

**Lutheran Women in Mission
LWML Washington-Alaska District
2026–2028 Mission Grant Proposals**

- 1. Aid to Washington-Alaska District Scholarships** **\$16,000**
LWML Washington-Alaska District

The LWML Washington-Alaska District provides financial assistance to full-time students within the district attending Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Universities, Colleges, and Seminaries who seek to become church workers or pastors. Support for those from our region who choose church work is a primary mission of our LWML Washington-Alaska District and, as such, we are authorized in our bylaws to use up to 20% of our district’s mission goal total for LWML church worker scholarships. Jesus commanded the disciples to, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19–20a). Through this grant, our mites will be used each semester to pay scholarships approved by the Scholarship Committee for those students from our district seeking to become pastors, deaconesses, directors of Christian Education, teachers, music directors, or to fulfill other ministry positions within the LCMS. In this new biennium, scholarships of \$3000 per year will be awarded to students studying in seminary and church-worker graduate degree programs (including deaconess training), with \$2000 scholarships awarded each year to students studying for undergraduate church-worker degrees.

- 2. Aid to Washington-Alaska District Women for Short Term Missions** **\$5,000**
LWML Washington-Alaska District

Spontaneous mission opportunities occur between convention years where financial help is needed immediately. The LWML Washington-Alaska District seeks to encourage women of our district to serve in the mission field at home or away, offering resources and assistance to create and plan short-term missions in our district, the country, and the world. Upon application to the Short Term Missions Committee, grants will be determined on a case-by-case basis to help our district women answer God’s call. Through this grant, women of our district are better able to answer “Here I am! Send me” (Isaiah 6:8), sharing Christ’s love with others through mission opportunities. Requested funding typically ranges from \$500 to \$1000, therefore it is possible that five to ten short term mission requests could be partially or totally funded during the course of the biennium.

- 3. Bringing the Word to Light – Production of Braille Bibles for Washington and Alaska** **\$5,000**
Lutheran Braille Workers

Lutheran Braille Workers bring the message and light of salvation through Jesus Christ to the blind and visually impaired, producing and distributing Bibles and other Christ-centered materials free of charge. *Jesus said, “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world”* (John 9:5). This mission grant will be used to purchase paper, bindings, and essential supplies used by the two Braille Ministry Production Centers within our LWML District, at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Federal Way and Immanuel Lutheran Church in Everett, to ensure that God’s Word continues to reach individuals and communities throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond. At these centers, volunteers emboss, collate, and bind Braille Bibles and devotional materials that are mailed directly to individuals, churches, prisons, and schools across the nation and the world. Through this grant, approximately 1,000 Braille volumes (each equivalent to one part of Scripture or other Christian material) will be produced, allowing individuals who are blind and visually impaired to encounter the Gospel message of light, hope, and love through Jesus! Beyond this core mission,

intergenerational fellowship and faith unites volunteers at these church-based centers in prayer, service, and discipleship.

4. Changed Lives, Shared Word: Restoring the Bible Printing Fund **\$2,500**
Lutheran Bible Translators

For over 60 years, Lutheran Bible Translators has translated, printed, and distributed Scripture to communities that have never had access to God’s Word in their native language, work that spans over 90 language communities across Africa, Asia, and the Americas. Collaboration with local churches, linguists, and missionaries helps ensure translations are accurate, culturally relevant, and spiritually transformative. With 5-7 new Bible translations expected in 2027, the need for printing support is urgent. Each Bible costs approximately \$20 to print; this grant will fund 125 additional copies and help bolster the printing fund producing these Bibles. The ministry of LBT impacts thousands of individuals through Bible distribution, literacy workshops, and Scripture engagement events. Families receive their first Bible; pastors preach in their native tongue; children and adults learn to read using Scripture and Scripture-based materials.

5. Christian Library Books for Sunbeams **\$1,200**
Sunbeams Lutheran School, ministry of Lutheran Church of the Cross – Kent, Washington

Sunbeams Lutheran School has been an active mission outreach of Lutheran Church of the Cross (LCMS) for 48 years, providing families with Christ-centered, quality education for children from preschool to fifth grade. The Scripture-based library books purchased with this grant will provide better opportunities to share the Gospel with children of all ages and reading abilities. By having the opportunity to directly interact with Christian books, students will be able to nurture and strengthen their faith by growing in their understanding of God’s Word through books that point to Jesus, including Arch Books, Bible story easy readers, devotionals, Christian biographies, and other titles with a Christian theme and message. The mission is to inspire God’s beloved children to become life-long learners, with Scripture-centered stories that help students encounter Jesus, planting seeds of faith and allowing those seeds to grow as they advance in reading comprehension. The grant of these Christian library books helps provide students with a firm foundation that will last a lifetime, equipping them to go out into the world and share the truth of Christ with others.

6. Emergency Response Fund for Idaho Comfort Dog Ministry **\$5,000**
Christ the King Lutheran Church – Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

A Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dog was placed at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Coeur d’Alene in late-spring 2026 to begin providing the mercy, compassion, presence, and proclamation of Jesus to those who are suffering and in need within the North Idaho region and beyond. Congregations utilizing an LCC Comfort Dog are often the first ones called by the community when tragedy strikes; these dogs are used by God to open doors and hearts in ways that we humans often cannot. Christ the King is training twenty or more members to serve the community and region daily with this canine partner, bringing Christ and comfort to care facilities, schools, hospitals, EMS stations, military/veteran services, and other organizations serving those in need. Although all comfort dog services are free, this mission grant would establish a fund for emergency deployments to natural disasters (such as forest fires) or sudden emergencies (such as tragic shootings or death) by covering travel expenses for the comfort dog and their human handler, allowing them to comfort the hurting and share the Gospel when and where God’s people need it most.

- 7. Equipping and Sending Village Mission Teams with the Gospel** **\$5,000**
Alaska Mission for Christ
 The goal of this mission is to strengthen Gospel outreach throughout rural Alaska by equipping and sending volunteer mission teams into remote villages with the Word of God. Alaska Mission for Christ oversees volunteer recruitment in conjunction with LCMS congregations and communities in Alaska and, through a Servant Event Coordinator, prepares and deploys dozens of volunteer teams to conduct Vacation Bible Schools, Bible studies, worship gatherings, and service projects throughout rural Alaska. Grant funds will be used to recruit, train, and spiritually equip volunteer mission teams to share the Gospel, extending the ministry of the Word to people in remote regions of Alaska who are hungry for Christ’s love. The mission grant will also enable travel, shipping, and logistics for village mission teams and provide Bible-based curriculum, devotionals, and Gospel-centered resources to volunteers for distribution within the villages. Demand for village ministry is increasing, and funding this grant will ensure greater stability in bringing the Christ’s Gospel message to remote communities in Alaska.
- 8. Equipping Church Workers to Bless International Students** **\$2,000**
International Student Ministry, Inc
 International Student Ministry seeks to provide scholarships for LCMS church workers to attend the annual three-day International Student Ministry Equipping Conference. Approximately one million international students and scholars attend US universities and colleges; for seventy percent of these students, their years of study may be their only opportunity to learn of Christ because they come from countries that limit sharing of the Gospel. Although vicars, graduating pastors, deaconesses, teachers and DCEs are trained to share the Gospel, many lack skills and training in developing cross-cultural relationships and sharing the Good News with those from other countries and cultures. Through this grant, four to twelve church workers will receive grants to attend the Equipping Conference of International Student Ministry. The scholarships will cover registration fees, and the cost of travel and accommodation so that vicars assigned to campus ministry, as well as graduating pastors, deaconesses, teachers and DCEs who serve within ten miles of a university with international students can participate in the ISM Equipping Conferences in 2027 and 2028.
- 9. Equipping God's People to Proclaim the Messiah in Tel Aviv** **\$3,000**
Apple of His Eye Mission Society
 The Apple of His Eye asks “How will they hear unless someone is sent,” (paraphrasing Romans 10:14-15). This mission will help Apple of His Eye bring the message of salvation to over a million Jewish people living in the Tel Aviv area, a bustling secular work center. Plans are moving forward to plant a new Lutheran Church in Tel Aviv, with an ordained (LCMS) Lutheran Israeli called to plant and shepherd the mission there. He already holds vespers services and is preparing a small core of catechumens for baptism. Grant funds would be used to recruit, train, and deploy (on an on-going basis) short-term volunteer mission teams of lay people and clergy to Tel Aviv. Using tried and true mission tools of evangelistic literature and Bible distribution in Hebrew and English, volunteer teams will bring their gifts and creativity to raise the banner of Messiah and introduce those in Tel Aviv to the new Lutheran ministry there, integrating into the life of the ministry, both in the new congregation and out in public, building relationships for sharing the Gospel.
- 10. Expanding Comfort Dog Ministry** **\$5,000**
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Spokane Valley, Washington
 Redeemer Lutheran Church in Spokane Valley, Washington has been involved in the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry since June 2020. Redeemer Lutheran began with Isaac

Comfort Dog as the bridge to people outside the walls of the church to share the love of Christ with a hurting community. Through Isaac, the trained team of volunteers has been able to meet and pray with people from all walks of life, going wherever Isaac is requested and invited to go. With his team, Isaac has ministered in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and California, but with his busy schedule, many requests must be turned down. This mission grant will assist in purchasing a second Comfort Dog, training a new team of handlers in Spiritual First Aid (to effectively help the needs of those we encounter) and purchasing food, grooming and other essentials items for the second Comfort Dog. This is especially important as Isaac Comfort Dog nears retirement. This is an unconditional ministry that takes us to “some of the least of these” as Jesus commissioned us to do, bringing Christ’s love, grace, and a listening ear to those who are often forgotten.

11. Feet on the Ground: Supporting LWML Sisters in Short-Term Missions \$3,000

MOST Ministries

MOST Ministries enables Christians to go with short-term mission teams around the world to share the Gospel in word and deed – through eyeglass clinics, clean water projects, medical clinics, and other ministries. There are LWML sisters who yearn to be “feet on the ground” for Jesus through participation in a short-term mission where they can joyfully share the Gospel through acts of mercy, but who need a little encouragement or financial assistance to join that first mission team. Mission grant funds would be used as partial scholarships for LWML members joining their first MOST Ministries mission team. Funding would be applied to cover up to half the per-person cost of a mission team (up to \$1500). The “Feet on the Ground” funds of this grant would be awarded with preference given to members of the LWML Washington-Alaska District embarking on their first mission. Hundreds of lives are directly impacted by every Most Ministries mission team and hundreds more are indirectly impacted when their family members receive care from our mission team and hear the Gospel.

12. Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in the US \$5,000

Lutheran Hour Ministries

Lutheran Hour Ministries is a trusted resource in Gospel outreach that energizes, equips, and engages a vibrant volunteer base to passionately proclaim the Gospel (275 million times each week in over 60 countries), spreading the Gospel to billions of people who have yet to hear the saving message of Jesus Christ. The *Gospel Outreach to Hispanics* mission expands LHM’s mission outreach in the United States, strengthening opportunities for Jesus’ message of salvation to be heard by both Christian and non-Christian Hispanics throughout the United States as the Gospel is proclaimed in Spanish through various LHM media. One in five people in the United States is Hispanic, with the United States being the second largest Spanish-speaking country, yet there are only limited Christian resources supporting the church at large for Hispanics. Lutheran Hour Ministries continues developing and growing Hispanic ministry efforts to share God’s love and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the use of LHM outreach technologies such as smart phone apps, podcasts (*Para el Camino, Sentido Latino*) and digital platforms (*Vivenciar.net*), Hispanics are able to hear the Gospel message, strengthening and encouraging them in the faith. In the last year, over five and a half million people have accessed Lutheran Hour Ministries’ Hispanic social media. This grant is part of an effort to expand this vital ministry.

13. Healing the Whole Child - A Bike Path for Wellness \$2,000

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Minot, North Dakota

Wellness Programming is critical for children in residential treatment, providing a holistic approach to healing, development, and long-term success. While much of the Ranch’s wellness programming

focuses on physical health, activities also support the social, mental, and spiritual health of the kids. Wellness programming includes physical recreation activities such as biking, kickball, basketball, soccer, volleyball, and ultimate frisbee. Wellness specialists also teach kids how to enjoy leisure activities like board and card games, arts and crafts, and trips to the zoo, park, science center, or movie theater. We introduce children to healthy living habits that will benefit them while they are in care and when they return to their home communities. This mission grant supports critical Wellness Programming at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch; funds will be used to construct a bike path and bike storage shed on our Minot campus. As we do not currently have a dedicated bike path on campus, the only option is for kids and staff to ride around the parking lots and other areas of campus where cars typically drive. The new bike path will give kids a safe place to enjoy the benefits of physical activity as they heal in both body and spirit. Something as simple as a bike ride with peers or staff can be an opportunity to share God’s love with the children we serve.

14. Hope for Suicide Awareness, Intervention, & Postvention **\$5,000**
Lutherans for Life - Word of Hope

The mission of this grant is to develop and implement the HOPE for Suicide Awareness, Intervention, and Postvention (HOPE S-AIP) program—a professional, Gospel-centered training initiative designed to equip individuals with practical tools and spiritual care strategies for addressing suicide. The program will be accessible online at a minimal cost, ensuring broad reach and public availability. This initiative will spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ by integrating Biblical truth into every aspect of suicide awareness, intervention, and postvention. Participants will learn to offer spiritual care grounded in Scripture, share the message of salvation through Jesus Christ, and build long-term relationships that reflect Christ’s love. Through this training, individuals struggling with suicidal thoughts or mourning a death by suicide will encounter the life-giving hope found in Jesus Christ. By equipping laypeople, church leaders, and congregations who complete the training, the program strengthens the ministry of the Word of God and ensures that those in crisis receive both practical help and the ultimate comfort of the Gospel.

15. House of Mercy Mission: Equipping Ex-Prisoners Beginning a New Life **\$5,000**
Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest

This grant will help to restore dignity, build confidence, and support the successful reintegration of men recently released from incarceration by providing essential items for daily living. The funds will equip men residing at the House of Mercy with essential clothing and grooming items that can foster confidence in daily activities—from grocery shopping to job interviews—supporting their journey toward reintegration and self-sufficiency. Statistics reveal that ex-offenders who receive structured support after release from incarceration are significantly less likely to re-offend than those who are released into the general public. Lutheran Ministry Services NW’s partnership with the House of Mercy benefits the men’s physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being. For the past four years, LMSNW has provided backpacks to ex-prisoners with essential items such as water, socks, hats, gloves, and other items, as well as tracts from Lutheran Hour Ministries. This grant will expand that ministry, and may assist in purchasing and mailing Portals of Prayer to prisons and jails across the US as funds permit; LMSNW is the only organization doing this and it is overwhelmingly well received.

16. LAMP 2026 Spring Fling **\$2,000**
LAMP Ministry

LAMP is a across-cultural ministry sharing Jesus Christ with God’s people in remote areas of Canada. LAMP has been providing spiritual witness and nurturing faith in communities in remote

areas of Northern Canada since 1970 through the ministry of pastor/missionary/pilots and short and long-term volunteers-in-mission. Each year, over 5,000 children, youth, and adults are impacted by the ministry of LAMP as pastors and volunteers establish and grow in relationships with those they contact. In the summer months, LAMP offers VBS and Christ-centered sports camps for children and youth, and Bible study programs for adults. Special events such as women’s retreats are also offered, as well as continuing ministry through technology – Facebook, virtual meetings, and email. This grant will support an important off-season trip to build relationships with local leaders in British Columbia (who are primarily women) so that future Gospel witness opportunities can be improved for the Canadian First Nation communities served by LAMP. This mission initiative includes a time for teaching and fellowship through a tea social, community meal, and youth activities.

17. Mental Health Prayer Book Ministry \$3,000
Higher Things

Higher Things exists to make the gifts of Christ Jesus known to youth and young adults through faithful catechesis, worship, and teaching. Every devotion, publication, and event points readers and participants to Christ crucified for the forgiveness of sin and back to their congregations, where they receive His gifts in Word and Sacrament. Higher Things has been blessed to hold a number of events and have multiple supporting congregations in Washington and Alaska. The mission of *The Mental Health Prayer Book* is to bring the comfort of the Gospel to those struggling with the burdens of mental illness and emotional suffering. This resource will proclaim Christ to those who live daily with anxiety, depression, trauma, addiction, and grief, reminding them that their identity and hope are found in their baptism and in the mercy of Jesus Christ. The *Mental Health Prayer Book* seeks to fill the gap in faithful Lutheran devotional materials addressing mental health by offering a resource rooted in the means of grace and the certainty of God’s promises, intended for youth and young adult audiences, but accessible for all.

18. Prayer and Service Deaconess Ministry \$5,000
Lutheran Latino Ministries

The mission of Lutheran Latino Ministries is to reach the lost and disciple the saved by providing resources for ministry, training leaders, helping to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate Word and Sacrament ministry; and to foster and encourage LCMS congregations to develop discipling relationships with their Hispanic/Latino neighbors. A major factor in carrying out this mission is the bilingual ministry of Deaconess Marta Luna and Deaconess Intern Hana Brandt. Although much of the Hispanic/Latino population is nominally Roman Catholic, they often attend church only for the social milestones of life; many have never read or owned a Bible. Deaconess Marta and Deaconess Intern Hana stand as missionaries to the many Hispanic/Latino people who are hungry for the Good News of Jesus – this Gospel message is often better received in the heart language of the people. Deaconess Marta is currently developing ministry through Redeemer Lutheran Church in Salem, Oregon and Deaconess Intern Hanna is based at Ascension Lutheran in Portland/Gresham. This grant helps sustain this vital LLM Prayer and Service Deaconess Ministry through financial support for Deaconess Marta and Deaconess Intern Hana.

19. Second Harvest Ministry to Hungry Families in Ferry County \$4,000
Trinity Lutheran Church – Republic, Washington

The goal of Trinity Lutheran’s Second Harvest ministry is to follow Christ’s command to feed the hungry (Matthew 25: 31-40). For several years, Trinity Lutheran has responded to the needs of the people living in Ferry County who struggle to feed their families by sponsoring a Second Harvest

Mobile Food Truck to provide free, fresh, and shelf stable food directly to those in need. Although Trinity Lutheran's church population has diminished since the Covid years, the people of Trinity continue to be active participants in sharing Jesus' love with their community through the Second Harvest food ministry. Approximately 20-25 volunteers are needed to make the food distribution from the Second Harvest truck go smoothly, and as a result, there is an opportunity to share the Gospel with both unchurched volunteers (as Trinity Lutheran members work in concert with other willing helpers), as well as with food recipients. Approximately 15.6% of Ferry County's 7,555 citizens live below the poverty line. Last year, as many as 218 Ferry County families were served from each food truck. At a cost of \$2,000 per truck, this grant would sponsor two Second Harvest Mobile Food Trucks. This food will be distributed with Christ's love by Trinity-led volunteers.

20. Sharing the Light of Christ through LCMS Missionaries \$10,000

Mission Central – LCMS Mission Advancement

Through this grant, five of the newest LCMS missionaries are supported in the early stages of their ministry, each with 20% of this grant. Gary Thies, Mission Development Counselor for the LCMS states, "People are eager to hear about Jesus. The challenge is great, but God has sent wonderful pastors, vicars, teachers, and missionaries to reach out to those in need." Scripture tells us "*Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light to my path*" (Psalms 119: 105). The Lutheran Church strives to meet this urgent need by *Sharing the Light of Christ* through the ministries of our LCMS missionaries. The five missionaries supported by this grant include Reverend Sergio Maita, Makia Adler, Reverend Jonathan Anderson, Benjamin Goehring, and Anika Slayton. Reverend Sergio and his wife Yoxandris serve the Lord in Puerto Rico; Makia serves the Lord as a missionary in the Latin America and Caribbean region, based in Belize; Reverend Jonathan serves as an LCMS missionary in Panama; Benjamin and his wife Ella serve the Lord as missionaries in the Eurasia region and are based in Braşov, Romania; and Anika Slayton is serving as a missionary in Leipzig, Germany. While the ministries of each of these five LCMS missionaries would receive support in the amount of twenty percent of this grant, the grant's mission is the same for all – sharing the light of Christ and His Gospel with the world.

21. Worker Wellness for Chaplain Wives/Families \$5,000
LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod's Ministry to the Armed Forces equips and supports more than 150 chaplains serving worldwide in Active Duty, Reserves, National Guard, Civil Air Patrol, Coast Guard Auxiliary, and Department of Veterans Affairs roles. Chaplains serve in some of the most difficult ministry contexts imaginable: combat zones, isolated bases, and deployments at sea. They proclaim Christ where lives are at risk and communities are constantly shifting; their families share these same stresses. Twice a year, Ministry to the Armed Forces hosts chaplain training events that provide worship, fellowship, theological study, and guidance on religious liberty issues. These gatherings strengthen chaplains' wellness, keep them connected to their church body, and prepare them to better care for military personnel and their families. Recognizing the vital role of chaplain spouses, MAF has expanded these events to include them. Chaplain wives face the dual challenge of military life and church-worker isolation, often without strong peer networks. Participation in the retreat provides encouragement and Christ-centered fellowship with others who share their unique calling. This grant helps cover travel expenses so spouses can share in the Worker Wellness program for chaplains, allowing this retreat to benefit the whole chaplain family.