

February 2020

2019–2021 LWML MISSION GRANT #7

Mission Grant Prayer Guide and Story

PRAYER GUIDE FOR LWML MISSION GRANTS

Prayers of Hope Restored for Children and Families in Detroit

PRAYER #1

Heavenly Father, continue to bless and protect the children and families suffering from the economic disaster in Detroit, Michigan. Many families are living without hope. Children are growing up in poverty and living in debris-filled neighborhoods. In Matthew 19:14, *Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."* We pray that through our mites, hope can be restored for children and families in Detroit. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen..

PRAYER #2

Precious Lord, we pray that hope will be restored to families in the city of Detroit through renovations being made in the mostly deserted Ninth Precinct. We pray that city services and Christian-based programs will return as the population grows. Bless and protect the workers and residents as this city rebounds from the ashes of devastation. We pray this in Your precious name. Amen.

PRAYER #3

We take refuge in you, Lord, and thank You for Camp Restore Detroit (CRD), a ministry of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, located in the middle of the devastated Ninth Precinct. CRD volunteers cleared hundreds of lots, boarded up countless houses, and served in nursing homes, food banks, and sports centers. Thank You for Your guidance and protection of these workers in Your harvest field of Detroit. Amen.

PRAYER #4

Dear Lord, we praise and thank You for the opportunity to support our mission grant, "Restoring Hope for Detroit Children and Families." Thank You for providing guidance to Camp Restore volunteers, Mt. Calvary members, and the people of the Ninth Precinct, allowing them to identify community needs and secure funding to buy two vacant lots. Bless the children of the community who will benefit from the Christ-centered outreach centers being built on these lots. May the Holy Spirit guide the sharing of God's love with the Ninth Precinct families. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.



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RESTORING HOPE FOR DETROIT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Camp Restore Detroit — \$100,000

Camp Restore New Orleans has been a beacon in the city of New Orleans for many years, providing hope, restoration, and care to the people affected by hurricane Katrina. The devastation caused by that hurricane is very similar to what is seen when driving through some of the streets of Detroit today. It's clear there has also been a disaster there — an economic disaster — with ruins similar to that of New Orleans. Detroit residents call it "a hurricane without water." Families live in areas where adjacent yards, sidewalks, and building foundations sometimes can't be seen due to the overgrowth of weeds and debris. With low population numbers and declining real estate values, it is difficult for the city to provide services that many of us take for granted. Camp Restore Detroit (CRD) was created as a ministry of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, an LCMS church located in the middle of the disaster-ridden Ninth Precinct.

In May 2017, the first "campers" (volunteers) began arriving. They partnered with local community leaders to restore hope to this area, while being fed and housed at Mt. Calvary. The volunteers have cleared hundreds of lots, boarded up countless houses, and served at nursing homes, food banks, and sport centers as they worked with local leaders. Watching God work through these people has been powerful. An uplifting, cooperative relationship has been established among Camp Restore personnel, Mt. Calvary members, and people in the community. With the encouragement of the city of Detroit, CRD purchased, at a minimal cost, lots adjacent to the church which included two abandoned houses. Camp Restore Detroit has requested funds to help renovate these houses into Christ-centered community outreach centers and community gardens, where lives of children and families can be changed.

This mission grant will provide funds to transform these abandoned houses in the community into places where families, children, and other adults can enjoy hearing the Gospel in a safe setting, while engaging in personal growth activities that bring joy, creativity, education, and hope back into their lives. *Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward*" (Psalm 127:3).

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