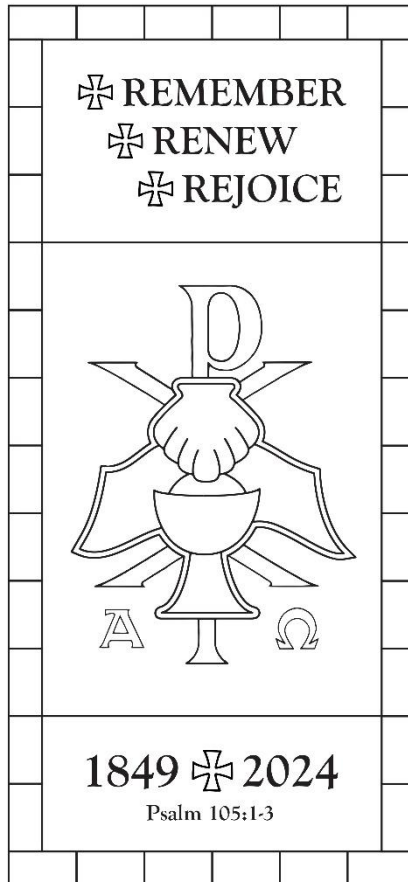


# 175th Anniversary Mission Project Offering



**SAINT JOHN**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FLATROCK

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For almost 175 years the members of St. John (Flatrock) have tried to be faithful stewards of God's abundant gifts. The overwhelming use of these gifts has been to provide a beautiful place to worship God and provide spiritual food for our members and to provide a Christian, quality education for our members children as well as others in our community. In Acts 1:8 Jesus tells his disciples, “. . . and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth”. As part of our 175th celebration, the church council and voters assembly approved adopting a local, regional, and international need outside of our immediate family to help carry out this mission.

### **LOCAL MISSION**

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Student Aid

### **REGIONAL MISSION**

Outreach Kentucky mission project of the Indiana District  
in Richmond Kentucky

### **INTERNATIONAL MISSION**

Concordia Pastoral and Diaconal Training Program  
Tanzania

A description of each is below. Please consider supporting this outreach effort by using the yellow envelopes designated as “175th Anniversary Mission Project Offering”.

#### **Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Student Aid**

Website: <https://www.ctsfw.edu/>

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, (CSTSFW) after years of careful planning and preparation is now able through the Student Aid Fund to cover tuition and books, room and board, fees, and other student support for students enrolled in the residential Master of Divinity (M. Div.) program (Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, has the same program). Continued financial support is required to continue this program. The purpose of this financial support program is to assist the men who will be called as Pastors in our LCMS church body so that they do not have an education

debt that is overly burdensome. Our support of the financial assistance program at CTSFW is an important way for us to help prepare men to serve as Pastors.

## **Outreach Kentucky**

Website: <https://in.lcms.org/outreach-kentucky/>

Outreach Kentucky is a mission church plant project established by the Indiana District a number of years ago. Fund-raising for this project was approved by the District's Board of Directors. Richmond, Kentucky, is the location of this mission work. Richmond is the third largest city in the bluegrass region of Kentucky, following Louisville and Lexington. Richmond is the seventh largest city in the whole state of Kentucky (over 20,000 residents) and is the home of Eastern Kentucky University. The nearest LCMS congregation to Richmond is 25 miles away in Lexington. The Indiana District signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lexington, Kentucky, for this work; Good Shepherd is the calling congregation. Good Shepherd is committed to paying 40% of the salary and expenses of the missionary pastor and the Indiana District pays 60%. In May 2022 the first pastor was called and served for a period of time before the need to resign the call. A call meeting was held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Monday, January 8, for the purpose of calling another pastor.

Richmond has been growing steadily in population since 2000. Approximately 61% of the population in Madison County, home to Richmond, reports an un-claimed religious status. That means that they claim no affiliation with any religion of any type.

Richmond, Kentucky, is home to Eastern Kentucky University, with an enrollment in 2022 of almost 14,500 students. So not only is Richmond a good possibility for a new mission start, but it also has the added benefit of a potential Campus Ministry start as well.

Financial assistance is needed to continue this important mission work in Richmond.

## **Concordia Pastoral and Diaconal Training Program-Tanzania**

Since 2013 the LCMS; Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne; the Mid-south District; the Indiana District; and St. John Lutheran Church (Bingen), Decatur, Indiana, have collaborated to support the theological education and confessional identity of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania–Southeast of Lake Victoria Diocese (ELCT–SELVD) through a program now called “Concordia Pastoral and Diaconal Training Program.” The SELVD continues to grow rapidly through both the baptism of babies and evangelism efforts, and they are ever in need of more solidly trained pastors to preach the Word of God in truth and purity and administer the Sacraments according to Christ’s institution as well as deaconesses who are sent to show the compassion and care of Christ’s mercy to the world. Caring for vulnerable children comprises a significant aspect of this mercy work, and three children’s homes are now complete on the campus of Mwadui Lutheran Secondary School with the support of OIM, LCEF, and St John (Bingen). Many children have been welcomed to these homes already, where deaconesses serve as house mothers, and the children are well provided with all that they need for both their bodies and souls. Many of these children suffer from albinism, more common in the SELVD region than elsewhere in the world. This condition makes the children targets of tribal beliefs and pagan practices that consider their body parts, when possessed as an amulet or charm, to possess magical powers that will make one rich, successful, and powerful. Thanks be to God the children at these homes in Mwadui are well-protected, received, and welcomed as the precious gifts of God they are, and nurtured in both their physical needs and in the fear and instruction of the Lord. Additional children will be welcomed as sufficient, sustainable support becomes available, and together with our Tanzania brothers and sisters in Christ, we give thanks to God for the privilege of participating in this incredible work of our gracious and merciful Lord.