



LWML Washington-Alaska District 2024-2026 Mission Grants

Adopted June 22, 2024

Description of Grants

- 1. Aid to Washington-Alaska District Scholarship Fund** **\$16,000**
The Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assists scholarship recipients (students studying for full-time church work and enrolled at LCMS seminaries, universities, and colleges) each biennium, with each student receiving a grant ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,000 over a two-year period. This grant transfers funds to the Scholarship Fund on a regular basis. These funds, along with monies given directly to the Scholarship Fund are awarded by the Scholarship Committee on an annual basis in amounts determined by the Committee under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- 2. Pastor Parsonage- Soldotna, Alaska** **\$7,000**
Funny River, Sterling, and Kenai Lutheran congregations currently have an interim pastor. The Funny River Community Lutheran Church congregation cannot afford to hire a pastor for the church without providing a parsonage due to the high cost of housing in the area. Funny River is building the parsonage using volunteer labor with the goal of hiring a resident pastor to live in the parsonage and serve the Funny River congregation full-time, reaching out to the community of 3,000 and growing the church. Our district grant will help with construction materials for the roof and structure.
- 3. Second Harvest Mobile Food Truck – Republic, Washington** **\$6,000**
Trinity Lutheran Church of Republic serves the community of Republic and Ferry County with Second Harvest Mobile Food Trucks three times a year. The mobile food trucks cost approximately \$2,000 per truck to supply, with each visiting truck designed to feed over 200 families. Providing this service makes a significant difference in the lives of people struggling to purchase food for their families. Approximately 65% of the congregation participates in handing out the food, serving their community with both Christian love and practical nourishment. This LWML district grant will help provide three to four food trucks to feed hungry families in Ferry County.
- 4. Aid to Washington-Alaska District Women for Short Term Missions** **\$5,000**
Spontaneous mission opportunities occur between convention years, where financial help may be needed immediately. Funds are available to provide help for those participating in a short-term mission trip or mission field opportunities. Each request will be between \$500 and \$1000. It is possible that five to ten short term mission requests could be partially or totally funded during the biennium. The decision to accept a request for financial assistance for an individual LCMS woman in our Washington-Alaska

District to participate on a short-term mission will be made by the Short Term Missions Committee. Forms are available on the district website.

5. Bring Hope, Help, and Healing to Pastors, Ministry Workers, and Spouses \$3,000
Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, Arizona

This grant will enable Shepherd's Canyon Retreat to offer scholarships for pastors, ministry workers, and spouses who need extra financial assistance in order to attend a weeklong counseling retreat for men and women in full-time ministry who are in various stages of burnout, stress, depression, compassion fatigue, and conflicts of all kinds. By God's grace, Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, a LCMS Recognized Service Organization, has helped hundreds of ministry workers over the years, many of whom were ready to quit the ministry (or life itself) before their time at this Christian retreat. Our mission grant seeks to bring hope, help, and healing to pastors, ministry workers, and spouses who are called to help people in the ministries and communities where they live.

6. Seeing Christ Through Dots of Love – Lutheran Braille Workers \$5,000

The mission of Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) is to freely share the Gospel with people who are blind or visually impaired around the world. By serving people who are blind or visually impaired, LBW works with individuals, pastors, and Bible societies to "evangelize the lost and retain the faithful", as stated in the LCMS "Making Disciples for Life" plans. This LBW project gives our district the opportunity to share the Word of God with people in Africa who are blind, wishing to experience the Word of God and live in the Light of Jesus. This mission grant will help fund the production and distribution of Braille volumes of Bibles and other Christian materials in multiple languages for Africa.

7. Concordia Theological Seminary Food & Clothing Co-op – Fort Wayne, Indiana* \$1,000

The Food and Clothing Co-op on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary plays a key role in helping students feed and clothe their families during their seminary years. Nearly 60% of students are married, second career, with families. The Food Co-op is currently able to supply between 80% and 85% of all food and household needs each month at no cost to the student. Because the Co-op is such a vital part of the seminary students' lives, it is important that the seminary continue to raise funds to supply food for the Food Co-op. Our district mission grant will fund perishable items for the Food and Clothing Co-op for the use of students and their families who may be experiencing financial difficulties while attending seminary.

8. Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide – Concordia Seminary* \$1,000
St. Louis, Missouri

This grant is designed to give financial assistance to international students attending Concordia Seminary from developing nations. Many of these students would be unable to attend advanced-level theological degree programs at Concordia Seminary without the support of Lutheran bodies such as ours, yet are devoutly passionate, excellent students who seek to spread the Gospel message throughout the world. These international students will be future Lutheran pastors, bringing God's word to the people of many continents.

- 9. Orphan Grain Train – Mercy Meals* \$10,000**
Working through the church, Orphan Grain Train has carried out the Lord’s mission for 31 years by providing humanitarian service to orphans and others experiencing poverty within the United States and internationally. Working closely with Mercy Meals, Orphan Grain Train Mercy Meals will provide low-cost, highly nutritious food for the hungry with the funds from this grant, while sharing Christian love and the Gospel with those who may not know about Jesus.
- 10. 55 X 55 Initiative – LAMP Ministry, British Columbia, Canada** \$2,000**
LAMP is a cross-cultural ministry sharing Jesus Christ with God’s people in remote areas of Canada. The 55x55 Initiative is to have 55 mission trips for their 55th Anniversary in 2025. Communities served by LAMP in the past have pleaded with LAMP to continue providing ministry to their children. These children live in isolated and harsh conditions and can feel forgotten by the world; they need to know they have an ever-present friend in Jesus. Under this new initiative, LAMP wishes to go even farther to the ends of the earth to reach new communities. Our district grant will help reach Indigenous people in northern Canada with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- 11. Strip Church Ministries – Seattle, Washington** \$3,000**
Strip Church Ministries at Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Seattle developed out of asking the question, “Who is my neighbor?” The answer included many in Seattle who are trapped within the sex industry. Strip Church reaches out to the women working the streets as prostitutes, at strip clubs as dancers, and baristas at bikini barista stands with the life-saving, soul healing Gospel of Jesus Christ through building relationships, providing safety kits, and holding prayer groups. Baked cookies and treats are taken by mission members from the church as gifts, letting the women know they are not forgotten. Our district mission grant is dedicated to the growth of this ministry among the women of the sex industry through prayer, proclamation, and service.
- 12. Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest – Adopt a Care Center \$3,500**
This mission grant will equip 10 additional care center ministry teams with a package of resources for volunteers for use at care centers. A package of resources includes a supply of large-print song books (5), devotion materials geared for older adults (set of 3 books), CDs to accompany songbooks for volunteers who do not play an instrument or feel confident singing (one set of 4 CDs that accompany songbook), and a CD player capable of being used in a larger room with hearing impaired individuals. Our district mission grant will help equip Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest care center ministry teams; their presence makes a world of difference to care center residents, many of whom otherwise would receive only one or two visits per month.
- 13. Feeding Haitian Children for the Kingdom – Trinity HOPE \$10,000**
Trinity HOPE purchases food from Haitian vendors to provide a noon meal to children, teachers, and cooks in over 240 Christian schools. The grant money is designated to one specific Haitian-Lutheran school to sponsor the feeding program at that school. The grant covers overall costs for approximately 200 meals per school day for one school year. Providing a noon meal for the hungry children in our Lutheran schools in Haiti is a

powerful witness used by the Holy Spirit to discredit the Voodoo teaching that God is unapproachable and non-responsive to Haitians. This ministry can be instrumental in bringing whole families to the knowledge of Christ and demonstrating the love of Jesus through word and deed.

14. Concordia International Radio Saves Lives Spiritually and Physically **\$2,000**

Jacmel, Haiti

Our grant will assist Ministry in Mission in subsidizing the operation of Concordia International Radio in Jacmel, Haiti, a station that helps deliver the Good News Gospel to the hurting people of Haiti during a time of great upheaval. Ministry in Mission is a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS with 15 years of experience in Haiti. Extreme weather conditions caused Concordia International Radio's older equipment to age more quickly. In order to ensure a continuous, quality radio broadcast, funds are needed to assist in the purchase of three laptops, three multidirectional microphones, a 16-channel mixer, three hard drives, three fans, two tape recorders, six solar panels, and a power inverter. These radio equipment upgrades will enable the continued broadcast of Concordia International Radio to the people of Haiti.

15. Orphan Grain Train – Reaching Out to Ukrainians **\$5,000**

Orphan Grain Train has already relocated and provided assimilation and continued funding for Ukrainians who have fled the devastating war in Ukraine to the United States. With this grant, Orphan Grain Train will provide for the spiritual and material needs of Ukrainians displaced by war to Norfolk, Nebraska, with funding for relocation, assimilation, and ongoing expenses as well as for Gospel Outreach.

16. Walking Together in the Mission Field – Alliance Missionaries LCMS **\$1,500**

Alliance Missionaries are pastors supported by the budget of the LCMS. These men are either members of partner churches of the LCMS or men from countries in which mission work is beginning without a parent church body. Alliance Missionaries currently have such pastors in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Peru, Panama, Guatemala, Ethiopia, Uganda, Uruguay, South Africa, and undisclosed parts of Eurasia and Asia. Our grant helps fund the program "Walking Together in the Mission Field" from the LCMS Office of International Mission in support of Alliance Missionaries working alongside and together with LCMS missionaries, complementing and strengthening each other as they spread the Gospel and show mercy to hurting people.

*Denotes a mission organization that tied for 7th place in convention voting.

**Denotes a mission organization that tied for 10th place in convention voting.

7/26/24

