

ATLANTIC DISTRICT LWML MISSION GRANTS 2016-2018

1. **From Mourning Glory to Morning Glory: Rescuing Women with the Gospel;
Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church; 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 and in the early morning looking for quick cash and false fulfillment. Redeemer wants to reach out to these women by sharing the Gospel with them and providing counseling for them that can liberate them from the grips of their lonely existences. Instead of mourning how their previous and precious glory days have been lost in the cycle of sadness, desperation and pain, they can embrace the morning glory of the resurrection that transforms their lives as they can become witnesses to women and men throughout the neighborhood. 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.

2. **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 of Jesus Christ. 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 American Sign Language so that more children will come to know Jesus and receive saving faith. The grant will be used for VBS supplies, transportation scholarships for deaf children to attend, stipends for local interpreters, and lunch and snacks for the children.

3. **Risen Christ Women Sewing Ministry;
The Lutheran Church of the Risen LWML; Brooklyn, NY** **\$1,500**

Risen Christ Women Sewing Ministry has been in existence about 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

4. **Grace Lutheran Pantry;
Grace Lutheran Church, 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 services provided by government agencies and include a schedule of our church services and upcoming activities and extend an invitation to all to worship and participate with us. This grant would enable us to do more for more people in need

**5. Reaching our Hispanic Neighbors;
Lutheran Church of 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 to a huge segment of our community 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 resource identification related to domestic violence, which is pervasive in the Hispanic community

**6. Sharing God's Word through Service;
The Chapel School; Bronxville, NY** **\$3,000**

"Sharing God's Word Through Service" is an initiative to expand the Service Learning Program at The Chapel School, which engages preschool through grade 8 students in community service in order to spread our mission to know, live, and share the love of Christ. This program includes organizing a "Make a Difference Day," where more than 75 people joined hands and hearts to make book bags for inner-city children, write letters to soldiers, and make place mats for a local soup kitchen, participating in "Midnight Runs," a school-wide effort of donating items, assembling and distributing bags of food to more than 300 homeless, and sharing God's love while volunteering at a local soup kitchen. This grant will help extend our outreach and enable us to further spread God's word and love to the community by paying for program materials, supplies, and transportation fees.

**7. Mission Outreach to Street Children in New Amsterdam, Guyana;
St. Matthews' Lutheran Church; Brooklyn, NY** **\$3,000**

We will supply volunteers at the Cornerstone Angoy's Avenue Bible Club with outreach materials needed to expand the ministry to 50-60 street children in New Amsterdam, Guyana. Deacon Urmatie Singh of St. Matthew's in Brooklyn has partnered with volunteers from a local church in Guyana to do a weekly Bible teaching program for street children. We will use grant funds to purchase Bibles, games, and Sunday School materials to expand this ministry. 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.

**8. 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 ASL Bible stories, ASL translations of the Lutheran liturgy and hymns, offer sign language classes for congregation staff members, volunteer leaders, and members, and assist the congregation with outreach efforts and fellowship events for the deaf community

- 9. Trinity Food Pantry;**
Trinity Lutheran Church; 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 tracts 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.
- 10. Operation Barnabas for Comfort Dog Congregations;**
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod; St. Louis MO **\$2,000**
- Operation Barnabas provides encouragement and thanksgiving centered in the Gospel of Jesus Christ to military members and their families. We have developed and are refining materials to educate professional church workers in providing care to those 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, work with special needs individuals, veterans, and the elderly, and are used in counseling situations. This grant will allow the LCMS Armed Forces to bring Comfort Dog congregations training to allow them to expand their reach to military families.
- 11. 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 funding solely by the generous financial support of caring Christians.
- 12. Free Medical Check-up Camps & 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 of Jesus Christ 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 the power of the Holy Spirit. This grant would fund two free medical check-up camps and eye screening camps hosted by the offices of Lutheran Hour Ministries and youth from local congregations. 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 and local churches and volunteers.
- 13. La Vida Nica;**
The Life Lutheran Church; Westbury, NY **\$2,770**
- La Vida Nica means The Life Nicaragua. The Life Lutheran Church in Old Westbury, NY, plans to take 10-12 youths and 3-4 adult chaperones 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 youth will have their lives changed as they gain a new perspective by seeing faith in action. 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.