

## LWML CNH MISSION GRANTS 2024-26

### Ballot Summary

#### **A. Spruce Up the Classrooms (\$3,825)**

Grace Lutheran Preschool, Modesto, CA, Zone 3

Grace Lutheran Preschool in Modesto, CA, has been providing Christian education since 1982, and currently educates 75 young children each year. By now, the preschool facilities need care to continue to be safe and attractive to the families and children they serve. Children are the future of our church. The grant will provide for painting the interior walls and installing needed cabinets in the three classrooms.

#### **B. A Return to Senior Outreach in Hayward, CA (\$4,000)**

Calvary Lutheran LWML Society, San Lorenzo, CA, Zone 2

Calvary Lutheran has a history of reaching out to engage older adults in Gospel outreach. Calvary has worked with the over 200 residents of Wittenberg Manor (a low-income senior housing complex), to help reach Christians disconnected from church. Covid interrupted their outreach efforts. They are again reaching out to the current residents. The housing complex has had a cultural shift in the population, as most of the residents are now from a non-Christian background. This grant will help the ministry of prayer and presence by funding special events with food, resource materials, and communication to this diverse population.

#### **C. Windows for God's Children (\$10,400)**

Zion Lutheran Church, Terra Bella, CA

Zion Church and School in Terra Bella, CA, has a rich history since 1909 of reaching people for Christ in their surrounding rural communities. Many sons and daughters of Zion have gone on to serve in the preaching and teaching ministries of LCMS. Zion recently had to put new roofs on the facilities and repair the parsonage and teacherage, but they need to address the aging 70-year-old windows. The classroom windows allow triple digit summer heat and winter frost to enter the classrooms. Zion has tried many ways to regulate the temperature in the rooms, but need new windows so that students can concentrate on their studies and remain healthy. This grant would pay for those windows and prevent illness of students and lead to an improved classroom environment.

#### **D. HUG Preschool (\$9,600)**

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, San Francisco, CA

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit's preschool HUG - "Help U Grow", since 2018 has worked to connect parents of the students with other parents and church members. Because of the pandemic, the school started family nights over zoom, where families could learn a new skill, connect with church leaders, and be connected with the other families. The grant will provide needed funds to continue this connection in-person through meals, fellowship, and educational support. It will also support the ongoing relationships with families after their children have left the preschool program by allowing them to meet consistently and connect them to the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. This unique program is bearing fruit and needs to continue.

**E. Zion Lutheran Preschool Tuition Scholarship (\$9,200)**

Zion Lutheran Preschool, San Luis Obispo, CA, Zone 9

Zion Lutheran Church in San Luis Obispo, CA, is starting a preschool program to reach children age 18 months to 5-year-olds, in order to provide them with a Christian education. As part of the outreach to the community, they would like to provide a one-year scholarship for a child from a deserving family. A one-year tuition scholarship will provide financial respite for a family, diversity in the classroom, a quality early childhood education, and a year-round opportunity to share the Gospel with children and their families.

**F. Enriching Young Hearts with Enduring Faith (\$5,000)**

St. Paul Lutheran Ministries, Merced, CA

St. Paul Lutheran School aims to enhance the spiritual education of their students by beginning a project to provide the students with Bibles, Bible curriculum, and Confirmation materials and offer some scholarships to the school. By providing these resources, they hope to give these students the chance to receive a quality education grounded in Christian principles which will further God's ministry.

**G. Wrap Them in God's Love (\$3,100)**

Grace Lutheran San Mateo, CA, Zone 8

Grace Lutheran Church of San Mateo, CA, has had a quilt ministry since 1924, providing quilts to the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch (RSO) and adult and baby quilts to Seminary and Deaconess students. Costs are high to send the quilts out, and this grant would fund some shipping, as well as augment the funds for fabric, backing sheets, batting, and thread, so that the quilting group can continue this ministry.

**H. Sow to Reap - Monterey Youth Ministry (\$7,000)**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Monterey, CA

Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Monterey, CA, and Faith Lutheran Church in Seaside, CA, are working together to establish and build a Youth Ministry program to serve the youth of the 4 area Lutheran churches of the Monterey Peninsula. Youth ministry has been absent for the past 25 years. The grant will enable these two organizer churches to hire a part time Youth Director for three months, fund technology and space needs, and provide for expenses of monthly meetings, outreach events, Bible/Catechism material, and family activities, so that youth and families hear the Gospel and enter into fellowship with church members. Youth ministry plays a critical role in developing the church leaders of tomorrow. This program is in the pilot stages and needs grant funds to keep developing the programs.

**I. CONSTRUCTION ZONE: LINC Youth Ministry Training (\$7,500)**

LINC Bay Area (RSO), Hayward, CA

Children of immigrants often don't see how they fit in the church of their parents. This grant will expand LINC Bay Area's efforts to train 15 local immigrant churches to run effective children's and youth ministries so that in the future, these children won't leave the church, they'll lead it. (LINC Bay Area continues the work of planting churches that are led by culturally diverse leaders ministering to immigrant families from the same culture and language group.)

**J. Tuition Assistance for Grace Christian School (\$10,150)**

Grace Lutheran Church and School, Visalia, CA

Grace Christian School of Visalia, CA, has been serving the community since 1977. The school currently teaches children kindergarten through 8th grade. Due to variability in enrollment numbers and some policies that affect tuition, they are currently in need of additional funding to partially pay tuition for students so that they can continue their Christian education.

**K. Outreach to Chico State/Butte College Students (\$4,850)**

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, Chico, CA

The proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to young college students is vital yet has often been overlooked especially to state run colleges. This congregation is well-situated to embark upon works of service to young Christians and non-Christians at Chico State and Butte College. This will be accomplished through the Divine Services, Bible studies, fellowship meetings, retreats, seminars, and other activities to fulfill their spiritual needs. The church has called a 2013 Seminary graduate who is re-starting this campus ministry. Grant funds will help inject needed operating funds.

**L. Know. Like. Trust. Outreach (\$10,000)**

Good Shepherd Church, Hayward, CA

Good Shepherd Lutheran is a congregation of immigrants and working-class families and does not have a large budget to fund their Kingdom dream. The staff and a charter school's after-school program on their campus have begun to build relationships and establish trust with the student body and their families. To share the Good News of Jesus Christ with the unchurched, funds are needed for event supplies/materials, training, Bibles, Catechism books, and staff leadership development (skills training). The grant will provide the needed start-up funds to reignite this ministry.

**M. Hindu Mission Outreach (\$8,390)**

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, Livermore, CA

The Bay Area is home to a growing population of Hindu adherents. As a worldview, Hinduism presents a challenge for the average Lutheran church member who seeks to understand their Hindu neighbors and co-workers. To present the Gospel well, the cultural and religious context of those we desire to reach must be understood. This grant will serve as a three year start up for equipping LCMS congregations in the Bay Area and beyond to reach their Hindu neighbors with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**N. "1 in Every One" New CNH Missions and Ministries (\$8,500)**

CNH District Mission Agency, Livermore, CA

In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 "Spark Grants" as part of the mission goal.

**O. Maui Storms of Life Scholarship (\$9,300)**

LWML Zone 12, North Sacramento, CA

Emmanuel Lutheran School in Maui, HI, which is serving people in the aftermath of the wildfires, realizes that all sorts of tragedies occur in life without warning to families of their students. Often when these various tragedies occur the families cannot afford to continue paying tuition. This grant would establish a fund for parents so that their children may continue their Lutheran education without a major financial burden.

**P. Bringing the Gospel to Mexico Missions (\$5,000)**

Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care (RSO), El Paso, TX

The Ysleta Lutheran Mission serves El Paso, Texas and Juarez, Mexico, serving both sides of the US/Mexico border with clothing, food, medical supplies, and the Word of our Lord. They serve Juarez, Mexico, with 5 mission projects, including worship and meal programs. This grant will further evangelism efforts in this poverty-stricken area, by supporting the purchase of child and adult Spanish Bibles, and Christian literature and song books.

**Q. Feeding Seminary Families (\$3,000)**

Concordia Theological Seminary Food and Clothing Co-op, Fort Wayne, IN

The Food and Clothing Co-op on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary plays a key role in helping students feed and clothe their families during their seminary years, when they have great expenses yet limited income. The Seminary seeks to reduce the financial burden on the Seminarians by providing access to a Food Co-op. This Food Co-op currently supplies between 80%-90% of all family's food needs at no cost to the student, relying on donations from individuals, congregations and LWML. The grant funds will help to purchase basic fresh food, such as eggs, ground beef, milk, fruit and vegetables, so that the students and their families thrive during their educational term.

**R. Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide (\$5,000)**

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO

Concordia Seminary continues to fund advanced level theological studies for international students from developing nations so that they can serve as seminary professors in their home environments. The grant would pay for some of the education costs of international students to further the Great Commission and provide for future church leadership.

**S. Seeing Christ's Light Amid Visual Darkness (\$2,500)**

Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) – RSO of the LCMS

Visual impairment affects 32.2 million adult Americans and reduces their access to written Scripture. In California alone, 797,000 people are blind or have visual impairment. Through this grant, Lutheran Braille Workers' volunteers at the three ministry production centers within the LCMS CNH District will have the opportunity to share the Gospel with people who are visually impaired by producing and distributing free Christian materials in a Specialized Large Print format recipients can see and read. This grant purchases printing supplies.

**T. Lutheran Books to Tell a New Generation in S.E. Asia (\$2,500)**

The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (RSO), Macomb, MI

Millions of Southeast Asians and CNH Asian Immigrants are living in the spiritual darkness of Buddhism or atheism; 3.3 million immigrants from China, Japan, and Southeast Asia live in the LCMS CNH District. LHF has published catechism books in over 30 Southeast Asian languages and translated *A Child's Garden of Bible Stories* into 19 Southeast Asian languages. For just \$5/book, Lutheran Heritage Foundation translates and prints Lutheran books about Jesus into Asian languages for our CNH multicultural district. These books are free to the ministries that need them.

**U. Gospel Outreach to Sri Lanka (\$3,000)**

Lutheran Hour Ministries (RSO), St. Louis, MO

Lutheran Hour Ministries bring the Gospel to people in Sri Lanka, through radio programming in Tamil and Sinhalese languages, digital outreach, and by outreach training. Despite the current challenges of sharing Christ's love with people in a non-Christian country, and with the help of local churches, they outreach to adults and youth by offering courses on witnessing and Bible studies. This grant would help these ministries feed the spiritually hungry of Sri Lanka.

**V. Walking Together in Mission Field - Alliance Missionaries (\$2,500)**

LCMS Office of International Mission, St. Louis, MO

The LCMS office of International Mission searches for pastors from partner churches to serve as Alliance Missionaries, to bring the Gospel to people in Africa, Asia, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. This grant will add support for Alliance Missionaries working alongside and together with LCMS Missionaries, complementing and strengthening each other as they spread the Gospel and show mercy to hurting people.

**W. Missional Leadership Development - Sending Students (\$4,500)**

MOST Ministries (RSO), Ann Arbor, MI

This MOST Ministries project is designed to encourage students to share the Gospel in word and deed with impoverished people around the world. It will provide financial support to 4 students who join a MOST Ministries mission team, paying for up to \$1,500 of the cost of the trip. It will encourage the personal faith development of mission team members, fostering a heart for missions and service, and it will encourage the development of future leaders of our LCMS churches and organizations.

**X. Ministry Scholarships for Shepherd's Canyon Retreat (\$4,000)**

Shepherd's Canyon Retreat (RSO), Wickenburg, AZ

Shepherd's Canyon Retreat continues to do the work of encouragement and counseling for ministry workers who are in stages of burnout, stress, depression, or compassion fatigue or in conflicts, with the aim to help them stay in ministry. The grant will provide this RSO with ministry scholarships, enabling ministry workers to get the care they need to continue their missional work.