

LWML MN SOUTH DISTRICT 2018 CONVENTION ~ MISSION GRANT BALLOT
(Grants to be voted on at the 2018 Convention)

1) Trinity HOPE - \$5,000

Haiti Lutheran Churches are spreading the Gospel to the hungry children who attend their schools. They provide a noon meal which help make the children healthier, increase their energy and enable them to be more receptive to the Word of God. This grant will provide a noon meal for 110 hungry souls for an entire year. The grant will be assigned to one specific school.

2) Lutheran High School Education Tuition Assistance - \$54,000

Northrop Martin Lutheran High School, Winona Hope Lutheran High School, Mayer Lutheran High School and Roseville Concordia Lutheran High School provides tuition assistance for needy families who prefer their children to attend a Lutheran High School and receive the education centered around Christ. Lutheran Schools provide training to the next generation for Christian leadership. The students learn through God's Word to grow in their faith and share that faith with others long after graduation. The funds of this grant will be disbursed between the four schools. Each school will receive \$13,500.

3) Reaching Visually Impaired Inmates with God's Love (LBW) - \$6,000

Lutheran Braille Workers receive request weekly from visually impaired inmates to receive the Bible. Due to the current spiral binding and the large size, Bibles are not permitted into correctional facilities. LBW is committed to strengthen their connection with the visually impaired people who are incarcerated by offering the English Standard Version Bible in the 14 point APhont with a tape binding. This grant will help LBW to purchase equipment for a new large print Work Center to produce this English Standard Version Bible and offering it to the visually impaired inmates throughout the United States.

4) Seminary Education for New Pastors in South Sudan (LHF) - \$7,500

Lutheran Heritage Foundation financially supports the Lutheran seminary in Yambio, South Sudan to train faithful men to be Pastors. Lutheran churches in South Sudan are rapidly growing and more pastors are desperately needed. LHF remains committed to providing the Lutheran education and materials these men need to become good pastors and skilled translators of tomorrow LHF's Sudanese projects. Due to extreme poverty levels, this grant would help cover room and board for one course for 30 Sudanese seminarians.

5) Camp Omega – Rooted*Celebrating*Growing - \$25,000

Camp Omega's vision and plan to build a new Adult/Family Retreat Center will provide guest with 25 modern rooms and meeting areas and to accommodate small breakout groups and large groups of 100 – 125 people. The new facility will be integrated into the current camp setting and provide retreat opportunities for all age groups. It will expand and enhance Camp Omega's ability to serve the churches and organizations of the MN South District and be in a stronger position to reach outside groups all for the sake of the mission Jesus Christ.

6) Voice of Care - \$5,000

Voice of Care has a unique and successful model for equipping the Church to nurture people with disabilities and their caregivers in their walk with Christ. This grant will enable Voice of Care to launch in the Minnesota South District two initial district-wide workshops to equip and prepare volunteers who value outreach to people with developmental disabilities. The workshops would consist of addressing five models of disability awareness, education and training and preparing volunteers as short-term respite companions.

7) The Lydia Project - \$10,000

Center for United States Missions (C4USM) is a partnership between The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) World Mission, Concordia University Irvine, the North American Mission Executives of the LCMS, and People of the Book Lutheran Outreach (POBLO) International. C4USM provide research and training for mission work among unevangelized people in the United States. C4USM is Christ-centered, mission-driven, multiplication-focused, and service-oriented. The Lydia Project seeks to engage women in pioneering new mission work primarily in the Minnesota South District. This grant will provide funds for identifying, assessing and equipping at least five women to use their God-given gifts to make an eternal difference in the lives of unchurched people. They will be trained in the principles and best practices of church multiplication so that they can assist local pastors who wish to start new mission work. They will develop relationships in the community, gathering and discipling people of all ages who may not otherwise be connected to a local church. These qualified women will be supervised by pastors of local congregations who provide Word and Sacrament ministry, and whose congregations desire to start new mission work in their community.

8) LCMS Missionary Support - \$10,000

Mission Central supports missionaries around the world and provides connections with churches and organization in the Midwest area. Missionaries who are called and sent by the LCMS must find their own funding. This grant will be used for flights to and from the mission location where they serve, transportation in the country where they are ministering, insurance coverage, housing expenses, utilities, office material and equipment, education for children, salary for family and orientation and training cost in the field.

9) Lutherans for Life Post-Abortion Crisis Hotline Expansion - \$7,500

Lutherans for Life (LFL) equips Lutherans to be a Gospel-motivated Voice for Life. LFL operates “Word of Hope” a nationwide professionally staffed crisis hot line that addresses Christ-center care for post-abortion issues. The hot line is currently staffed 10 hours a week. LFL would like to extend “Word of Hope” staffing hours to be able to reach more suffering souls and with an eventual goal of employing the director full time. With this grant LFL will launch promotion material and reach out directly to many more in need of scriptural post-abortions counseling in Minnesota South District Lutheran churches. Thousands more Lutherans (and non-Lutherans) can be served in Christ by Word of Hope” if they are made aware of the hotline’s existence and guide them into an eternal relationship with Jesus Christ.

10) Minnesota South District Aid Scholarships - \$35,000

Scholarships are offered by Minnesota South District who are studying at one of the Concordia Universities of seminaries to become professional church workers, as well as rostered workers furthering their education. Concordia University System tuition continues to rise which much of it falls on students and their families to pay. This grant would make it possible to continue to provide financial aid to the current and future mission workers who are confronted with the rapidly rising costs and indebtedness.

11) Concordia Seminary’s International Graduate School Students Support - \$6,500

Concordia Seminary St. Louis Missouri Graduate School continues to accept and form highly qualified foreign students who, when they earn their advanced-level theological degrees and return to their home countries, will assume important roles in the carrying out the Great Commission. Neither the international students or their home countries’ church bodies have nearly enough resources to fund the cost of the students’ advanced theological education that their churches need them to have. This grant will help these global students to become seminary professors abroad and play important roles in raising up the next generation of pastors who will spread the Gospel message throughout foreign lands.

12) “Wonderfully Made” - \$3,000

Bethesda Auxiliary has created and produced three “Wonderfully Made” resource pamphlets for sharing the Love of God and preserving Life to assist the Minnesota South District LCMS congregations to outreach to people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), and to parents who have or may have a child with disabilities. These pamphlets will help develop relationships and share the love of Jesus in word and deed with God’s special children. This grant will cover the cost of printing 2000 of each of the three pamphlets which will be available from Concordia Publishing House.

13) The Dwelling Place Domestic Violence Program - \$15,000

The Dwelling Place is a Christian ministry providing healing and hope to victims of domestic abuse through supportive services and a safe place to call home. The Dwelling Place exists to break the generational cycle of abuse by equipping and empowering women and children through the love of Jesus Christ so they can experience lasting freedom. They also provide transitional housing, education, food, clothing, trauma-informed supportive services, programming and mentoring for women and children. The need of their service for helping domestic women and children continues to grow. Through other generosity support another duplex has been purchased to help an additional 14 women and children in 2018. This grant will continue to support “The Dwelling House” operating funding to provide transitional housing, trauma-informed supportive service, Christian education and programing focus on encouraging and equipping women and children to live Christ-centered lives.

14) Sharing the Love of Christ in Lima –\$5,000

Nichelle Dykema a former LWML graphic team member has accepted a 2 year special appointment as Missionary Volunteer Coordinator/Communication Specialist with the LCMS Office of International Mission. She will coordinate and support long-term and short term missionaries and mission teams coming to serve in Lima, Peru. She will also cover events and mission news in Peru to maintain ongoing communication between missionaries, supporters and the community. This grant will partially fund her \$140,000 expense for her two year service in Lima, Peru.

15) New Beginnings for Children with Learning Needs (LSEM) - \$10,000

Lutheran Special Education Ministries believe all children should have the opportunity to receive a Christian education, regardless of their learning abilities or backgrounds. Their mission as a Christian ministry is to serve schools, churches, and families in order to advance the success of children who have learning needs. Partnership between LSEM and Lutheran Schools allows children to be supported academically, while

also being shown the love of Jesus Christ. With this grant LSEM is excited to grow their program and partner with other new Lutheran Schools in the Minnesota South District.

16) Two MN South Congregations Connecting Ethnic Neighbors (POBLO) - \$10,000

A number of Minnesota South District congregations recognize the opportunity to connect their ethnic neighbors to their congregations and to Christ. POBLO has an International Friendship Center model of outreach that has been successful to many LCMS congregations. Two MN South District LCMS churches, Hosanna Mankato and Trinity Faribault have the willingness to start an International Friendship Center ministry in their area. POBLO International Ministries is ready to help these two congregations. This grant will provide funding to make the necessary, planning, training, and on-site guidance needed to start the two International Friendship Centers.

17) International Lutheran Electronic Reader (CLEF) - \$5,000

Confessional Lutheran Education Foundation (CLEF) provides our fellow Lutheran seminarians and pastors around the world with everything they need to study theology. None of the students and none of the faculties in other countries can afford to purchase \$20,000 of books for their seminary education and pastoral libraries. CLEF has the program International Lutheran Electronic Reader Project (ILERP) which provides Kindle e-readers to the seminary students and faculty around the world who are in fellowship with the LCMS. CLEF is wanting to provide the Kindle Paper White, which can hold 2,000 full sized books and course materials to seminaries and pastors for free. This grant would help provide funding for the Amazon Kindle Paper White to be placed into the hands of seminary students, professors or pastors around the world and also to send a qualified theological professor to teach an introductory 2 week course using the Kindles.

18) Expanding the Dominican Republic Disability Ministry - \$6,000

Hogares Lutheranos el Buen Pastor (HLBP), (Good Shepherd Lutheran Homes) is an organized and registered care home for children with intellectual and development disabilities (IDD). HLBP has put forth an alternative model for care of people with IDD and has shown that with God's love, services, and community inclusion, that persons with IDD can reach their potential and be active and contributing members of the community. The relationship with HLBP and the Dominican government continues to grow but the government is requesting HLBP training to their staff in the psychiatric hospital. This is a big step in the government acknowledging the beliefs of HLBP, that every person is of worth and value, a Child of God. Funds will go towards rehabilitative assistance to people with IDD in communities and two government institutions as well as sharing Jesus' love with the children in the CONANI governmental institutions.

19) Provide Deaf-Friendly Content for Youth Ministry - \$5,000

Higher Things began in 2000 holding 38 Youth Conferences through the years. Higher Things like to see youth have a solid teaching and experience a Lutheran identity among both youth and young adults and will nurture a lasting Christian faith. They provide deaf-friendly content for youth ministry bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who have hearing disability. This year they are teaming up with LCMS Task Force on Disabilities this year. "Sanctified" Higher Things youth conference that will be held this year will be at Carleton College in Northfield, MN. will provide interpreters for the deaf. This grant will provide Higher Things to expand contents to reach youths with hearing disabilities, allowing them to view closed captioning and potentially an interpreter that will become part of the regular content. By adding this resource the Gospel reach those who cannot hear the Good News of Jesus.

20) Camp Courage – A Place of Hope and Healing - \$4,000

LCMS Camp Courage provides as a free gift to congregations whose communities have been affected by tragedy. Camp Courage provides a week of fun, engaging opportunities designed for children who have been directly or indirectly affected by the tragedy. It is a vacation Bible school type camp that provide leader guides, supplementary books and CDs from CPH for children, as well as children resources such as flashlights, whistles, Camp Courage journals, Luther's Small Catechism, bookmarks, and pencils and a small grant to cover miscellaneous cost. Camp Courage places hope in these children with the enduring faithfulness of Christ – strengthening their courage and reminding them what it means to be baptized into God's family. This grant will help fund LCMS' expense budget for this program.

21) Every One His Witness Special Focus Modules - \$4,000

The Office of National Mission initiated Every One His Witness, a theologically sound evangelism program designed to equip Lutherans for being more active and effective witnesses of Jesus Christ in their everyday lives. The Core Module provides participants with a strong foundation for witnessing. Funding of this grant will help develop several special Context Modules. Special focus modules equips participants to focus on a particular witnessing context such as un-churched, de-churched, family life events, disaster response or where ever needed to be a witness of Jesus Christ.

Mission Grants Requested Amount:

\$238,500