnership with the Board for Mission of the Missouri District LCMS and congregations in the St. Louis area to reach these students and family members with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In the past two years, this ministry has expanded dramatically and has resulted in caring for hundreds of students and in eighteen (18) baptisms. As they return to their home countries they share the message of Jesus with their friends and relatives. This dramatic growth makes it necessary to add an additional part-time worker. LWML mites would partially fund this part-time worker.

**11. Renaissance 2010 – St Stephen's Lutheran Church, St Louis** **\$25,000**

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church is located in the Central West End and Midtown area of St. Louis. Physical decline of the church and facility (annex/school) and diminishing membership in a growing and diverse neighborhood prompted the development of a plan to "Turn strangers into neighbors and neighbors into a unified body of Christ." Already there are significant signs of interest by the community in this church, which once looked closed. LWML mites would be used to assist in the cost of renovation and revitalization of the church and adjacent facility to create a much-needed, full, vibrant ministry to the community.

**12. Saint Louis University LCMS Campus Ministry** **\$23,000**

Christ in the City Lutheran Church, St. Louis, is located right in the heart of Saint Louis University (SLU), making it a perfect setting for campus ministry. To attract people from as many backgrounds as possible, it also serves as a coffee house, called Crave. Christ in the City has a heart for students and a passion to introduce them to God's grace. They want students to believe that a relationship with Christ is an incredible gift—one that we could never earn no matter how hard we tried. LWML Mites would partially fund a leader salary, student leadership costs and outreach programs. These programs would include: weekly worship services on the SLU campus; small groups for those who attend services; connecting events to attract young people who normally would not attend a church service; and service events that assist the SLU community.

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**13. “Jesus El Buen Pastor” Congregation New Location Outreach Project,        \$25,000**  
**Kansas City**

LWML mites would partially fund the construction and repairs to the commercial building that houses “Jesus El Buen Pastor” Lutheran Church, a ministry of the Lutheran Mission of the Good Shepherd in Kansas City, Missouri. The building is strategically located among a large Hispanic community. However, in its current condition, it is difficult to hold the types of programs that will help the people learn about Jesus Christ. LWML mites will enable the Mission to provide a place of worship, facilitate outreach by supplying a community center, and supplement the costs associated with building of the church.

**14. Production of Audiocassette Materials at Lutheran Blind                                \$3,000**  
**Mission’s Work Center in Neosho**

In today’s world, there are more than 55 million blind and visually-impaired children and adults. Most of them have never heard the Good News that Jesus loves them. Lutheran Blind Mission began the LCMS model for blind outreach “to encourage train and support blind people to be missionaries for Jesus, especially to blind and visually-impaired individuals.” Lutheran Blind Mission produces *In His Hands*, *Lutheran Digest*, *The Lutheran Laymen and Lutheran Messenger* on audiocassette tapes at the work center at First Lutheran Church in Neosho, MO. These materials enable blind and visually-impaired children, youth, and adults to hear and share the Good News of Jesus. LWML mites would help support the production of these audiocassette materials.

**15. Refugee Women’s Bible –Based ESL Small Groups,                                \$20,000**  
**Christian Friends of New Americans (POBLO), St Louis**

Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA) provides programs that connect refugees with Christians who can help them assimilate into American life. The dominant religious background of these refugees is Muslim. Training refugee women in English and life skills and providing a connection to Christian friends and the Christian message leads to family and community involvement in other opportunities provided by CFNA. LWML mites would provide funding to maintain two Bible based English as a Second Language (ESL) small groups over two years. Illiterate refugee women and those with beginning-level English skills respond enthusiastically to the *English in Action* materials. These materials use the Bible to improve their skills in speaking, reading and writing in English, while they learn to know Jesus and enjoy caring relationships with Christian mentors and one another in small groups. All of CFNA programs have the ultimate aim to share the Good News of Jesus.

**16. Our Redeemer Lutheran Preschool, Marshall                                \$5000**

Our Redeemer Early Childhood program’s expressed purpose is giving young children a total educational and social experience, which has its center of focus in the person of Jesus Christ. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church of Marshall, Missouri, is looking forward to opening a preschool in the fall of 2008 in a community of 12,000 where there are presently only four preschools, and the closest Lutheran preschool is twenty miles away. The congregation is prayerfully committed to this goal and has already hired a Director/Teacher as well as purchased land for a portable classroom building. LWML mites would partially fund the purchase of additional playground equipment and other items that would enhance this preschool startup.

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**17. St Peter's "The Rock" Early Childhood Center, St Louis** **\$25,000**

The Acts 1:8 Mission Society is asking for help to fund the startup costs of its new childcare center, located in St. Peter's "The Rock" Lutheran Church in St. Louis. Renovation and restoration work on St. Peter's has begun with the goal to consider the greatest needs and offer services based on their findings. This center will provide services to approximately 65 lower-income infants and children from the St. Louis area, specifically the area surrounding St. Peter's "The Rock" Lutheran Church, who are not receiving public assistance. St. Peter's Early Childhood Center will provide a good Christian education as well as give these children a stable, loving environment. LWML mites would partially fund the renovation of the main kitchen.

**18. In Their Own Language, Our Redeemer, Kansas City** **\$10,850**

Our Redeemer is an inner-city church with 70 communicant members that averages double that number in worship each Sunday. Each Sunday, Our Redeemer has a traditional service in English as well as services in both Spanish and Konobo (one of many languages spoken in Liberia). The Liberian ministry offers a greater challenge as the Konobo language is primarily an oral language. There is no written Bible or catechism available in Konobo, so everything must be translated. Mr. Queyah Clarke, a Liberian man who has been a member of Our Redeemer for four years, is doing the translating. Mr. Clarke has expressed interest in attending the seminary and becoming an LCMS pastor in order to serve his people. LWML mites would support the translation of Scripture and the Small Catechism on audiotapes for use in worship and instruction for the Liberian members, the purchase of the handful of educational and worship materials that are available in the Konobo language, and pre-seminary courses for Mr. Clarke. In addition, LWML mites would fund the purchase of Spanish Bibles, hymnals and instructional materials.