

July 2016

PRAYER GUIDE FOR LWML MISSION GRANTS

Prayers for: Rosa Young Academies & After School Programs

PRAYER #1

Dear Heavenly Father, All glory and honor to You, Lord, for calling Rosa Young to be a dedicated Christian woman who, through her outreach, brought many people into the Lutheran Church. Many of her students entered pastoral and teaching ministries, thereby extending mission work throughout the United States. May we learn from her example and, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, vigorously share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others. In the holy name of Your Son, our Savior, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER #2

God, You have called us to be Yours, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you” and You have prepared our direction, “For I know the plans I have for you...to give you hope and a future” (Jeremiah). Help us to answer Your call and follow Your plans by supporting the Rosa J. Young Academies and After School Programs, which, through Your Word and the Holy Spirit, the means of grace can make new believers by providing positive life-changing spiritual and character building programs. It is in Jesus’ name that we pray. Amen.

PRAYER #3

Oh Blessed Trinity, We give You praise and thanksgiving for the opportunities You provide for us to share the Gospel of Christ and the confessional teachings of the LCMS. Some people today live in a fog of ignorance and avoidance because of the difference of race in our cultural society and in the church. Help us to overcome that fog, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and reach out in support of initiatives like the Rosa Young Academies and After School Program where new generations for future education and Gospel outreach will be started. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER #4

Lord, Open our eyes and direct our paths to follow the calling You have given us. Where we have been given the opportunity to help provide children with safe environments, education and spiritual growth, lead us to respond generously with our mite offerings and prayers. We acknowledge that the Rosa Young Initiative will offer these things, as well as provide times to grow in Your Word, participate in life-changing spiritual and character building programs, and serve healthy meals and teach healthy life skills and habits. We thank You for the work being done in Your name, and for the opportunity we have been given to support it. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

www.lwml.org/missions

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AND KEEP PRAYER GUIDE IN YOUR BIBLES
FOR DAILY MISSION SUPPORT REMINDERS.

MISSION GRANT STORY

ROSA YOUNG ACADEMIES & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS \$25,000

Rosa J. Young was born in 1890 to ordinary black/African-American parents. However, she did not let her race define her. She let her Christian faith define who she was, and so her Lutheran faith is the center of her legacy. She was instrumental in the founding and development of 30 Lutheran elementary schools and 35 Lutheran congregations throughout Alabama. With funding from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), she ultimately started what is today Concordia College, located in Selma, Alabama.

By God’s grace in Jesus Christ, the pioneer outreach led by Rosa Young brought many people into the Lutheran Church during the last century, and many of the students entered pastoral and teaching ministries. The number of African-Americans in the LCMS has been declining steadily in the last generation necessitating worthy models of Christian ministry and vocation to inspire young people to embrace church careers.

The Rosa J. Young (RJY) Academies & After School Programs Initiative is collaborating with existing congregations that have recently closed their schools to create new academies and after school tutorial/mentoring and spiritual growth programs to enhance children and families educationally and spiritually. The collaboration also extends to struggling schools to help them become effective and productive schools. In urban and rural communities where no LCMS school exists, the intent is to start new schools and after school programs for the purpose of founding new mission congregations.

A desired outcome is to inspire revitalization of congregations in Black Ministry as the Holy Spirit through the means of grace makes new believers from these academies and after school tutorial and mentoring opportunities within the LCMS.

The Rosa Young Initiative will provide children with a safe environment for education and spiritual growth; supply the opportunity to worship together and grow in the Word of God; witness to one another of God’s love, mercy and grace; encourage participation in positive life-changing spiritual and character building programs; offer healthy nutritious meals and teach healthy eating habits; and counsel in learning healthy life skills using arts, drama/plays, sports and other programs to encourage healthy living habits.

