

**PROPOSED MISSION GRANTS FOR THE 2016–2018 BIENNIUM
ATLANTIC DISTRICT LWML**

- A. **Sharing God’s Word Through Service**, The Chapel School, Bronxville, NY **\$3,000**
This is an initiative to expand the Service Learning Program at The Chapel School, which engages students in community service in order to spread our mission to share the love of Christ. The program includes organizing “Make a Difference Day,” where more than 75 people made bookbags for inner-city children, wrote letters to soldiers, and made place mats for a soup kitchen; participating in “Midnight Runs,” a school-wide effort of donating items and distributing bags of food to more than 300 homeless; and sharing God’s love by volunteering at a local soup kitchen. This grant will help extend our outreach by paying for program materials, supplies, and transportation fees.
- B. **Wonderfully Made**, Bethesda Lutheran Communities, Watertown, WI **\$5,000**
To help pastors and church workers minister to new parents with children with disabilities, Bethesda Lutheran Communities is creating a resource entitled “Wonderfully Made.” This project will supply materials to medical personnel, pastoral care staff, and families to ensure God’s Word is shared and tangible support will be provided to those who are responsible in having sensitive conversations with new parents and parents-to-be whose child may have a disability. The grant will assist with the cost of production and distribution of materials, which we wish to distribute to a minimum of 100 medical facilities in the Atlantic District.
- C. **Free Medical Check-up Camps and Eye Screening Camps in Rural Parts of India**, Lutheran Hour Ministries, St. Louis, MO **\$5,000**
Lutheran Hour Ministries is committed to spreading the Gospel by helping the poor and illiterate people in India with free medical check-ups and eye screening camps so that they will respond to God’s message of hope and be brought to faith in Christ. Through these clinics, the local pastor and volunteers create a new avenue for reaching out with the Gospel to those who have no medical care. All participants will be given Gospel literature and guidance for further contact with LHM in India, local churches, and volunteers. This grant would fund two medical check-up camps and eye screening camps.
- D. **Bible Storybooks for Chinese Immigrant Families**, Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb, MI **\$3,500**
There are more than 2 million Chinese immigrants in the U.S. — including 550,000 in New York state — and most speak Chinese at home. Most come from the Buddhist tradition that live in spiritual darkness, but the Holy Spirit can work through pastors and teachers and Lutheran books to shine the light of Jesus Christ. To introduce them to the Savior and overcome the language barrier, congregations can use Lutheran books in the Chinese language. This grant will help publish 700 Chinese Bible Storybooks, which feature *A Child’s Garden of Bible Studies* for children and *God’s Word for You* for teens. These will be made available for free to Atlantic District congregations.
- E. **Reaching Our Hispanic Neighbors**, St. John the Evangelist, Brooklyn, NY **\$630**
Our church is located in a portion of Williamsburg, Brooklyn, that is 40 percent Hispanic. Spanish is the first language in approximately 20 percent of homes in our neighborhood, so there is a tremendous opportunity to spread the Good News of Jesus through a Spanish-language worship service. Our pastor, as well as some musicians and members, speak Spanish, allowing us to conduct a competent and meaningful service. This grant will be used to purchase promotional materials, Spanish-language Bible studies, an LCD projector for viewing Bible study DVDs, and literature and resources related to domestic violence, which is pervasive in the Hispanic community.
- F. **Concordia Seminary Food Bank**, St. Louis, MO **\$5,000**
The Concordia Seminary Food Bank provides basic grocery and personal care items for seminary students who are preparing for ministry as pastors, deaconesses, and missionaries in the LCMS. Each month, the Food Bank feeds 200 students and their families with healthy (and free!) food, providing essential budget relief by literally putting food on the tables of our seminarians and their families. Our annual budget is funded solely by the generous financial support of caring Christians like the Atlantic District LWML.

- G. Mission Outreach to Street Children in New Amsterdam, Guyana, St. Matthew's Lutheran, Brooklyn, NY \$3,000**
 Deacon Urmatie Singh of St. Matthew's in Brooklyn has partnered with volunteers from a local church in New Amsterdam, Guyana to do a weekly Bible teaching program for street children. This is a community in which there are many orphaned or abandoned children, and thousands of kids in this region are not receiving even the most basic physical or spiritual care. Deacon Singh makes annual trips to Guyana to visit and oversee the weekly mission work there. The funds will be used to expand this ministry to 50-60 children through the purchase of Bibles, games, and Sunday School materials.
- H. Lutherans for Life: Y4Life Campus Ministry, Nevada, IA \$3,000**
 Y4Life Campus Ministry, an initiative of Lutherans for Life, works to equip youth and young adults to speak for Life and share the Gospel with those around them through life issues. This grant will specifically help to establish student-led life ministries on Lutheran campuses, including Concordia College New York and six Lutheran high schools in the Atlantic District. These groups will help students share the Gospel and serve those struggling with life issues on their campus and in their community. The funds will be used to identify and train student leaders through training events, outreach events, and ongoing mentorship and fellowship opportunities.
- I. LCMS Mission Central Current Missionary Need –The Time Is Now!, Mapleton, IA \$4,000**
 The mission statement of Mission Central, an LCMS RSO, is "Telling more and more people about Jesus, so that there will be more people in our real home in heaven." This grant will be used to support current LCMS missionaries in the field for expenses such as orientation and training prior to leaving for the field, language training, flights to and from the mission, office expenses, housing, and transportation. Mission Central's blessed service model of volunteers means every penny of every dollar goes to mission work.
- J. VBS for Deaf Children, Lutheran Friends of the Deaf, Mill Neck, NY \$4,500**
 It is estimated that only 2 percent of people who are deaf attend a Christian church and that approximately 95 percent of deaf have never heard the Gospel. Therefore, it is critical that the life-saving Gospel is interpreted into American Sign Language so that the deaf may receive God's gifts through His Word. Gospel Hands VBS for deaf children will allow Lutheran Friends of the Deaf to work with local congregations in New York to offer educational programs in ASL so that more children will come to know Jesus. The grant will be used for VBS supplies, transportation scholarships, stipends for local interpreters, and lunch and snacks for the children.
- K. Long Island Deaf Missions, Lutheran Friends of the Deaf, Mill Neck, NY \$5,000**
 Lutheran Friends of the Deaf will support and assist local LCMS congregations to develop educational programs and worship opportunities for people who are deaf and living in Long Island communities. This grant would provide interpreter training in Lutheran vocabulary; educational materials such as American Sign Language Bible stories; ASL translations of the Lutheran liturgy and hymns; sign language classes for congregation staff members, volunteer leaders, and members; and assistance for congregations to reach out to the deaf community.
- L. Detention Ministry: Sharing the Love of Christ with Detained Immigrants, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Baltimore, MD \$3,000**
 This project will share a tangible expression of the love of God in Christ Jesus by providing Bibles to immigrants in detention. Immigrants are held in detention facilities while waiting to be deported or granted legal relief in the United States. Bibles offer comfort as immigrants seek relief and mercy in immigration courts. This grant will provide 600 Spanish-language Bibles to the men and women incarcerated during their immigration legal proceedings in detention facilities.
- M. Risen Christ Women Sewing Ministry, Lutheran Church of the Risen Christ, Brooklyn, NY \$1,500**
 Risen Christ Women Sewing Ministry has been in existence approximately one year, meeting two days a week and servicing both the church and community. This ministry has afforded us the opportunity to share the Gospel as well as donate clothing to families in the community. We will also be adding a Saturday time so the youth can attend. The funds will be used to purchase two sewing machines, two folding tables, and materials used for sewing.

- N. **La Vida Nica**, The Life Lutheran Church, Old Westbury, NY **\$5,000**
 La Vida Nica means The Life Nicaragua. The Life Lutheran Church in Old Westbury, NY, plans to take 10-12 youths and 3-4 adults to do mission work in Chacra Secra, Nicaragua, a community where the average monthly income is \$50-\$75. Our students will share the love of Christ by bringing donated supplies and clothing, using their labor to install life-altering and life-saving sinks and cement floors. The funds will be used to purchase Bibles and tracts, to defray the cost of travel and lodging and to purchase the supplies necessary to install the sinks and floors.
- O. **Praise Him with the Clash of Cymbals (Psalm 150)**, Redeemer Lutheran School, Glendale, NY **\$2,500**
 The relatively new music program at Redeemer Lutheran School has become a vital part of the students' lives and an important ministry for the church to reach out to students and their families. The students' performances at worship services and special events bring the students' families, many of whom are unchurched, into the sanctuary to hear the life-saving Gospel of Jesus. This grant will help expand the music program through the purchase of class sets of percussion and tonal and finger instruments, which will not only help students learn more about music but will also enhance and expand their participation in worship services.
- P. **From Mourning Glory to Morning Glory: Rescuing Women with the Gospel**, Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran, Bronx, NY **\$4,000**
 Caught in the cruel clutches of "the oldest profession," some women in the north Bronx and southern Westchester walk the streets late at night looking for quick cash and false fulfillment. Redeemer wants to reach out to these women by sharing the Gospel and providing counseling that can liberate them from the grips of their lonely existences. Instead of mourning their previous and precious glory days, they can embrace the morning glory of the resurrection. The grant will be used for materials that have the message of the Gospel and that speak to their predicament and needs, including Bibles, devotional materials, and electronic media.
- Q. **Trinity Food Pantry**, Trinity Lutheran, Islip, NY **\$4,500**
 Trinity's Food Pantry has been operating for more than 30 years, serving the needs and sharing God's mercy through the distribution of food and love to our neighbors, as well as making the Gospel message available. Each year it becomes more difficult to meet these needs, as the cost of food continues to rise and the number of families in need continues to increase. This grant will go toward the purchase of food for the pantry, as well as a chest freezer that will give us greater opportunity to buy in bulk, helping to reduce our costs.
- R. **Watering God's Garden**, Trinity Lutheran, Hicksville, NY **\$3,000**
 Trinity Lutheran in Hicksville operates a community garden where all the food produced is donated to the local food pantry to help feed the needy in our community. We would like to put in a drip irrigation system to feed water directly to the water beds, which will help us conserve water, discourage ground weed growth, and make sure our fruits and vegetables are getting enough water. By helping us efficiently water our garden, together we can feed more of the needy in our community.
- S. **Training Disciples to Make Disciples**, Trinity Lutheran, Hicksville, NY **\$1,500**
 Many Christians have a hard time sharing their faith. They don't know how to start the "faith conversation" with those around them, and making disciples as Jesus instructs us to do seems overwhelming. Trinity would like to host a training day for local congregations on how to best witness to our diverse community. Topics would include the basics of how to share our faith, and also include a focus on sharing the faith with our rapidly expanding Indian and Hispanic community. The funds would go toward training materials, qualified speakers, and promotional materials and invitations to local churches.
- T. **Operation Barnabas for Comfort Dog Congregations**, LCMS Armed Forces Ministry, St. Louis, MO..... **\$2,000**
 Operation Barnabas provides encouragement and thanksgiving centered in the Gospel to military members and their families. We have developed materials to educate professional church workers in providing care to soldiers struggling with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dog congregations are prime candidates to become Operation Barnabas Congregations. The comfort dogs calm individuals, facilitate conversation, and are used in counseling. This grant will allow the LCMS Armed Forces Ministry to bring training to Comfort Dog congregations to expand their reach to military families.

- U. Seminary Student Mercy Medical Team Scholarships, LCMS Life and Health Ministries, St. Louis, MO..... \$4,000**
 Mercy Medical Teams serve around the globe, working with partner churches and international clinics to address needs of both body and soul. Teams are accompanied by an ordained LCMS pastor because of the potential value not only in terms of evangelism, but also for the spiritual care of volunteers who are often facing the challenges presented by culture shock and the impressions of poverty, calamity, and disease. This grant will go toward a scholarship fund for selected seminary students to join a Mercy Medical Team, possibly capturing the attention of someone contemplating the missionary field who might not have the financial resources.
 - V. Christ’s Care for Children: Kenya, LCMS Office of International Mission, St. Louis, MO..... \$2,160**
 Primary school boarding facilities give vulnerable children the opportunity to successfully complete school while living at a home away from home that provides a Christ-centered, loving, caring, and safe environment in which each pupil is afforded daily opportunities for Scripture engagement, catechesis, and worship. Children, who otherwise have little or no likelihood of completing school, are afforded the opportunity to thrive in all aspects of life, particularly growing in faith. This grant would pay for a scholarship for one student for two years at school.
 - W. Rosa Young Academies & After-School Programs, LCMS Office of Black Ministry, St. Louis, MO \$5,000**
 This program will build on Dr. Rosa Young’s legacy by starting new generations for present and future education and Gospel outreach. The program collaborates with existing congregations that have recently closed their schools to create new academies and after-school tutorial/mentoring and spiritual growth programs to enhance children and families educationally and spiritually. The grant will go toward starting new academies and after-school programs in areas with struggling membership and large African American and immigrant populations.
 - X. Grace Lutheran Pantry, Queens Village, NY \$5,000**
 Grace Lutheran Pantry operates from contributions and donations, and we thank God for that. Unfortunately we see more families coming for assistance, and there have been times we had to turn them away. The recession is not over for everyone, and we believe that we can make a difference. In addition to distributing food, we provide information about government services and include a schedule of our church services and activities, extending an invitation to all to worship and participate with us. This grant would enable us to do more for more people in need.
- Total \$84,790**