Which Mission Grant Proposals Received Funds in 2014-2016 Biennium?
There is one mission grant proposal that is the same mission grant that was funded in the 2014-2016 biennium: #23 – Trinity/HOPE – Feeding Program in Haiti.

There is a part of one mission grant proposal that has received funds in the 2014-2016 biennium: #13 – Lutheran Indian Ministries – Support of Natives on the Olympic Peninsula. The Hope House part of the mission grant proposal received the funds.

What is a Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS)?
Many of our proposed mission grants for funding consideration at the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District Convention in June 2016 are listed as being a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of LCMS.

RSOs are 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations that are independent of LCMS, but operate ministry programs that foster the mission of the church. These organizations reach out in mercy and love to meet the needs of those who are suffering, poor, sick or lonely. They address human, social, economic, educational and spiritual needs. The LCMS works with independent RSOs that agree to ensure their programs are in harmony with the doctrine and practice of the LCMS.

The LCMS began recognizing service organizations in 1979, and currently works with 181 organizations. RSOs can issue a call for ordained and commissioned pastors on the LCMS roster, use the LCMS logo, apply for loans through the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, seek LCMS grants, and participate in the Concordia Health Plan and the LCMS Group Purchasing Agreement.
Lutheran Women’s Missionary League  
Washington-Alaska District  
2016-2018 Mission Grant Proposals

1. Aid to Washington-Alaska District Scholarship Fund  $19,000

The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District has previously had a grant proposal for a limited number of seminary students each biennium, with each student receiving a grant ranging from $2,000 to $4,000 over a two-year period. Now, seminary students, along with other students attending our Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) seminaries and universities can apply for a scholarship by completing the application forms through the Scholarship Committee. By awarding this grant, the monies from mite funds will be directly transferred to the Scholarship Fund on a regular basis. These funds along with monies directly given to the Scholarship Fund, will be awarded by the Scholarship Committee on an annual basis in amounts determined by the Committee under the direction of the Mission Grants Committee and The Board of Directors. These funds are for any student studying full-time church work, who are enrolled in one of the LCMS universities and colleges.

WHEREAS Jesus has commanded the disciples to, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20); AND

WHEREAS the Washington-Alaska District has many students who have obeyed God’s command and are currently enrolled in LCMS seminaries and universities; AND

WHEREAS financial assistance is needed to meet the cost of living expenses, books, food, and other living expenses while preparing for full-time ministry; AND

WHEREAS The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod has a shortage of pastors and church workers, so it is in the best interests of all members of the Synod to encourage and provide as much assistance as possible to alleviate this shortage; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $19,000 to add to the LWML Washington-Alaska District Scholarship Fund to be distributed by the Scholarship Committee to students from our district who are studying to be pastors, deaconesses, Directors of Christian Education, teachers, and other ministry positions in the LCMS.

2. Bethesda Lutheran Communities Auxiliary – “The Christ Connection – A Prayer Book for Group or Personal Prayer”  $4,000

Recognized Service Organization of LCMS

The Christ Connection prayer book is a project of Bethesda Auxiliary written for all ages and groups. It is specifically written at three levels of understanding for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Christ Connection also includes devotions on the P.R.A.Y. model (Praise, Repent, Ask (with thanksgiving), and say Yes to God’s will), comments on the reasoning behind prayer, a spot to write personal prayers or reflections, and an audio component. The audio prayers CD will be attached to the book and each topic will be included. The audio will also include The Lord’s Prayer, some of Martin Luther’s prayers, and a few psalms.

WHEREAS God’s Word tells us in Luke 11:1a “…one of Jesus’ disciples said to Him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray’.” and in Philippians 4:6, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God”; AND

WHEREAS people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are often overlooked and underserved by our congregations; AND
WHEREAS 90% of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are not part of a Christian congregation and are missing out on the wonderful Gospel message and learning to pray to their Heavenly Father in Jesus’ name; AND
WHEREAS Bethesda Auxiliary has taken on the funding of Bethesda Lutheran Communities’ production of *The Christ Connection – A Prayer Book for Group and Personal Prayer*; AND
WHEREAS the prayer book is written at three reading and comprehension levels, along with a CD for non-readers, to be user-friendly for more people including Bethesda’s staff and those with developmental disabilities they support, as well as those also living at home with their families, students and teachers in Lutheran schools, and those in Lutheran care facilities; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $4,000 to Bethesda Auxiliary to fund the publication and distribution in the Washington-Alaska District of 400 or more copies of *The Christ Connection – A Prayer Book for Group and Personal Prayer* for use by people of ALL abilities.

3. Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church, Seattle, Washington $6,000

Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church reaches out to bring the saving message of the Gospel to the growing ethnic community of Ethiopian and Eritrean people in the Seattle metro area. The average attendance for weekly services is 60 or more worshippers. There is a community of older Ethiopians and Eritreans who are isolated by language. The Church would like to begin to provide a ministry to these people with Bible study and fellowship. They presently have ten bibles in the Amharic language but need many more.

WHEREAS Christ commands us in His Word to reach out and share His Word to all the world; AND
WHEREAS we are called to be witnesses where God has placed us in our communities; AND
WHEREAS the people that we are serving need to experience the Holy Scriptures in their own language; AND
WHEREAS the Bible written in the Amharic language is a valuable resource; AND
WHEREAS the Ethiopian and Eritrean communities, that Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church is serving, need to have access to this resource; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $6,000 to enable the Amharic language Bible to be distributed and available in the Ethiopian and Eritrean communities for worship at Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church in Seattle.

4. Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church, Seattle, Washington – Children’s Ministry $1,500

Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church reaches out to bring the saving message of the Gospel to the growing ethnic community of Ethiopian and Eritrean people in the Seattle metro area. The average attendance for weekly services is 60 or more worshippers. The Church is now offering a Sunday School for 15 to 20 children each Sunday. They serve many more children during their three-day evangelical conferences. Materials needed and hoped for include a TV and DVD player, as well as instructional videos and books to aid in teaching the children.

WHEREAS Christ beckons the children to come unto Him; AND
WHEREAS we are called to follow Christ’s example in everything we do; AND
WHEREAS Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church is serving a growing number of children in its Sunday School and outreach evangelical conferences; AND
WHEREAS resources are needed to facilitate teaching and sharing God’s Word with the children in a way that is meaningful to them; THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $1,500 to purchase a TV, DVD player, videos, and books to facilitate the teaching of God’s Word to the children at Christ the Son of God Lutheran Church in Seattle in their Sunday School and at evangelical conferences.

5. Espwa Berlancia Medical Transportation, Haiti

Espwa Berlancia is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to serving the women and children of Haiti. From the pregnancy partnership program to the short term foster care program and providing HIV testing supplies to several local clinics, Espwa Berlancia is dedicated to those they serve through the humility and love of Jesus Christ. They believe in family first and strive to provide respectful and quality medical care to prevent infant and maternal death. Funds will be used to purchase a vehicle that will be used for the work of Espwa Berlancia, specifically for emergency medical transportation and transportation to and from mobile clinics. A vehicle will enable Espwa Berlancia to offer transportation to the most vulnerable patients. Many of the women and children in the programs live several hours from the closest hospital. This vehicle will be instrumental in saving lives. Often Espwa Berlancia mothers have pregnancy or delivery complications that are life threatening. This vehicle will allow the organization to transport women to medical care who would otherwise have no way to access a hospital or clinic. This vehicle will also be used to transport children, specifically children who are suffering from severe malnutrition, who do not have the strength to survive two plus days that it takes to reach a treatment center via public transport bus. This vehicle will be used to save many, many precious lives in Haiti!

WHEREAS Jesus Christ in His Holy Word, in James 1: 27, commands us to care for orphans and widows in their distress; AND

WHEREAS providing adequate medical care for women, ensures they live to care for their children, preventing new orphans; AND

WHEREAS the families that are served live too remotely to benefit from organized medical care; AND

WHEREAS providing the organization with a reliable vehicle to transport complicated cases to local clinics and hospital guarantees their access to emergency health care; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $7,000 to enable this vehicle purchase.

6. Family Promise of Skagit Valley

The mission of Family Promise of Skagit Valley is to come together as a community to support homeless families as they work to provide their children with loving homes. There are 500 homeless students in Skagit Valley attending school every day. An estimate of another 500 homeless children are under the age of five. The vision of Family Promise of Skagit Valley is to mobilize the community to help low-income families achieve and sustain independence. Funds will be used for a Day Center and to provide assistance to families for obtaining housing, also for clothing, gas, and car maintenance.

WHEREAS God’s Holy Word tells us in Isaiah 58:7, that we should share our bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into our house; AND

WHEREAS Christians are necessary to the Church to carry out God’s command, “whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them.” Christians are commanded to care for the homeless, hungry, widows, and children; AND
WHEREAS by providing temporary housing and food to poor families, they are able to concentrate on getting jobs, housing, and education for the children. It gives Christians the opportunity to share the love of Jesus for all His children. Volunteers may be the only face of Jesus these families ever see; AND

WHEREAS Family Promise congregations give temporary housing and meals to homeless families who are struggling. It helps the community by providing children a warm place to live and regular meals, rather than on the streets or couch surfing. It also brings Christian churches in the community working together to really show Jesus’ love and share the Gospel through demonstrating acts of Christian compassion and caring; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,000 to enable Family Promise of Skagit Valley to operate the Day Center, to provide assistance to families for obtaining housing, assistance with first and last month rent, and damage deposits. This also provides the consistent schooling for over 500 children in Skagit Valley.

7. Guatemala Mission, Puerto Barrios, Guatemala $5,500

The goal of this mission is to serve the community by nourishing the spiritual, mental, and physical well-being of the children and families of Puerto Barrios. Funds will be used for construction of a community center. The community center will provide a space for religious worship as well as additional educational space to the existing schoolhouse. Lutheran Hour Ministries is facilitating the mission trip.

WHEREAS every child and family worldwide deserves the chance to encounter Christ in a safe environment;

AND

WHEREAS Christ calls us to love children by fostering their faith and serve not only local communities but communities worldwide;

AND

WHEREAS immersion experiences are proven to transform both those who serve and the partner communities who participate in the shared ministry;

AND

WHEREAS Concordia Lutheran Church’s college ministry, Lutheran Student Fellowship (LSF) and Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) continue their partnership in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala through children’s ministry, construction projects, and community outreach; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,500 to enable the construction and maintenance of a community center in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala.

8. Holiday Hospitality for the Homeless, Tacoma, Washington $2,000

Holiday Hospitality for the Homeless is an annual event in Tacoma, Washington. Area youth and members of the Puget Sound Youth Board, a ministry of the LCMS Northwest District, will purchase items and assemble hygiene kits for distribution. The goal is to make 400 kits. Funds will also be used to purchase groceries for the youth to make sandwiches, bake cookies, and make Bible blessing cards to give to the homeless at this event. This event not only helps the homeless, but gives the youth of local LCMS congregations an opportunity to serve.

WHEREAS God says in the Holy Scriptures, “Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord” (Proverbs 19:17a); AND

WHEREAS the youth of the greater Puget Sound area LCMS churches have an opportunity to serve the poor and homeless; AND

WHEREAS hygiene and food items are needed to distribute to the homeless and those in need; AND
WHEREAS members of the Puget Sound Youth Board plan Holiday Hospitality for the Homeless using food banks and outreach centers of the greater Tacoma area to serve those in need; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $2,000 to purchase hygiene items and groceries to enable more outreach for the needs of the homeless and the experience of Lutheran youth in the Puget Sound area.

9. Kitsap Rescue Mission – A Safe Harbor Campaign $5,000

Kitsap Rescue Mission exists to assist the homeless and poor of Kitsap County as they work toward restoration of body, mind, and spirit through Christ centered programs. The funds will help support the complete renovation of their building in order to expand recovery programs for men and women and enhance their ability to restore lives. The renovated facility will be able to accommodate thirty-six new beds for the homeless. The new kitchen will provide for on and off-site meal programs.

WHEREAS Christ commands us to love our neighbors. Also, Jesus, in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 25, describes His sheep as those who welcomed the needy. “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was in prison and you came to me.” We, as Christ’s sheep, are to care for the homeless; AND

WHEREAS Kitsap County has a need to complete a homeless shelter, especially for men; AND

WHEREAS Kitsap Rescue Mission needs additional funds to complete a homeless shelter for 36 beds where men, women, and also children can come to experience the hands and feet of Christ, through loving Christians; AND

WHEREAS Community of Christ at Memorial Lutheran Church is partnering with the Kitsap Rescue Mission to accomplish this task of renovating the homeless shelter; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,000 to assist the Kitsap Rescue Mission in renovating the 36 bed homeless shelter.

10. Lutheran Bible Translators, New Missionary Vehicle Fund $5,000

Recognized Service Organization of LCMS

The mission of Lutheran Bible Translators (LBT) is to make God’s Word accessible to those who do not yet have it in the language of their hearts. The purpose of the New Missionary Vehicle Fund is to ensure that funds are available to purchase the needed vehicles for new missionaries beginning their ministries in foreign lands. LBT anticipates four new missionary teams will begin foreign assignments during 2016-2018. LBT is the only translation agency working in these areas. In southern Africa, missionaries must cross trackless sand roads to reach village locations and engage the local people with the translation project. Village checking of the translation is critical for a smooth, understandable translation. Villagers are asked to participate in several ways depending on their skills. In West Africa heavy rains affect travel. One LBT missionary wrote “We need the four wheel drive capability because of rains and muddy, poorly maintained roads, or no roads at all!”

WHEREAS our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has commanded us to make disciples of all nations; AND

WHEREAS Lutheran Bible Translators is the only Lutheran organization whose purpose is to make God’s Word accessible to those who do not yet have it in the language of their hearts; AND

WHEREAS Lutheran Bible Translators is a Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod; AND

WHEREAS Lutheran Bible Translators works in partnership with and under the sponsorship of Lutheran
WHEREAS church bodies around the world, especially The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; AND

WHEREAS missionaries serving LBT require reliable and safe transportation to aid them in carrying out their ministry of translation and Scripture engagement; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,000 for the Lutheran Bible Translators New Missionary Vehicle Fund.

11. Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Catechisms and Lutheran Books for Madagascar, Africa $5,000

Recognized Service Organization of LCMS

Just as God used Philip to open the Ethiopian’s eyes to the Bible’s teachings (Acts 8:26-35), so today He uses the Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) to open the eyes and hearts of hundreds of thousands of new Christians around the world. LHF, a recognized service organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, supports the mission of the church: bringing Christ to the lost so that, through the Holy Spirit and the Word, they may believe in Christ their Savior. LHF extends the ministry of the Word by translating and publishing Lutheran books that help explain the Bible, including *Luther’s Small Catechism*, *A Child’s Garden of Bible Stories*, hymnals, and more. Lutheran Heritage Foundation will implement all aspects of the project - translation, printing and distribution.

WHEREAS the Holy Spirit at Pentecost gave Jesus’ disciples the gift of speaking in many tongues, so that all God’s children might hear His call (Acts 2:1-41); AND

WHEREAS the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar, Africa, with its four million members is growing rapidly, and Church leaders have expressed an urgent need for Lutheran books such as *Luther’s Small Catechism* translated into their Malagasy language; AND

WHEREAS medical mission teams have also asked for catechisms and other outreach materials to be printed in Malagasy language, so that they may share the Gospel as they treat injuries and disease among the people; AND

WHEREAS the Lutheran Heritage Foundation has already printed the *Small Catechism* for Madagascar four previous times and has the printers and distribution channels in place to do so again; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,000 to print *Luther’s Small Catechism* and other Lutheran outreach materials in the Malagasy language for the people of Madagascar, Africa.

12. Lutheran Hour Ministries – BREAD Program, Mexico $5,000

In 2012, Lutheran Hour Ministries opened the doors to its new Ministry Center in Mexico City – *Cristo para Todas Las Naciones*. In 2013, the Center initiated the BREAD Program as its main mission holistic program. The BREAD Program consists of workshops and working skills training programs to help people with their income, as well as their spiritual needs. The Good News of the Gospel is shared in Word and deed through the program, on a holistic approach, touching peoples’ lives. Bible studies, songs and the proclamation of God’s Word in Christ are an integral part of the program, along with different activities. The goals and objectives are in accordance with Lutheran Hour Ministries’ mission worldwide of *Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church* to reach the lost and bring them into the Church. The BREAD Program targets three basic audiences - the unemployed, the migrants, and the peasants. By touching peoples’ lives in a holistic way, we share the impact of God’s Word in their lives, and open doors to cause people to embrace and connect them to the family of God, the Church. The BREAD Program includes a weekly free meal offered at the church facility, with a program that includes a Bible message, prayer, songs and other interactive activities. We also help those people to develop their skills in different areas, through workshops and training sessions and activities. Offering bread with care and the Word, is touching peoples’ basic needs, and from there we work with specific groups
helping them to develop their skills, providing professional training through volunteers, and sharing Christ with them throughout the activities.

WHEREAS Lutheran Hour Ministries is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide in its mission of Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church; AND

WHEREAS Lutheran Hour Ministries’ Ministry Center in Mexico has been established to reach out with the Gospel to people across the region in culturally appropriate ways; AND

WHEREAS Lutheran Hour Ministries - Mexico has developed the BREAD Program as an outreach program to the unemployed, the migrants, and the peasants in Mexico who are forgotten by governments and by society; AND

WHEREAS the BREAD Program touches people’s lives in a holistic way, offering food with care and the Word, touching peoples’ basic needs, helping people to develop their skills with professional training, and sharing the Gospel with them through Bible studies and connecting them to the churches; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,000 to help fund the BREAD Program - Mission Outreach in Mexico.

13. Lutheran Indian Ministries – Support of Natives on the Olympic Peninsula  $6,500

Recognized Service Organization of LCMS

Deacon Tom and Deaconess Cathy Benzler serve the Olympic Peninsula. This is home to ten Native American tribes residing in the area which includes many remote and hard-to-reach places. Addiction, abuse, suicide, poverty, and violence plague many Native people in this land of beauty. The Benzlers help meet the ever-growing needs of Native elders and families on the Olympic Peninsula by driving over a thousand miles each month making visits, bringing needed items, and sharing the love and healing found in Christ. As they teach the Christian faith through a Word and Sacrament ministry, Tom and Cathy have become counselors, confidants and trusted friends.

Funds would be used for:

- books and Christian materials to share at tribal events
  The Lower Elwha Reservation hosts Wellness Fairs and holiday events to encourage physical and spiritual wholeness. Grant funds would provide Christian resources from Concordia Publishing House to introduce young participants to Jesus Christ, the true source of hope. (250 books for Christmas; 250 books for Easter; Arch books could be given to the younger children; other resources to older children/teens.)
- contingency fund for special needs of Natives on the Olympic Peninsula
  Hope House stocks items to meet anticipated needs. Monthly, local churches and groups collect common items frequently distributed by Hope House. However, needs come in all shapes and sizes and are not limited to what is on the shelf.
- transportation, food, lodging, conference fees, and materials for required continuing education for the Benzlers.

WHEREAS In 1 Corinthians 3:5-8, Paul writes, “What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor.”; AND

WHEREAS Tom (Ioway) and Cathy (Cherokee) Benzler, commissioned as licensed deacon and deaconess in The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS), have been leading a growing ministry to Native Americans on the Olympic Peninsula for over 10 years; AND
WHEREAS God has opened doors to expand Hope House Ministry through meeting physical needs by providing non-perishable foods and other assistance as needed, as the Benzlers share hope and healing through a Word and Sacrament ministry; AND
WHEREAS the Benzlers, who have been invited to participate in special tribal events, desire to offer Christian books that share the true hope found in Jesus; AND
WHEREAS the Benzlers, are required to complete continuing education units (CEU) to maintain their certifications and have opportunities to participate with other full-time LCMS workers for encouragement, fellowship, and growth; THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $6,500 to provide assistance with Christian resources and continuing education for Native Americans on the Olympic Peninsula.

14. Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest
   Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
   $3,000

A mission of Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest (LMSNW) is to bring the healing touch of Christ’s love to those in care centers, nursing homes, and hospitals in the Puget Sound area where there is a need for Christian services. They provide Christian pastoral care to patients, families, and staff. Funds will be used to distribute three copies each of Healing Words, a spiritual resource, to 470 Lutheran congregations. Healing Words consist of daily devotions, scripture, hymns, and prayer for church pastors and volunteers to use in conjunction with their visitation ministry.

WHEREAS Christ in His Holy Word has declared that visiting the sick and confined is pleasing in His sight (Matthew 25:31-46); AND
WHEREAS devotional materials that speak to dealing with illness and long-term care needs can bring comfort and assurance of Christ’s constant presence with persons; AND
WHEREAS the Healing Words devotionals are a well-done, Biblically-solid resource that offers seven daily devotions, psalms, hymn references, a “chat with the chaplain” dialogue, and even a cartoon strip for levity; AND
WHEREAS Lutheran Ministry Services Northwest distributes three Healing Words devotionals on a quarterly basis to over 470 congregations in the Northwest for use with those who are hospitalized or otherwise confined as a result of illness or long-term care needs; THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $3,000 to enable the distribution of Healing Words to congregations.

15. Lutherans for Life – Y4Life Campus Ministry
   Recognized Service Organization of LCMS
   $4,000

The purpose of the Y4Life program at Lutherans for Life is to equip Lutheran youth and young adults to be Gospel-motivated voices for life. Through education, training, and service learning, these young people will be ready to not only provide guidance and information about life issues, but to be a credible witness to the Gospel to their peers. This proposal is specifically seeking funds to expand our current Y4Life campus ministry program to include Lutheran high schools. Students of various backgrounds and faiths choose to attend Lutheran high schools. This creates a unique opportunity to share the Gospel through life ministry on a regular basis through student-led life groups. Y4Life would like to expand our current college campus life ministry program to include high schools. This includes identifying, training, and mentoring student leaders and faculty to start life ministries on Lutheran campuses, as well as provide ongoing support for existing life groups. With more than 100 Lutheran high schools in the United States, including three in the Washington-Alaska District, there are thousands of students waiting to be reached with the life-affirming message of the Gospel. Our world is full of
hurting people facing difficult situations and decisions. The decisions are made even more difficult when the loudest voice that is heard is from a culture of death that glorifies individual choice over the beauty of God’s gift of life. Teens, college students, and young adults who are bombarded with sexual temptation and secular lifestyles that are contrary to God’s wonderful plan for life need to hear the life-affirming message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

WHEREAS the mission of Y4Life, a ministry of Lutherans For Life, is to equip Lutheran youth and young adults to be Gospel-motivated voices for life who “set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:11); AND

WHEREAS 1.2 million women have abortions every year in the United States, with approximately 27% of those having no religious affiliation; AND

WHEREAS there is a great need to equip young Lutherans to share the Gospel through life issues and serve those in their own schools and communities; AND

WHEREAS Y4Life seeks to equip young people to speak for life and serve their community through student-led life ministries on high school and college campuses; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $4,000 to enable the expansion of Y4Life Campus Ministry to include Lutheran high schools.

16. Mission Central – Support for LCMS Missionaries

Mission Central specifically supports our LCMS missionaries. Missionaries are waiting for the necessary funds to move forward. A grant from Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District will help toward having funds available sooner rather than later. All funds go to mission work and everything done at Mission Central is donated in time, talent, and gifts. Funds will be used to support missionaries with their orientation, transportation, health and other insurance, language training, housing, salary, office expenses, and education of their children.

WHEREAS since we have the ability to act NOW on verse 10 of Galatians Chapter 6: “Therefore, as we have the opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers”, in this case, those of our family are missionaries who often have their families with them; AND

WHEREAS Jesus has called our LCMS missionaries to go into all the world to proclaim Him, and they are required to provide the necessary resources to serve; AND

WHEREAS these needs and resources can change over time, such as between now at the time of this request and possibly up to late 2018 when funds are available, it is prudent to be ready for the harvest when the time is right; AND

WHEREAS it is the desire of Mission Central to serve missionaries who desire in turn to serve Him who sent them and to achieve this goal as soon as possible; AND

WHEREAS the staff at Mission Central are daily involved with the very most current LCMS missionary needs and updates and will put the Washington-Alaska District mites to the best and most urgent need; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,000 and in so doing answer the prayers and needs of the missionary or missionaries it will most benefit.
Funds will be used to purchase Bibles in the Nuer language to be distributed to the students attending the Mekane Yesu affiliated schools in Gambella and Awassa, Ethiopia who can share the Gospel with their families and friends. This grant is important so the Nuer speaking people can learn from reading the Scriptures for themselves. King of Kings Lutheran Church in Renton, Washington, along with other churches in the Seattle area are currently funding the training of six students to become pastors and church workers.

WHEREAS Christ commands us in Matthew 28:19 to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations; AND
WHEREAS God’s Word contained in the Bible is to be preached to the ends of the earth; AND
WHEREAS Missionary-at-Large, Matthew Both, in his trip to Ethiopia and the South Sudan in March/April of 2015 could not find one Bible in the Nuer language for purchase anywhere in Ethiopia or northern South Sudan; AND
WHEREAS Martin Luther, knowing the importance of having Bibles in the native language, translated the Bible into German for the citizens to be able to read God’s Word for themselves; AND
WHEREAS the men and women of South Sudan are trained and able to read the Nuer printed word, but have no Bibles to learn of the whole counsel of God; AND
WHEREAS because of the unrest in South Sudan many of the Nuer speaking people have moved to Ethiopia and live in refugee camps there, and when Pastor Matthew Both preached to a group in April of 2015 not one person in the congregation had a Bible of their own; AND
WHEREAS King of Kings Lutheran Church in Renton, Washington and the South Sudan Mission of Building Together, an affiliated association of LCMS churches in the Seattle area, is connected to Mekane Yesu College and its affiliated schools by funding six students in training for ministry and knows the leadership in Gambella, Ethiopia personally: Ding Gach, President of Western Gambella Bethel Synod and Evangelist Simon Khot Both, Pastor Matthew Both’s brother; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,000 for the purchase of Bibles in the Nuer language to be distributed to the students at the affiliated schools of Mekane Yesu in Gambella and Awassa, Ethiopia.

18. Nursing Student Mercy Medical Team, Madagascar – Office of International Mission $2,500
Recognized Service Organization of LCMS

Mercy Medical Teams serve as an opportunity for Christians to use their vocational skills and passion for service to demonstrate Christ’s love and mercy in a positive way. This is a “hands-on” introduction to explore future witness through mercy work with unlimited potential. The experience gained through service on a Medical Team directly benefits the student by providing a greater understanding of vocation as a calling, as well as a career.

WHEREAS Christ in His Holy Word has charged us to reach out to all nations, further in Matthew 25:40, "And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'“; AND
WHEREAS LCMS Mercy Medical Teams bring urgently needed medical and spiritual care to underserved countries around the world offering medical professionals, pastors and hardworking laymen an opportunity to volunteer abroad in a variety of clinical and health-related settings, the LCMS Mercy Medical Team, Concordia University, Irving (CUI), along with their Nursing Students, the Lutheran Hospital in Antsirabe, Madagascar and their patients and medical clients could greatly benefit from the presence of an LCMS pastor to serve as Team Chaplain; AND
WHEREAS the experiences for students of medicine and nursing to work directly with experienced health care professionals while providing Mercy Medical services to people with minimal or no access to basic medical care are not only valuable, but immeasurable; AND

WHEREAS financial considerations often prevent nursing students from participating in Mercy Medical Teams, a grant would aid in the expenses for Concordia University, Irvine Nursing Students to participate in a mission trip with the Mercy Medical Team to Madagascar; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $2,500 to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Life and Health Ministries to aid in the expenses for CUI Nursing Students to participate in a mission trip with the Mercy Medical Team to Madagascar.


Short Term Missions Committee

$6,000

Spontaneous mission opportunities occur within convention years, and financial help is needed immediately. The funds would provide help for those participating in a short term mission trip. Each request would be between $500 and $1,000. It is possible that six to twelve short term mission requests could be partially or totally funded during the biennium. The decision to accept a request for financial assistance for an individual LCMS woman in our Washington-Alaska District to participate on a short term mission trip would be made by the Short Term Missions Committee.

WHEREAS the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District has created the Short Term Missions Committee; AND

WHEREAS the Short Term Missions Committee desires to fulfill the directives of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District; AND

WHEREAS the Short Term Missions Committee realizes that short term mission opportunity trips are often spontaneous; AND

WHEREAS financial assistance may be needed for these mission outreach trips; AND

WHEREAS these opportunities for mission trips, unless seized, may be lost; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $6,000 for Opportunity Mission Outreach so that financial assistance may be given for mission opportunity trips that occur during the 2016-2018 biennium.


$9,000

Rev. Daniel Paul and NEHLM Board have identified a need to expand the currently operating primary school to 7th grade and to add a new grade every year. Children are educated with pure theological teaching as well as proper social and educational teaching. These students include orphans from House of Lambs of God Orphanage, a mission of NEHLM. This grant will allow students now attending off campus to continue their Lutheran education in a Christian school without the outside influences contradictory to the mission of raising men and women to make a positive contribution to Haiti through providing a nurturing, Christian environment and education.

WHEREAS Christ in His Holy Word has charged us to reach out to all nations; AND

WHEREAS education of Haitian children is a means of propagating His Word to future generations; AND

WHEREAS the secondary schools in Ouanaminthe, Haiti, do not meet the demands for the number of children in Ouanaminthe seeking secondary education and do not serve with a Triune confession of faith or completeness of social and spiritual care; AND
WHEREAS the orphans of the Lutheran orphanage in Ouanaminthe, Haiti, and church members desire Lutheran secondary education; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in Convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $9,000 for funding the expanse of a 7th grade.

Recognized Service Organization of LCMS

Mylakkara Lutheran Church (MLC) in India provides assistance to widows, orphans, the seriously ill, and other destitutes. The MLC Pastor would like to begin a Sewing Mission Society by creating a tailoring center for the ladies. The project is aiming to teach Lutheran women students of 18-25 years old, along with widows, the art of garment making.

WHEREAS The Holy Scriptures state (Exodus 35:25), "And every skillful woman spun with her hands, and they all brought what they had spun in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen," and also (Proverbs 31: 24-27) "She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchant. Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.”;

AND

WHEREAS in addition to proclaiming the Gospel of Christ, Mylakkara Lutheran Church provides assistance to widows, orphans, the seriously ill, distribute food and clothing and give monthly pensions to the widows and elderly;

AND

WHEREAS Mylakkara Lutheran Church has identified women in the community who are most at risk for exploitation, enslavement, prostitution/trafficking and abuse;

AND

WHEREAS Mylakkara Lutheran Church desires to create a Sewing Mission Society providing spiritual counseling and prayer meetings while teaching Lutheran women students the art of garment making thereby giving them hope for a better future and a way out of poverty; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $2,500 to help fund the Sewing Mission Society in India.

22. Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat
Recognized Service Organization of LCMS

The mission of Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat (SCR) is to provide hope and healing to men and women in full-time ministry through the experience in renewing, reviving, and refreshing these church workers. They provide week-long counseling retreats for full-time ministry workers who are in the midst of burnout, stress, depression, and conflicts of all kinds. Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat is the only Lutheran based ministry providing this service. The grant funds would be used as a scholarship for two people to attend.

WHEREAS Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat is the creative outcome of the personal journeys of Christian leaders – both clergy and lay people – who have experienced God’s healing through the caring of others and desire other shepherds to know that healing as described in Proverbs 18:14 “The human spirit can endure a sick body, but who can bear a crushed spirit?”;

AND

WHEREAS SCR is a seven-day experience of healing and restoration for Lutheran church workers - clergy, teachers, Directors of Christian Education, music ministers and others;

AND

WHEREAS those who need this help are not turned away when the fee is a financial challenge or even when congregational or district funds are not available, SCR clients are routinely told to “contribute what you can, we have friends who want to help”; THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $3,500 for a scholarship for one couple to attend a retreat.

23. Trinity/HOPE – Feeding Program in Haiti $5,000

Trinity/HOPE provides a vital feeding program to the Christian school ministry in Haiti. In 1998, 42 children were being fed in one of our Lutheran schools. Today this ministry feeds over 15,000 children daily in 86 schools. The Word of God and the love of Christ is shared and taught in the classrooms. Voodooism, illiteracy, and poverty are being stopped. Funds will be assigned to one school enabling children to have more energy and be receptive to the teachings in their classes.

WHEREAS Christ instructed us in Matthew 28:19 to “go and make disciples of all nations” and commends those who have fed “the least of these brothers of mine” in Matthew 25:31; AND
WHEREAS Trinity/HOPE has demonstrated that providing a noon meal for the hungry children in our Lutheran schools in Haiti is a powerful witness used by the Holy Spirit to discredit the voodoo teaching that God is unapproachable and non-responsive to Haitians; AND
WHEREAS children in our Lutheran schools in Haiti are coming to faith in response to the Word and its witness faster than any other population segment and often later are instruments in bringing their whole families to the knowledge of Christ; AND
WHEREAS Trinity/HOPE has demonstrated both its ability to successfully run these feeding programs to their current level of over 20,600 meals for children and their teachers each school day in 104 schools; AND
WHEREAS Trinity/HOPE has consistently demonstrated over the past 16 years its ability to expand its donor base annually to continue 100% of all the programs started; THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $5,000 to provide noon meals for one year to a Lutheran school in Haiti.

24. Veterans of the Cross $2,500

Veterans of the Cross provides small, periodic stipends and pastoral care for church work retirees (or their surviving spouses) who struggle to pay for basic living expenses. A surprising number of “veterans of the cross” – retired pastors, teachers and their spouses – live in poverty. Some receive little or no pension, and those with health problems have financial needs greater than the pension can provide.

WHEREAS the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, commands us to reach out to all at home and abroad, further, "And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelist, and some as pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of the ministry of building up the body of Christ.” (Ephesians 4: 11-12); AND
WHEREAS some called workers and/or spouses may have worked diligently in areas of service for a certain period of time where compensations were low for their God-pleasing work; AND
WHEREAS these faithful workers, when reaching retirement age or due to a major event in their life, have little or no financial means with which to sustain them and/or their spouse or family; AND
WHEREAS the Church Worker Grants unit of the National Mission office of the LCMS is the mercy arm of the LCMS and wishes to extend that mercy care to those in our Synod who have been faithful to the Lord; THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED that the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District assembled in convention in Everett, Washington, June 17-19, 2016, adopt as a mission grant for the 2016-2018 biennium the amount of $2,500 to help fund Veterans of the Cross.