2021–2023 Biennium Mission Goal: \$2,150,000

Mission Grant #28 **\$70,208**

Pray for the Hmong people as they hear and learn about Jesus in their native language through St. Paul Hmong Outreach Ministries.

Prayer #1

Lord, we thank and praise You for bringing the Hmong people to the United States. Shine Your light and reveal Your Holy Word to them in their native language. Turn their heart and souls away from their animist religion and ancestor/spirit worship. Help them come to know and trust in You as their Savior and Lord. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayer #2

Heavenly Father, continue to bless the Hmong Language School and its outreach. Bless the use of the grant funds so that programs started in Merced can expand to other congregations located in Hmong population areas. Send Your Holy Spirit to dwell among the Hmong people. Open their hearts to respond to the Gospel message so that they too may receive forgiveness through Your suffering and death on the cross and become children of God. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayer #3

Lord, thank You for the blessing of language and the written Word that helps us learn about Your love, forgiveness, grace, and mercy. Thank You for the ministry and outreach of the Hmong Language School and New Year's Festivals as they sow the seeds of the Gospel message in the Hmong language. Thank You for the blessing of multigenerational families who are coming to know the truth, and are set free from the bondage of Satan, animistic religion, and ancestor/spirit worship. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayer #4

Dear Jesus, thank You for pastors, vicars, servant leaders, and faithful Christians who are willing to share Your story of salvation with the Hmong people in their own language. Lord, shine Your light on the Hmong people so they can know and receive Your grace, joy, peace, and freedom from the bonds of Satan and animistic religion of ancestor/spirit driven worship. In Your name we pray. Amen.



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CUT OR FOLD THIS LWML PRAYER GUIDE ON THE DASHED LINE AND KEEP IN YOUR BIBLES FOR DAILY MISSION SUPPORT REMINDERS.



Changing Lives — Christ-Centered Materials in the Hmong Language

Christ-Centered Materials for Hmong Language School and Outreach St. Paul Hmong Outreach Ministries— \$70,208

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined (Isaiah 9:2).

An outreach ministry to the Hmong people began fifteen years ago at St. Paul Lutheran in Merced, California. Their goal is to "prepare God's people for works of service, so the body of Christ may be built up." (Ephesians 4:12). They are building up the body of Christ through leadership training, church planting, and mentoring pastors, vicars, servant leaders, and Christians who participate in outreach ministry to the Hmong people. Outreach ministry includes the Hmong Language School, participation in Hmong New Year's festival, and providing Christ centered resources in their own language.

The Hmong people came to the United States as refugees after serving alongside the United States during the Vietnam War. They settled in California, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Eighty-five percent of the Hmong people are animists. In their religion, Hmong Spiritism, they believe spiritual powers are inherited in all things, living and non-living. They practice shamanism and praise the spirits of their ancestors but not the Creator. They offer animal sacrifices. People who are influenced by Spiritism are afflicted, oppressed, and live in constant fear. Only God's grace and mercy, through faith in Jesus with the power of the Holy Spirit can break Satan's bondage.

The Hmong Language School reaches out to the Hmong community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their own language. A strong cultural pressure exists for all family members to speak and read the language. The Hmong Language School teaches Hmong to speak and read their own language. The teaching materials are Biblical materials translated into Hmong. The students learn to speak and read and then share with older family members in their home. The Word spreads to the extended family

The tradition of soul calling and celebrating the New Year has been practiced for centuries by the Hmong. It is believed that a person's soul may have wandered off, gotten lost, or could not find its way back to unite with its own body during the past year. During the New Year's celebration, the soul is called to return to the body. The festival celebration brings thousands of Hmong together. The Hmong Christians in Merced sponsor a booth at the festival and share Jesus with the people. They distribute Hmong Christian materials including Divine Drama, Arch Books, Children's Garden Bible Stories, the Small Catechism, and information about the Hmong Language School and its activities.

There are also large populations of Hmong people in Minnesota and Wisconsin. LCMS churches in these states are asking for assistance in implementation of the Hmong Language School programs. With money from this grant Hmong Outreach, started in Merced, California, can expand to other congregations and districts.

Learn more about this mission grant at lwml.org/mission-grants

