

Prayers

Prayer #1

Heavenly Father, in mercy You sent Your Son into our world to provide life and salvation to all who receive Jesus as their Savior from sin. You also care for the physical needs of each family in the world through those who have the ability to help with health and medical needs. Enable each of us to give our mites and help provide the means for nursing students to use their skills to help the Malgasy people and show them the love of Jesus. In Jesus name, amen.

Prayer #2:

Lord Jesus, You gave up Your life for us. Open our hearts to see the needs of others around us every day. Enable us to serve our neighbors both near and far, to love our neighbors as ourselves. As You provide for our medical needs, show us how we can provide care for others through the Mercy Medical Team to Madagascar. May our generous giving to fund this grant bless our lives with joy. In Your name, amen.

Prayer #3:

Father God, in mercy You daily forgive our sins and provide for our physical care through the medical services we have available in our country. We so easily forget to pray for those in countries without the medical care we take for granted. Help us to remember *Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me ...* (Matthew 25:40). Grant us a deep concern for all people of the world and bless us as we help fund the nurses going to Madagascar. In Jesus' name, amen.

Story

Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful ... (Luke 6:36).

Lights are flashing, siren blaring, ambulance racing. Do you wonder who is hurting, what family fears the worst? Crisis's happen in our world. Most of them we know nothing about. Ever since 2006, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) has sent out medical teams to areas of the world where medical care is needed and often unavailable.

Mercy Medical Teams (MMT) give opportunities for Christians with special skills and abilities ways to share with those who are in underserved countries and have limited means of medical support. These short-term volunteers gain experience using their gifts to help others while also learning how their vocation can serve our Lord both here in the United States and throughout the world. At times, they may be able to speak with patients about Jesus or just pray with them.

This grant will provide funds for student nurses wishing to volunteer for a MMT trip. Working with the Nursing Departments of the Concordia University System (CUI) and LCMS Health Ministry, the Director of Nursing for Concordia University Campus will send ten student nurses overseas for ten days to partner with the Lutheran Hospital in Antsirabe, Madagascar to work with patients along with the Malgasy staff.

They will learn about cross-cultural expectations and nursing care prior to their trip. While in Madagascar, they will work with the health care providers; learn what mobile clinics provide; and help educate communities about women's health issues and hygiene. Most importantly they will learn about the global body of Christ. After returning to their classes, they will be debriefed and share their stories with

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Nursing Students Serving with
Mercy Medical Team - \$80,000



Prayers (cont.)

Prayer #4:

We pray, *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God ...* (1st John 4:6). Help us to show Your love to others through this grant of mercy and medical assistance to those who are in need. May we pray daily for this grant and each mission grant this biennium, give as You have given to us and tell others of Your love and forgiveness so that the entire world knows that You are Lord of all. Bless us to be a blessing to others. Amen

Story (cont.)

others. Nursing students often find they have received far more than they have given.

LCMS mission trips are remembered long after returning home. One participant of a MMT commented, "You begin to realize that God knows each and every one....and suddenly you no longer consider [them] patients, but children of God, just like yourself."

