

Mission Grant Proposals Selected for the 2021 LWML Convention

1. Light of Christ in Eastern Europe

Mission Central \$56,000 *

For decades, Christians in the Germany and Czech Republic had to hide their faith. Churches that stood for centuries were closed and generations lived with no knowledge of the Christian faith. The Lutheran Church is striving to meet the urgent need to bring the love and light of Christ to people who have been living in spiritual darkness. Recently, immigrants and refugees from the Middle East have settled in Europe, many in Germany. Our missionaries are meeting the additional challenge of reaching out to those of the Muslim faith with the message of the Triune God. Thousands of immigrants, and German and Czech citizens of all ages, need to hear the Gospel. This grant will help in the support of eight missionaries working in Germany and the Czech Republic.

WHEREAS, the people of Germany and the Czech Republic lived for decades under oppressive governments, unable to worship freely, and are once again able to worship publicly, without punishment, and begin anew to know the love and mercy of our Savior, Jesus Christ; and
WHEREAS, missionaries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are now serving in both countries, bringing the Light of Christ to the people, through in-person worship and Bible study, as well as outreach through varied, multi-lingual social media platforms, and by building caring relationships; and
WHEREAS, by faith, these missionaries are answering God's call to serve, boldly proclaiming "*Here I am! Send me*" (Isaiah 6:8), while raising their own financial support to remain with the people they serve, continuing their ministries; and
WHEREAS, our hope is that the Holy Spirit will open the hearts and minds of German and Czech people, and Muslim immigrants and refugees, to hear the Gospel, shared in Christian love by our missionaries, *For it is you who light my lamp; the Lord my God lightens my darkness* (Psalm 18:28); therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$56,000 to help fund **Light of Christ in Eastern Europe**.

2. Educating Pastors in Africa

Mission Central \$100,000 *

God is calling African men to become pastors. These men of faith know the culture and how best to share God's truth and the love of Christ in their native country. Matongo Lutheran Theological College, Kenya, East Africa, is a confessional Lutheran college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ECLK), which is in Altar and Pulpit Fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). This theological college is in need of support funding. Grant funds will be used for pastoral education projects, including scholarships and seminary needs in Kenya, Togo West Africa, and Uganda, as well as general support of six missionaries – five pastors and one layman.

WHEREAS, knowing that Africa is ripe for the harvest, and that Gospel outreach is best done in the heart languages, both in those who seek to learn, and those who share His Word; and
WHEREAS, missionaries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are serving among these African saints to educate those called, and by Christ's example in Ephesians 4:11–12, *to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ*; and
WHEREAS, we here, in our abundance, cannot ignore the needs of African seminaries, nor the needs of our own LCMS missionaries who, in dedication and sacrifice, fulfill this call; and

WHEREAS, Mission Central will administer these mite dollars in a timely fashion upon receipt, and report to the LWML all progress associated with this grant; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Educating Pastors in Africa.**

**3. Missionaries to America Project
Mission Nation Publishing \$88,000**

The United States is populated by people from all corners of the world. The purpose of Mission Nation’s “Missionaries to America” project is to help the LCMS strengthen its capacity to share Jesus with people with whom we may be unable to relate because of cultural and language barriers. With this grant, Mission Nation Publishing will be able to provide opportunity and resources for each of us to be better witnesses for Jesus to ethnic groups other than our own, through the publication of the stories of missionaries, who now reside in the United States, and their respective journeys to faith.

WHEREAS, God created every ethnic group and determined the time and place where they would live (Acts 17:26); and
WHEREAS, the Lord has seen fit to bring people from other countries to America, creating a more diverse population; and
WHEREAS, Mission Nation Publishing and the LCMS Florida-Georgia District want to develop extensive relationships and resources to help churches reach out to ethnic groups different from their own; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$88,000 to help fund **Missionaries to America Project.**

**4. Making the Next Generation of Disciples for Life
LCMS Life Ministry \$92,000 ***

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations” (Jeremiah 1:5). The sanctity of life created by God, and the family as God designed it, has been under attack by pro-choice organizations who are expanding their movement to reach children of younger ages, to attack chastity and promote promiscuity, and to influence our children causing devaluation of life, marriage, and the family. The continued development of “Life” curricula is one of the most frequent requests by LCMS schools. With this grant, LCMS Life Ministry will build a set of developmentally-appropriate resources and curriculum for early childhood, young children, and elementary-aged children and their families.

WHEREAS, God said, *“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations”* (Jeremiah 1:5); and
WHEREAS, the sanctity of life created by God, and the family as God designed it, has been under attack by pro-choice organizations who are expanding their movement to reach children of younger ages, to attack chastity and promote promiscuity, and to influence our children causing devaluation of life, marriage, and the family; and
WHEREAS, LCMS Life Ministry shares biblical teaching regarding the sanctity of all human life with a clear Law and Gospel approach, and seeks to provide accessible information to children and families regarding life and family issues created specifically to be developmentally appropriate for early childhood, young children, and elementary-aged children, and their families; and

WHEREAS, specially-designed resources for children will create an awareness and respect for life and the family as God designed them and will have a lasting effect on their choices as they grow and mature and become disciples for life; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$92,000 to help fund **Making the Next Generation of Disciples for Life.**

5. Nurturing Spiritual Care

LCMS Office of National Mission, Witness and Outreach \$56,800 *

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy (1 Peter 2:9–10). People in this world are broken and hurting. God’s people have an opportunity to show God’s love and mercy to those around them, yet many feel inadequately prepared to provide spiritual care. There is a need for resources that reflect Lutheran theology and train believers to recognize and respond to the emotional and spiritual needs of others, enabling them to point to Christ who offers salvation, hope, and healing. This grant would support the development of “Nurturing Spiritual Care” resources.

WHEREAS, God's Word states in 1 Peter 2:9–10, *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.* As the royal priesthood, Christians love their neighbors as themselves (John 13:34 and Matthew 22:38–39); and

WHEREAS, each believer, a Royal Priest, serves their nearest neighbors through a variety of vocations or stations in life, such as mother, father, son, daughter, sister, and brother; God has placed people into families and brings them into proximity with the people that become their friends, not being an accident that He gives them to one another and serves His people on earth through one another; and

WHEREAS, it is through these vocations that Christians care for others, encouraging them and sharing God's Word; requests have been received to provide a robust and comprehensive, distinctly Lutheran, training program for lay people on providing emotional and spiritual care; and

WHEREAS, the LCMS Office of National Mission has created an Internet Resource Center for Making Disciples for Life to make resources readily available to congregations, workers, and lay people; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$56,800 to help fund **Nurturing Spiritual Care.**

6. Healing the Invisible Wounds of War through Horses Spirit Warrior, Central Maine \$95,000

Maine is among the list of “least churched” states in the nation. It has only three LCMS churches in the entire state and has only five Veteran Administration Chaplains. Deaconess Kim Slininger was called to Hope Lutheran Church to reach out to the extensive veteran and military community in the Bangor area. Deaconess Kim is herself a disabled veteran, and the Spirit Warrior program is an extension of her ministry. Spirit Warrior is a program that addresses the need to provide pastoral/diaconal care using horses, to those who have stood in the face of evil and have returned. Current traditional therapy does not address the care of the spirit. Many veterans/service members want to connect with God and theological

discussions take place while caring for the horses. This grant will provide funding for 58 veterans to go through the program.

WHEREAS, Christ has compassion for suffering people, and His disciples embody Christ and have compassion for those who suffer; and

WHEREAS, deaconesses are called and desire to share that compassion with the suffering assisted by Equines; and

WHEREAS, deaconesses are unable to fully fund the cost of Spirit Warrior Equine Experiential Learning; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$95,000 to help fund **Healing the Invisible Wounds of War through Horses**.

7. Mission Catalyst

International Student Ministry, Inc. (ISM, Inc.) \$80,000

Currently, ISM, Inc. partners with more than 80 ministry sites in 26 states, bringing the Good News of Jesus to international students and their families. One of the challenges is that there are 24 states without any ISM, Inc. presence. ISM, Inc. exists to encourage and equip God's people for intentional Gospel ministry among international student communities. This presents amazing opportunities to share Jesus Christ with people from all over the world. ISM desires to connect and offer resources and encouragement to those working with international students. For this reason, ISM, Inc. is requesting an LWML grant to develop the position of Mission Catalyst over a two-year period. The Mission Catalyst will serve part-time as the official ISM, Inc. representative and will design and implement a viable strategic plan to faithfully fulfill the organization's goals for international student ministry support and growth.

WHEREAS, Christ, in His Holy Word, has charged us to extend hospitality to the stranger (Hebrews 13:2), love the foreigner (Leviticus 19:34), and fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18–20); and WHEREAS, there is an insufficient number of LCMS international student ministry sites reaching out to the more than one million international students on college campuses throughout the United States and a great need to develop new sites, strengthen existing sites, and revitalize inactive sites; and

WHEREAS, ISM, Inc. is currently unable to fully finance the cost of supporting the Mission Catalyst position until the position can become financially self-sustained; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Chief Mission Officer was consulted about the grant; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$80,000 to help fund **Mission Catalyst**.

8. Mercy Medical Care for Tanzania

Mwadui Lutheran School and Community, SELVD-ELCT \$68,182 *

Southeast of Lake Victoria Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church – Tanzania

Mwadui Lutheran School in Shinyanga, Tanzania, has become one of the leading schools in the region with enrollment increasing from 40 to over 200 students. It is educating many new pastors, teachers, and professionals from all over western Tanzania using a curriculum with a Christian world view and daily chapel. This educational facility has become a valuable Christian outreach ministry to the community and region. However, malaria and other health issues continue to be a vexing problem for the students, teachers, staff, and community. The next step in enhancing this educational facility is starting a medical

clinic. This grant will purchase medical equipment, medical supplies, and medicine to treat the various illnesses of the student community.

WHEREAS, Mwadui Lutheran School in Shinyanga, Tanzania, has become one of the leading schools in the region with enrollment increasing from 40 to over 200 in the last five years, educating many new pastors, teachers, and professionals from all over western Tanzania using a curriculum with a Christian world view and offering daily chapel, and

WHEREAS, malaria and other health issues continue to be a vexing problem for the students, teachers, staff, and community; and

WHEREAS, the nearest dispensary to Mwadui is 15.5 miles away; and

WHEREAS, a dispensary on the school campus would better serve the school and be an outreach tool to the community which also lacks decent medical care; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$68,182 to help fund **Mercy Medical Care for Tanzania.**

9. Helping Hands for Lutheran Deaf Outreach Lutheran Deaf Outreach \$50,000

Lutheran Deaf Outreach wants to help Deaf people have a saving relationship with Christ by training Deaf and Hearing people to share Jesus with Deaf people. They work through congregations to reach Deaf people and families in their community. There are over 500,000 Deaf people, plus their families, in the United States. The need is great to equip more Deaf leaders through Jesus Signs Training Workshops so they may effectively witness the saving message of Jesus Christ. This grant will assist in expanding training through the sharing of resources, by assisting pastors, and by instructing individuals to lead the workshops. It will also help with workshop expenses to expand training and provide, resources throughout the United States.

WHEREAS, in Matthew 28:19–20, as Jesus spoke these words to his disciples, we are told to *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the very end of the age;* and

WHEREAS, 98% of Deaf people and their families do not believe in Jesus, God wants all people to be saved and come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, as their Lord and Savior, and God is empowering the Deaf leaders in our districts to go and make more disciples; and

WHEREAS, this grant will provide Lutheran Deaf Outreach training with resources and help with training expenses to reach out to Deaf people and the thousands of families with Deaf children throughout the nation who are struggling to share their faith in Jesus with their children who do not believe; and

WHEREAS, the need is great to equip more Deaf leaders through in-depth Jesus Signs Training workshops, so they may effectively witness to the saving message of Jesus Christ, and to strengthen these Deaf leaders in their faith and skills; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$50,000 to help fund **Helping Hands for Lutheran Deaf Outreach.**

10. Mission & Outreach to the Least of These
Victory Lutheran Church, K. I. Sawyer Community \$51,356

Christ has charged us in His Holy Word to share the Gospel and minister to the poor. Victory Lutheran Church is an inner-city church located in the unincorporated area of the K.I. Sawyer Community in Gwinn, Michigan. This inner-city church is a means of providing mercy ministries that spread His Word to all people, especially “the least of these.” The purchase of a new and larger van will allow them to bring children to hear the love of Jesus and provide a safe place to learn. The church needs a safe haven for the congregation and the unchurched to attend worship and Bible study.

WHEREAS, Christ has charged us in His Holy Word to share the Gospel and minister to the poor; and WHEREAS, Victory Lutheran Church, an inner-city church, is a means of providing mercy ministries and spreading His Word to all people, most especially "the least of these"; and WHEREAS, the church sorely needs funds to purchase a new and larger van to bring children to hear about the love of Jesus and to provide a safe place to learn, and WHEREAS, the church needs a safe haven for the congregation and the unchurched to attend worship and Bible study; therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$51,356 to help fund **Mission & Outreach to the Least of These**.

11. Propelling the Gospel
LAMP Ministry Inc. \$65,000

Lutheran Association of Missionary Pilots (LAMP) Ministry, Inc. has been using small aircraft to take the Gospel message to the Indigenous people in the most remote areas of northern Canada. Each year, hundreds of volunteer missionaries from the United States travel to teach vacation Bible school to thousands of children in remote northern communities. LAMP’s ministry is highly dependent on the two aircrafts that they use in order to get their missionaries to these places so they can bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those who so desperately need to hear the Good News. The aircraft has evolved over the years, and upgrades must be made to ensure safety and the ability for LAMP’s missionaries and pilots to reach remote communities only accessible by air. Avionic instrument upgrades in the aircrafts are a costly investment. The Garmin GTX 345 model works best, not only with classical ground-based radar systems, but it also provides ADS-B input and output for both the American and Canadian/Aireon systems.

WHEREAS, LAMP Ministry Inc.'s mission is to go "*... to the ends of the earth*" (Acts 1:8b) and LAMP envisions the day when nations walk together in the light of Christ (Revelation 7:9); and WHEREAS, there are nearly one million Indigenous people, half of which are children living in the remotest areas of northern Canada, who have limited access to Biblical education and Gospel proclamation unless LAMP sends missionaries; and WHEREAS, LAMP requires small well-equipped airplanes to transport staff and volunteer missionaries to teach the Scriptures and proclaim the Gospel in remote northern communities; and WHEREAS, LAMP aircrafts currently require a significant avionic instrument upgrade to ensure safe and efficient flights for pilots and missionaries; therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$65,000 to help fund **Propelling the Gospel**.

12. Matongo Seminary Chapel LCMS Office of International Mission — Africa Region \$113,500 *

The LCMS Office of International Mission supports theological education through established seminaries, such as Matongo Lutheran Seminary, recognized by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK) for the training of pastors, deaconesses, and evangelists for its congregations. It is essential that the campus community have a dedicated place of worship for daily chapel services. It will also free up classroom space currently used for the temporary chapel and serve as a “model” for students who will serve as pastors beyond the borders of Kenya and the ELCK. This grant is sought for architecture and engineering and structural framework. Additional funds are being raised to complete the building.

WHEREAS, St. Paul writes, *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God* (Colossians 3:16); and

WHEREAS, the LCMS Office of International Mission (OIM) supports theological education through established seminaries with the intent to foster them towards a level of self-sufficiency for students from their own church body, having closely worked with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya (ELCK); and

WHEREAS, Matongo Lutheran Seminary (also called Neema Lutheran College) is the one institution recognized by the ELCK for the training of pastors, deaconesses, and evangelists for its congregations; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to have a dedicated place of worship where the campus community can gather for daily worship for the encouragement and strengthening of the students in their spiritual formation, the chapel serves students from many countries and will serve as a "model" place for the spiritual formation of pastors beyond the borders of Kenya and the ELCK, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$113,500 to help fund **Matongo Seminary Chapel**.

13. Hope of Christ for Cancer Patients Phil's Friends \$70,000

As Christians, we are charged with sharing the message of the Gospel and the Word with all individuals. The mission of Phil’s Friends, an LCMS Recognized Service Organization, is to introduce and strengthen relationships with Christ by providing faith-based hope to those with cancer. The support includes a care package with practical, emotional, and spiritual items, including a Bible, a card sent monthly for 12 months, and a new program “Hope on Call,” in which Phil’s Friends’ trained volunteers meet virtually with the cancer patient to talk and pray. This grant would further fund Phil’s Friends Cancer Care Packages, Cards of Hope, and Hope on Call.

WHEREAS, Christians are charged with sharing the message of the Gospel with all individuals; and
WHEREAS, providing Christ-centered support to individuals with cancer that includes providing them with a Bible, the message of the Gospel, and prayer, will help introduce and strengthen their relationship with Christ; and

WHEREAS, Phil's Friends is unable to fully fund its Care Packages, Cards of Hope (encouragement cards sent out monthly) and its new program, “Hope on Call,” in which Phil's Friends’ trained volunteers meet virtually with cancer patients to talk and pray; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$70,000 to help fund **Hope of Christ for Cancer Patients**.

14. Mercy House – Belize Lutheran Campus Belize Mission Society \$100,000

The Belize Mission Society (BMS) has a dental clinic in a multipurpose building that is located in the village. This grant money would fund the building of a Mercy House next to the elementary school and Christ Lutheran Church. By bringing the dental clinic and other programs to the Lutheran campus, it will lead people to the Church and connect them with the missionaries. The BMS is intent on “strengthening their cord” (a reference to Ecclesiastes 4:12) with the Belize FORO (forum), the missionaries, and the local residents. By building relationships with children, they also reach their extended family with the Good News of their Savior, Jesus Christ. Mercy House – Belize Mission Campus will further the mercy work and relationship-building of the BMS while providing a tangible connection to Christ Lutheran Church.

WHEREAS, *Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken* (Ecclesiastes 4:12 NIV); and

WHEREAS, presently the Belize Mission Society (BMS) is working in partnership with Christ Lutheran Church (LCMS) missionaries and short-term mission teams in southern Belize to share mercy care through feeding children, dental clinics, vacation Bible school, tutoring, and community health programs that provide a direct connection to the church and the Gospel message; and

WHEREAS, the BMS is a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS and a Belize FORO (Spanish for “forum,” a system of support used for LCMS missions and sister churches in Latin America and the Caribbean) charter member, working in coordination with the LCMS Office of International Mission to implement mercy care in multiple locations throughout the community and country, missionaries develop relationships with villagers to share the Good News of Jesus through Baptism, confirmation, and Communion; and

WHEREAS, having a Mercy House located next to the elementary school and Christ Lutheran Church, thus creating a Lutheran Campus and community focal point for outreach, will provide expanded opportunities to teach the Scriptures and proclaim the Gospel, while also meeting physical needs. This new Mercy House will provide a direct physical connection to Christ Lutheran Church and the mercy care teams currently serving the community. We recognize that by connecting with the children, providing role models and hope, we also draw entire families to the saving grace of the Gospel; therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Mercy House — Belize Lutheran Campus**.

15. Spiritual and Physical Food for Children of Peru La Mision Luterana del Peru \$56,750 *

Castillo Fuerte (Mighty Fortress) Mercy House is an outreach of the LCMS Missions in Latin America and the Caribbean and was started in 2013. The people of Lima are unable to fully finance the work of the Mercy House, and the work of our missionaries, who feed the souls with the Word of God and show the love of Christ by feeding the parents and children’s stomachs. Families come to receive food for their physical bodies, and they stay because of Jesus’ love for them as He feeds them the spiritual food which sustains their souls. The healing power of Christ’s love and redemption shine into the broken lives of the families making them whole. This grant would partner with La Mision Luterana and Castillo Fuerte to work together to care for the children and families of Lima, Peru, by providing for the needs of the body and of the soul.

WHEREAS, Christ in His Holy Word has charged us to reach out to all nations with the knowledge of His saving Gospel as well as His tangible love; and

WHEREAS, the LCMS Board of International Missions and the LCMS Missions in Latin America and the Caribbean have identified the community of Lima, Peru, as fertile ground for a church plant and Castillo Fuerte Mercy House; and

WHEREAS, the people of Lima are unable to fully finance the work of the Mercy House and the work of our missionaries who preach the Word, administer the Sacraments, provide for after-school programming, literacy programs, and daily feed the children their main meal, affecting the whole family with the love of Jesus through word and deed; and

WHEREAS, the LCMS Chief Mission Officer was consulted about the grant; therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$56,750 to help fund **Spiritual and Physical Food for Children of Peru.**

16. Deaconess Ministry – Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch \$81,680

Matthew 25:40 assures us that whenever we serve the “least of these brothers and sisters” of Christ, we are serving the Lord. The healing ministry of the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch creates an eternal, life-giving impact in the lives of children age 10–18 who face unimaginable abuse, neglect, and trauma – truly “the least of these.” This is especially true for female children who have been victimized by male figures, resulting in trust-related issues that are hopelessly difficult for a child to bridge. The specialized ministry of a deaconess bridges this gap with the transformational care of Christ, helping both young girls and boys.

WHEREAS, Matthew 25:40 assures us that whenever we serve the “least of these brothers and sisters” of Christ, we are serving the Lord; and

WHEREAS, the healing ministries of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch create an eternal, life-giving, impact in the lives of children (ages 10–18) who face unimaginable abuse, neglect and trauma — children who truly are “the least of these”; and

WHEREAS, traumatized children are often caught in a hope-draining, spiritual-care gap, which makes them unreachable by male chaplains, simply because of gender (especially true for female children who have been victimized by male figures), resulting in trust related issues that are hopelessly difficult for a child to bridge; and

WHEREAS, the specialized ministry of a deaconess has been consistently shown to bridge this gap with the transformational care of Christ, thereby helping both young girls and boys, who have experienced some of the worst trauma imaginable, discover the life-changing hope and healing of Christ Himself; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$81,680 to help fund **Deaconess Ministry – Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.**

17. Expanding God’s Love in Uganda LCMS Office of International Mission — Africa Region \$92,000 *

The Lutheran Church of Uganda (LCU) is a steadily growing church body in eastern Africa, which has requested LCMS assistance to locally train deaconesses so they may assist the small number of Lutheran pastors throughout Uganda to teach the faith, provide spiritual care, and show mercy to the communities. Being able to provide local training will be a huge benefit to qualified women who would not be able to travel to Kenya for a two-year program, and to the church. This grant would allow for a land purchase

attached to the established Lutheran Theological College Uganda, fencing, and a small dormitory for the women.

WHEREAS, St. Paul writes *I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae, that you welcome her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints, and help her in whatever she may need from you, for she has been a patron of many and of myself as well* (Romans 16:1–2); and

WHEREAS, the LCMS Office of International Mission supports work with The Lutheran Church of Uganda (LCU) and the Lutheran Theological College of Uganda (LTCU) in Magamaga primarily in pastoral formation through their own seminary in the form of residential missionaries, grants, medical mission trips, and infrastructure development; and

WHEREAS, there are only 30 pastors and two deaconesses for 150 congregations, and as the church body continues growing among the seven regions throughout the country, there is a great need for assistance in ministry while having a strong desire to minister to their own people through language and culture; deaconesses would be a natural fit in Uganda; and

WHEREAS, in response to the steady growth of the church body and the establishment of the LTCU training men to serve as pastors, the addition of these newly trained pastors will add to the work of the LCU; the LCU has a greater understanding of higher education and prayerfully request to add a deaconess program; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington Kentucky, vote the sum of \$92,000 to help fund **Expanding God’s Love in Uganda**.

18. Connecting Mercy and Church Planting — Latin America & the Caribbean LCMS Office of International Mission \$113,500 *

The Latin America and the Caribbean region of the Office of International Mission serves the Lord according to the trifold motto of Spreading the Gospel, Planting Lutheran Churches, and Showing Mercy. Concordia the Reformer Seminary in the Dominican Republic invests in the theological and practical formation of pastors and deaconesses so that they complement one another’s Kingdom roles as they serve in 12 countries. This model allows them to supplement classroom learning with hands-on fieldwork. An LWML grant would fund scholarships for 15 residential pastoral students for one academic year and also promote the continuance of online deaconess instruction and biannual intensive courses for up to 140 deaconess students.

WHEREAS, Christ, the head of the Church, joins sinful human beings together into one body and *when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love* (Ephesians 4:16); and

WHEREAS, the Latin America and the Caribbean region of the Office of International Mission serves the Lord according to the trifold motto of Spreading the Gospel, Planting Lutheran Churches, and Showing Mercy such that attending to people’s physical, mental, and emotional needs might always accompany the sowing of congregations that are faithful to the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, Concordia the Reformer Seminary in the Dominican Republic invests in the theological and practical formation of pastors and deaconesses to serve in 12 countries in ways that complement one another’s Kingdom roles by supplementing classroom learning with hands-on fieldwork; and

WHEREAS, 155 (15 residential pastoral formation students and 140 deaconess students) plus each of their families and innumerable brothers and sisters in the faith throughout Latin America, the Caribbean, and Spain who will hear of Christ, eat and drink of His body and blood, and feel His mercy through them; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$113,500 to help fund **Connecting Mercy and Church Planting — Latin America & the Caribbean.**

**19. Mission Education Teams in Latin America & the Caribbean
LCMS Office of International Mission \$55,000 ***

The Dominican Republic Lutheran Mission (DRLM) is a maturing mission field that began in 2005 and currently has five local congregations, two Lutheran schools, Concordia the Reformer Seminary and Mercy Center, with 20 missionary and local pastor family units. Some of the most cherished short-term mission teams to the DRLM are sent to intentionally experience the Church and her work and life on the field. Participation in Mission Education Teams is especially pertinent for future pastors, deaconesses, and graduates of the Concordia University System. These students will set the tone for spreading the Gospel, planting Lutheran churches, and showing mercy for generations to come. Funds received will provide scholarships for thirty-two students to be part of Mission Education Teams.

WHEREAS, Christ in His holy Word has charged us to reach out to all nations, further in Matthew 25:40, *“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me’”*; and

WHEREAS, LCMS Mission Education Teams interact with missionaries, local leaders, church members, and the surrounding communities while experiencing educational opportunities, equipping participants to return home with a broader cultural understanding, renewed spiritual fervor, and more room in their hearts to care for and pray for the least of these in seemingly remote corners of the globe; and

WHEREAS, globalization brings the nations to the doorstep of churches, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods across the United States, those with firsthand experience abroad have a tremendous advantage as they seek to reach out in word and deed; and

WHEREAS, financial considerations often prevent individuals from participating in LCMS Mission Teams, a grant would aid in the expenses for participation in a mission trip with endeavors bearing testimony to the good work our Lord is doing through His appointed leaders and devout Kingdom workers, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$55,000 to help fund **Mission Education Teams in Latin America & the Caribbean.**

**20. Gospel Outreach to Women and Children in Mongolia
Lutheran Hour Ministries \$100,000**

Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) has an opportunity to expand its mission outreach of the Gospel to the Kazakh women and children in Mongolia, a non-Christian country. The Kazakh people are nominally Muslim and the country of Mongolia is largely Buddhist with a less than one percent Christian population. Through widely-accepted Women’s Listener groups, religious broadcasts, and Christian resources in the Kazakh language, family members and relatives will be impacted by the Gospel in their homes. LHM has the media expertise to ensure the Gospel message is brought to a region where the populations have not heard the Gospel. Christian resources are being distributed, including Bible studies and booklets translated into the Kazakh language, as well as into Mongolian, the main language of the region.

WHEREAS, the mission of Lutheran Hour Ministries, based on the clear teaching of Scripture, is Bringing Christ to the Nations — and the Nations to the Church; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran Hour Ministries' ministry center in Mongolia was established to carry out Gospel outreach to people in the region where less than one percent of the population is Christian; and
WHEREAS, Lutheran Hour Ministries has a new opportunity to share the love of Jesus to minority Kazakh women and their children through Women's Listener groups, Christian radio programming, and youth activities, this being a part of the population that has never heard the Gospel; and
WHEREAS, through Gospel Outreach to Women and Children in Mongolia, Kazakh families will hear the true message of salvation through a powerful Christian witness of love and connect them to faith in Jesus Christ in culturally appropriate ways; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Gospel Outreach to Women and Children in Mongolia.**

21. Caring for and Sharing Christ with Hurting People Concordia Seminary, St. Louis \$100,000

Deaconesses are continually pointing those they serve toward the cross, sharing the Gospel with them so they gain the wonderful gift of eternal life through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Concordia Seminary has requested through this mission grant, much-needed scholarships for deaconess students and assistance with seminary costs to provide high-quality theological education. Enrollment in the new online Deaconess Studies Program is expected to increase, enabling the faculty to form more well-trained deaconesses and bring more people to Jesus and provide compassionate, Christ-centered help to those who are hurting and suffering — physically, emotionally and spiritually.

WHEREAS, deaconesses, serving in God's name, lovingly and selflessly provide much-needed care and works of mercy to those who suffer deeply in body, mind and soul; and
WHEREAS, deaconesses are continually pointing those they serve toward the cross, sharing the Gospel with them so they may gain the wonderful gift of eternal life through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and
WHEREAS, Concordia Seminary offers several educational paths providing high-level theological training to deaconess students, fully equipping them to serve anguished people in many ways and share the Good News with them; and
WHEREAS, these deaconess students have significant need for financial aid to support their education expenses, and the Seminary has a strong need for support for the costs to provide these students' formation; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Caring for and Sharing Christ with Hurting People.**

22. Christ-Centered Materials for Hmong Language School and Outreach St. Paul Hmong Outreach Ministries \$78,364

St. Paul Hmong Outreach Ministries in Merced, California, has been actively involved in outreach to Hmong communities in their native tongue for 15 years. In 2015 and 2018, Hmong language schools were founded. They are connected with host churches, St. Paul Lutheran in Merced and Redeemer Lutheran in Fresno, California. Through the schools and outreach at New Year's festivals, the Gospel is being heard and families are being baptized and confirmed. Funds will be used to continue mission programs, develop new training modules, and support training implementation of Christ-centered educational materials in the Hmong language to be used in the schools, for festival outreach, and to share with other LCMS churches and districts.

WHEREAS, the Hmong people have been in the United States for 45 years, yet they still retain their native language and culture, a majority of the Hmong still only know the traditional animist religion of ancestor/spirit worship, which is bondage; and

WHEREAS, St. Paul Hmong Outreach Ministries has been actively reaching out to the Hmong communities in their native tongue for 15 years, breaking the bondage Satan has on the Hmong families with the truth and knowledge that, through Christ Jesus, there is no other way to be free as Scripture stated, *and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free* (John 8:32); and

WHEREAS, by providing Hmong Language School and reaching out at New Year's festivals, the Gospel is being heard by Hmong families in their own language, families are being baptized and confirmed, and other LCMS churches are seeking successful outreach models that battle the Hmong cultural/spiritual bondage; and

WHEREAS, *So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ* (Romans 10:17), funds are needed to continue mission programs, develop new modules, and support training implementation to provide Christ-centered educational materials in the Hmong language for schools and festival outreaches to the Hmong people. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$78,364 to help fund **Christ-Centered Materials for Hmong Language School and Outreach.**

23. Thirst to Learn: Bible Books for Africa's Children Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$100,000

Lutheran Heritage Foundation continues its work of translating, publishing, distributing, and introducing Lutheran materials throughout Africa where the population is more than 1.216 billion people. Sadly, over half those souls are still waiting to be introduced to the one true Savior, Jesus Christ. Islam has made huge inroads in the continent. But thanks be to God, Christian missionaries have been spreading the Light of the Gospel also. Economic and political conditions may force missionaries to leave a country, but the Lutheran books they leave behind stay — and teach — for generations. This grant will fund the printing and distribution of 129,500 engaging, colorful books which will introduce children to Jesus in their Lutheran schools, Sunday schools, and orphanages.

WHEREAS, African families face many physical and spiritual challenges, including extreme poverty, disease, civil unrest, and the ever-growing presence of Islam; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran missionaries and church leaders in Africa have witnessed a "thirst to learn" about the Savior and have expressed a deep need for easy-to-understand Lutheran books, printed in the languages of the people, to teach parents and children the Lutheran faith; and

WHEREAS, African Lutheran partner churches also need engaging, colorful books to introduce children to Jesus in their Lutheran schools, Sunday schools, and orphanages — books the children may keep for their very own; and

WHEREAS, the Lutheran Heritage Foundation has 30 years of vigorously fulfilling its mission of translating and publishing high-quality Lutheran books for children, such as *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories*, *Luther's Small Catechism*, and *Bible Stories in Pictures* into the languages of the world at a cost of less than \$3 per book; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Thirst to Learn: Bible Books for Africa's Children.**

24. Sharing Jesus' Love in India Lutheran Braille Workers \$100,000

Jesus said, *“I am the light of the world”* (John 9:5). This verse is important to the individuals who are Blind or Visually Impaired as they seek to know the love and light of Christ. This is especially true in India where there are over 62.6 million people who are Blind or Visually Impaired, and most do not know Jesus or have access to the Scriptures. Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) already produces Braille and specialized Large Print Bibles and other Christian materials in multiple languages used in India and has extensive experience distributing these materials with partner ministries and churches. This grant would help fund the formation of a Ministry Production Center in India to produce and distribute its materials, and train workers on the equipment.

WHEREAS, Jesus said, *“I am the light of the world”* (John 9:5) and it is important for individuals who are Blind or Visually Impaired to know the love and light of Christ; and
WHEREAS, there are over 62.6 million people in India who are Blind or Visually Impaired, most of whom do not know Jesus or have access to the Scriptures; and
WHEREAS, LBW already produces Braille and specialized large print Bibles and other Christian materials in multiple languages used in India and has extensive experience distributing these materials with partner ministries and churches; and
WHEREAS, it has become more difficult to ship Braille and specialized large print materials to India due to rising anti-Christian sentiment; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Sharing Jesus' Love in India**.

25. Strengthening the Lutheran Mission to Kuna, Idaho Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church — LCMS \$100,000

Kuna, Idaho, is listed as the seventh most rapidly growing urban/suburban area in the United States and is located near Boise and Meridian, Idaho. A new church has been planted in Kuna and Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church, Boise, is its mother congregation. Kuna Lutheran is currently meeting for worship in the local high school cafeteria with up to 60 people in attendance. The congregation wants to build their own sanctuary and other facilities from which to conduct growing congregational activities, but they are first in need of a parcel of land. The grant funds will assist in the purchase. The mission of Kuna Lutheran is to celebrate God the Father’s love for us in creating us and giving His Son; connecting in faith with Jesus, our Savior; connecting with others in love and care; and communicating God’s love in the power of the Holy Spirit.

WHEREAS, Jesus Christ has charged us in the Great Commission to be witnesses of the Gospel to the ends of the earth; and
WHEREAS, Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church, our planting congregation, has the mission of planting additional churches in Ada County, Idaho, and beyond; and
WHEREAS, Kuna Lutheran Mission is in need of property on which to build a church and cannot fully purchase property with their present income; and
WHEREAS, the president of the LWML Utah-Idaho District and the president of the LCMS Northwest District were consulted about the grant; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Strengthening the Lutheran Mission to Kuna, Idaho**.

26. “Ends of Earth” Scholarships

Mission Opportunities Short Term (MOST) Ministries \$50,000

MOST Ministries is receiving more requests from LCMS missionaries and national church leaders to provide teams to go to the "ends of the earth" places such as Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, Thailand, Peru, and Sri Lanka to work side-by-side with missionaries, sharing the Gospel. The travel cost (up to \$5,050) of the short-term mission trips to these distant places has become prohibitive, and has made it challenging for willing people to join a team. Currently, team members are personally responsible for their total per person cost. Not only do they use personal funds, but they are encouraged to reach out to members of the body of Christ to participate in the mission with encouragements, prayers, and financial support. This grant would offer financial support to cover up to one-half the cost of each participant, not to exceed \$2,000.

WHEREAS, in response to Jesus' words in Acts 1:8, *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth*, MOST Ministries is firmly committed to sharing the Gospel while meeting the needs of hurting people through loving service; and

WHEREAS, in response to requests from LCMS missionaries and national church leaders, teams are sent to work side-by-side with them to strategically open doors for sharing the Gospel; and

WHEREAS, MOST is receiving more requests from "ends of the earth" places such as Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, Thailand, Peru, and Sri Lanka; and

WHEREAS, the prohibitive cost of travel to these places (up to \$5,050), has made it challenging for willing people to join a team, and it is a tragedy that MOST has had to deny requests from the field because of the inability to recruit enough team members, resulting in lost opportunities to share the Gospel with approximately 11,400 people; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$50,000 to help fund **“Ends of Earth” Scholarships**.

27. Training Pastors to Serve the Church in Russia

Lutheran Theological Seminary — Novosibirsk, Siberia \$100,000

Through the efforts of the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church and the pastoral training provided by the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, Siberia, the Word and Sacraments are again making their way to the long-repressed Russian people. With this grant, Lutheran Women's Missionary League will partner in training pastors and deaconesses and in helping the seminary continue its efforts to restore the Lutheran Church in Russia. The Novosibirsk seminary's goal is to prepare workers to spread the true Word of God to the Russian people. This grant will fund some of the operational expenses of the seminary and allow it to continue providing a solid theological education to those seeking to serve as pastors and deaconesses within the Siberian Lutheran Church.

WHEREAS, Christ in His Holy Word has charged us to prepare men for pastoral ministry *and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also* (2 Timothy 2:2); and

WHEREAS, the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, Siberia, trains pastors and deaconesses to serve in confessional Lutheran parishes throughout Russia, especially in Siberia, restoring the Lutheran Church in Russia, and most importantly, teaching God's true Word to a people long repressed by atheistic communism; and

WHEREAS, the private family foundation that has fully funded the seminary since its inception in 1997 has significantly reduced its contribution, creating a need for the seminary to seek partial funding from the LWML to cover annual operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society continues its ongoing campaign to raise funds to permanently endow the seminary's future expenses by 2023; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Training Pastors to Serve the Church in Russia**.

28. Bring the Inner-City Children to Camp Lutheran Valley Retreat, Colorado \$25,000

Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) shares both God's grace and the glory of His creation. Many families in metropolitan Denver are unable to fully finance camp tuition or provide transportation to LVR where their children would experience God's Word in daily devotions, singing, and worshipping around a campfire. This grant will span two summers when LVR will partner with Lutheran churches in Denver to arrange sign-up, transportation, and scholarships for 50 children from the inner city, so they could have this mountain-top camp experience. Research shows that the challenges of camp activities are transformational, giving children tools to overcome real-world challenges when they return home.

WHEREAS, Christ, in His holy Word, has charged us to reach out to all nations; and

WHEREAS, Jesus called the children to Him and said, "*Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these*" (Matthew 19:14 NIV); and

WHEREAS, families in metropolitan Denver, Colorado, are unable to fully finance the camp tuition or the transportation to get to a Christian mountain-top experience of camp; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$25,000 to help fund **Bring the Inner-City Children to Camp**.

29. The Littlest and Least of These St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy, Dallas, Texas \$42,000

St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy is located in a poor Dallas community of mostly unchurched families and offers the only Christ-centered preschool, before and after school care, and adult academic and Bible classes. The Academy uses Christian books, music, and Bible stories. There are regular devotional services and families are encouraged to attend worship. St. Paul is outgrowing their current facility after a single year of operation. Going forward, more space is needed for the preschool, nursery, and after-school educational enrichment. The kitchen serving meals needs to be upgraded to a commercial kitchen. The funds will help with these expenses and will allow the Academy to further expand their mission in the community and bring more to Christ.

WHEREAS, Christ in His holy Word has called us to "*Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven*" (Matthew 19:14); and

WHEREAS, Christ has called us to serve the least of these brothers and sisters (Matthew 25:40) as we live as His followers, not as hearers only but as doers of the Word (James 1:22); and

WHEREAS, St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy is located in a poor community of mostly unchurched families and offers the only Christ-centered early children, before and after school care, and adult academic and Bible classes; and

WHEREAS, a renovation of the fellowship hall at St. Paul Christian Academy will serve more children as well as the aged, handicapped, lonely, and impoverished "least of these" with the saving Gospel of Christ in word and deed; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$42,000 to help fund **The Littlest and Least of These**.

30. Redeeming Life Maternity Home, Illinois Expansion Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries \$100,000

Redeeming Life currently operates maternity and transitional homes in Central Florida for single pregnant women who are homeless, abused, and/or at-risk of abortion. It is a proven model. This grant will help Redeeming Life support a called deaconess to serve in a new location in the Chicagoland area.

Additionally, the funds will help offset the costs, during the first two years, of operating a safe and stable home (rent, utilities, food) and provide program services for the women to be served. Redeeming Life's goal is for their residents to learn to live independently and offers many opportunities for the women to understand that, in Christ, there is forgiveness, peace, and unconditional love.

WHEREAS, since 2013, Redeeming Life Maternity Home in Sanford, Florida, has been successfully proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to single expectant women at risk of abortion, homelessness, or abuse resulting in babies and mothers being baptized and confirmed in the faith while also meeting their needs for food, shelter, education, and basic life skills; and

WHEREAS, Redeeming Life Maternity Home's vision has been, from its inception, to expand this life saving and life affirming maternity home ministry into every district of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, because of Redeeming Life Maternity Home's reputation and successful model of ministering to single pregnant women in crisis, it has been invited by members of the LCMS Northern Illinois District to open a maternity home in the greater Chicago area, an area with some of the most liberal abortion laws in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the number of lives saved will be multiplied by Redeeming Life Maternity Home expanding into other districts of the LCMS; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Redeeming Life Maternity Home, Illinois Expansion**.

31. Ministry Vehicle Fund, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone Lutheran Bible Translators \$70,000

Lutheran Bible Translators (LBT) uses literacy programs within the local language communities to give people the skills to read the newly-translated Bible which results in a personal relationship with God. When they can read God's Word in their local or heart language, they know that God speaks their language and hears their prayers. Local personnel in Ethiopia and Sierra Leone, identified as partners with LBT, help teach their people. The long distances between the language communities have treacherous and hazardous terrain. The money from this grant will help purchase robust, reliable vehicles. Trainers will be able to travel to God's people who are waiting for the opportunity to learn to read the saving words of the Gospel in their heart language. This will impact multiple language groups in both countries.

WHEREAS, God tells us in Romans 10:17, *So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ*; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran Bible Translators uses literacy programs to reach the local people and share God's Word; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Mission and Theology of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) and the literacy coordinator of The Institute of Sierra Leonean Languages (TISLL) cannot reach the remote areas of Ethiopia and Sierra Leone to visit the local people without vehicles; and WHEREAS, the last hurdle to implementing the above programs to empower local language communities for more effective ministry is a vehicle to cross the long distances and hazardous terrain; therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington Kentucky, vote the sum of \$70,000 to help fund **Ministry Vehicle Fund, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone.**

32. Reaching the Homebound with God's Word Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. (DBA Worship Anew) \$100,000

Lutheran Ministries Media reaches the homebound and aging with the life-saving message of the Gospel through the weekly broadcast ministry of Worship Anew. With an aging population, the need exists to have accessibility to faithful teaching and understanding of the Bible as taught in our creeds and Lutheran confessions. The broadcast currently reaches areas of New York, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Iowa. Lutheran Ministries Media wants to expand their broadcast area by securing on-the air broadcast time on a new nationwide station and also enhance their online presence. The grant funds will be used to pay the broadcast fees and the internet expansion.

WHEREAS, the Great Commission moves us in Mark 16:15 to *"Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation"*; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of people in America are aging and unable to attend church; and WHEREAS, Worship Anew is uniquely positioned for this very time to share the proclamation of God's Word with the homebound; and

WHEREAS, Worship Anew will reach millions of homes each week in the United States with the bold proclamation of our Lutheran doctrine through the use of broadcast television and the internet; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$100,000 to help fund **Reaching the Homebound with God's Word.**

33. Showing God's Love in the International District, Albuquerque, New Mexico God Cares About You Mission \$98,000

Albuquerque's International District is home to an ethnically diverse and disadvantaged population with a high crime rate. God Cares About You Mission, which is supported by nine area Lutheran churches, is transforming lives both now and for eternity. Their outreach includes a clothing bank, children's ministry, food bank, back-to-work program, Christian fellowship, meals, Bible studies, worship services, street evangelism, and counseling. Currently, the programs are only offered three days a week and they want to expand to six days. With this expansion, they need to add a services director and kitchen manager to better manage the programs offered. Help is sought for their salaries. With the funds from this grant, God Cares About You can expand their ministry and reach more with Christ's love.

WHEREAS, *"And the King will answer them, '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); and

WHEREAS, Albuquerque's International District is one of the poorest and most crime-ridden neighborhoods of the city; and
WHEREAS, Lutheran congregations in Albuquerque have come together to sponsor "God Cares About You," changing lives now and for eternity; and
WHEREAS, "God Cares About You" has an active adult and children's ministry, serving the most vulnerable of God's people in the International District; people who often go hungry, do not have clothing or the barest of essentials to stay alive, many due to addictions; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$98,000 to help fund **Showing God's Love in the International District, Albuquerque, New Mexico.**

34. Enhancing Multi-ethnic Mission Effectiveness LINC Ministries \$98,093

Lutheran Intercity Network Coalition (LINC) Ministries is a multi-congregational LCMS effort to reach ethnically changing neighborhoods in metropolitan areas that are underserved and unreached by the LCMS. LINC has a proven track record of engaging, equipping, and empowering local ministry leaders for multiethnic effectiveness. Those leaders impact their communities through the Gospel, by sharing their faith in Jesus Christ, through word and action, with people of their neighborhoods. This grant would fund a half-time City Specialist who will assist local ministry leaders with the leadership and ministry development and coaching in the newly launched LINC Chicago and LINC Seattle/Tacoma communities.

WHEREAS, many LCMS churches in urban areas are dying or are functionally dead; and
WHEREAS, the community and culture around those churches has changed and continues to evolve, and congregational leaders do not know how to effectively contextualize the Gospel in the new realities; and
WHEREAS, LINC Ministries has developed a robust system of more than 20 culturally-sensitive leadership competency training experiences, a network of trained mentors and coaches, and a myriad of print, digital, and application-based tools, which equip church members and leaders to enhance their mission effectiveness by actively engaging their geographic community, raising and developing leaders from within their geographic community, and sacrificially caring for their geographic community in the name of Jesus; and
WHEREAS, LINC Ministries has a proven track record of engaging, equipping, and empowering ministry leaders for multiethnic mission effectiveness and is now staffed and ready to deploy in both Chicago and Seattle/Tacoma where the needs and opportunity are great; therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 2021 Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention scheduled for Lexington, Kentucky, vote the sum of \$98,093 to help fund **Enhancing Multi-ethnic Mission Effectiveness.**

*This grant proposal includes an LCMS Mission Advancement fee established by LCMS Board of Directors policy. This is a percentage of the proposed grant amount, allocated to fund the engagement and service of contributors who make charitable donations supporting LCMS mission and ministry.