

# June 2016

## PRAYER GUIDE FOR LWML MISSION GRANTS

Prayers for: "Helping Hands" Initiative

### PRAYER #1

Heavenly Father, we ask You to bless the work of those involved in the Helping Hands Initiative as they repair homes and bring the Word of Christ to others. There are so many in need and You have directed us to serve one another in love. *"So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."* (Gal. 6:10). In Jesus' name. Amen.

### PRAYER #2

Almighty God, help us to remember all those people in our communities that are so easy to forget; the elderly, the disabled, the poor and those without families. Help us to identify and reach out to them to improve their lives and share Christ with them through the work of the "Helping Hands" Initiative. Give them all newly repaired homes and new lives in Christ. Grant this Father, for the love of Your Son, Jesus Christ. In His name we pray. Amen.

### PRAYER #3

Lord, You have commanded us to serve others as it says in Matthew 20:28, *"even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve ..."* Grant that we may also serve; whether it is with our mites, our labor, or our prayers, to help those who are unable to repair their homes. Bless the work of the "Helping Hands" Initiative. We pray this in the name of Your Holy Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### PRAYER #4

Dear God, there are so many people in our communities that are unable either physically or financially to repair their homes. Through this grant, we can restore their houses and bring the good news of Christ's love and salvation to them. Bless all involved in this important work that they may be living proof of Your mercy. Hear our prayer in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

[www.lwml.org/missions](http://www.lwml.org/missions)

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

# MISSION GRANT STORY

## "HELPING HANDS" INITIATIVE \$100,000

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) National Housing Support Corporation (NHSC) has been working throughout the United States for seven years. As a wholly owned subsidiary of the LCMS, their mission is to rehab the homes of those low-income, disabled, and/or elderly residents who live near LCMS churches and whose home repairs have become critical. The funds from this LWML grant will be crucial to their work. The initiative has proven to be a vital tool in enabling local LCMS congregations to reach out to their neighbors with physical assistance and spiritual restoration through the Word of God.

The homes of these families are selected based on need (as identified by municipal code violations). Helping Hands asks the partner congregations to locate these homeowners; recruit volunteers for both physical work and paper work; approve a final list of families to be assisted; act as the contact for coordination of the projects; and follow-up with the families inviting them to participate in church activities and give spiritual support.

Many groups are involved in making Helping Hands a success. These include NHSC, Laborers for Christ, Lutheran Social Services, local community agencies such as community development groups, and most important, the local congregational members. Our mite offerings adding up to this \$100,000 grant will play a big role in the success of their work.

Helping Hands plans to repair 10 homes with this \$100,000 grant based on their past experience with the project in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This includes construction materials, fees for Laborers for Christ and RV parking, construction materials and funds for financial literacy training for the recipients which would be continued through congregational volunteers.

At the heart of this mission grant are four central values. These include: their work is Christ-centered and filled with the Grace of God; they are committed to spiritual and profession growth of their workers and the welfare of the congregations they serve; they pursue collaboration with other individuals, congregations and organization who share their passion to serve; and they believe that showing mercy through their service to others is a true reflection of the mercy God shows us.

Read more at <http://www.nationalhousingsupport.org/2016/04/11/nhsc-awards-helping-hand-initiative-grants/>

