

Board for Home Mission 2015 Report

And

Pacific Northwest DMB 2015 Report

Mark 1:38 – Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.”

Home Missions New Mission Starts

The Board for Home Missions met on April 16-17, 2015. One of the items of business was to prioritize new mission starts for the coming fiscal year. Six new starts were authorized to receive funding starting July 1, 2015.

1. Blair, Nebraska (north-west side of Omaha)
2. Colorado Springs, Colorado (north-east side of town)
3. Fenton Michigan (between Ann Arbor and Flint)
4. Las Vegas, Nevada (African ministry)
5. Liberty Hill, Texas (near Austin)
6. Tyler, Texas (75 miles south-east of Dallas)
7. Peoria / Vistancia AZ was authorized as a multi-site mission for FY 15-16 at \$92,000.00
8. Risen Savior Lutheran in Milwaukee WI was approved for a one year enhancement for FY 15-16 at \$25,000.00.

Regarding the above list, we say “thank you” to our church body for its mission offerings as well as individual gifts which allowed Home Missions to make these authorizations. Home Missions also says thanks to:

- a) Joint Mission Council: this group of Home and World Mission leaders authorized funding for two years to cover the costs of the Las Vegas African mission (FY 16 - \$46K and FY 17 - \$52K)
- b) Church Extension Fund: this lending intuition in our church body adopted an unrestricted net asset policy in Feb. of 2015 for Home Missions. The proceeds are to assist in funding new missions. For FY 16 and FY 17, there will be income of at least \$700,000.00 per fiscal year. This very generous grant helped contribute to the authorization of five of the missions.

What follows are the prioritized locations that would have received funds if available:

- 1) Lehi, Utah
- 2) Chattanooga, Tennessee
- 3) Williston, North Dakota

Vicar in Mission Settings

For many years Home Missions has supported a program called Vicar in Missions (VIMs). Some of the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary class assigned to be vicars are assigned into mission or mission-minded congregations. The past six years Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary has joined Home Missions in this venture. Before this partnership 8-12 students were assigned into a VIM setting. Now with this partnership up to 21-22 students have been assigned as a VIM. During the Home Mission meeting, the Home Mission Executive Committee and two representatives from WLS considered thirty-six requests for a VIM. Based on available funding from Home Missions, WLS, and the participating congregations, the highest total of VIMs was prioritized; twenty-four of the thirty-six requests were prioritized to be in the VIM program.

Summer Student Assistants

Similar to the vicar program, Home Missions and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS) work together on the Summer Student Assistant (SSA) program. This program places first or second year WLS students into mission or mission-minded congregations over the summer for a 10 week period. The students lead in worship as well as preaches. They participate in outreach events as well as do canvassing and witnessing. These students receive a mini-vicar training experience during the summer. For the coming summer (2015) Home Missions is supporting seven SSAs in mission congregations. Two self-supporting congregation also are sponsoring a SSA.

Church Extension Fund (CEF)

Since 1993, CEF has given over \$25M in grants to mission congregations. This is only possible by a combined effort or congregational mortgages with CEF and the strong support of individuals. If you have not taken the opportunity to share information about CEF with the members of your congregation, please consider doing this. There are helpful resources and printed materials available from the CEF office. Go to: cef.wels.net.

Since late fall 2014 CEF has been considering offering Home Missions additional financial support. At the 2013 synod convention, the by-laws were changed so that CEF Board of Directors (BOD) could allocate funds to Home Missions for operational costs (new missions) if that was financially feasible for CEF. At the Feb.22 / 23 2015 CEF BOD meeting, the BOD approved an unrestricted net asset policy. We are thankful that the CEF BOD has taken this step. As noted on the first page of this report, it has allowed Home Missions to authorize additional missions.

In the recent past, CEF also has given two special grants (\$1M in Feb. of 2011 and \$1.3M in Sept. of 2013). There are twelve churches which have received portions of those grants. Home Missions continues to track how those mission ministries are doing with the special grant blessing.

Campus Ministry

Campus Ministry continues to be a vital ministry, reaching out to WELS students as well as reaching out to those who don't believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior from sin.

At a November 2014 Campus Ministry Committee (CMC) meeting, the CMC determined to take some active steps to encourage more congregations to consider campus ministry or to assist congregations doing campus ministry. The CMC asked the Home Mission Administrator to make some initial visits to congregations to help with this direction. Another way in which the CMC is taking this direction is by offering financial support for at least two fiscal years to Divine Word Lutheran in Plover WI. In its ministry Divine Word Lutheran's plan is to Call a second pastor to do more campus ministry at UW-Stevens Point as well as more outreach in Stevens Point. A third way the CMC is looking to encourage more active campus ministry is by hosting a Campus Ministry Conference in Waukesha on May 18 & 19, 2015.

The weekend of Oct. 17-19, 2014, Wisconsin Lutheran Chapel in Madison WI celebrated 50 years of campus ministry at UW-Madison. This campus ministry reaches hundreds of souls each week. Worship on Sundays and Wednesday Vespers averages close to 350. In its 50 year history there have been many blessings. One of those more recent blessings was the "new" Chapel which was dedicated in February of 2006. We pray the Lord continue to bless this and all our campus ministries.

Over the past number of years Pastor Ken Brokmeier has served as Campus Ministry Committee chairman. His term has come to an end. We thank him for serving. Now serving as chairman is Pastor Charlie Vannieuwenhaven.

Pacific Northwest District Mission Board Report

We share our Mission and Vision with you in order for you to better partner with us.

Mission

The Pacific Northwest (PNW) District Mission Board (DMB) will, in accordance with Christ's command and by His grace, proclaim the gospel to reach the lost and the unchurched by strengthening believers, preparing and equipping God's people for mission activity work, and partnering with congregations, groups, individuals and the WELS to identify and cultivate mission work in the Pacific Northwest.

Vision

The Pacific Northwest (PNW) District Mission Board (DMB) will work seamlessly with PNW District congregations, groups, and individuals along with the WELS Kingdom Workers (WKW) and Synod to identify and support local mission opportunities to proclaim the Gospel while providing the means and encouragement to prepare faithful workers for these fields.

PNW WELS Kingdom Workers Chapter

Our Mission and Purpose is to directly support the MOV of WKW National. We will concentrate our efforts throughout the Pacific Northwest encouraging direct lay involvement in PNW Mission activity. Together, may more of God's people become involved in mission activity as we all strive to share the gospel with all nations. Please support this effort.

DMB Business

The Mission Board is seeking to promote ongoing mission activity, new mission openings, mission enhancements, and gospel outreach in general. To accomplish this goal, we have a promotions team on our board willing to share presentations and brochures of our PNW mission activities. We also are willing to come to your congregation to lead a mission Sunday as you direct it. These services are led by Pastor Kevin Schultz, Brian Hackmann (Alaska) and Pastor Craig Wasser. Mission Counselor Peter Kruschel is also willing to come and serve your congregation this way. Long term planning for these requests are most helpful.

We also strongly encourage you and the members of your congregation to fund mission activity in the PNW. We are averaging \$4,000 a year in grants. The grant requests continue to come into the DMB, but the contributions do not continue to rise. We would like to get that amount to over \$10,000 each year. Please help us today by signing up for this program and gifting money you will not miss but is needed for mission expansion. Our Board members are continuing to get to know every congregation in their assigned circuits so that we can more easily help when there is the opportunity to reach more souls more often with the gospel. Our goals as DMB:

- 1) Have on file an active annual evangelism plan from every congregation.
- 2) Encourage and collect an annual basic report of activity from every congregation.
- 3) Have community profiles that are relatively current (less than ten years old) of every community where we have congregations today.
- 4) Actively look for new areas to have mission activity, both the expansion of current ministries as well as new starts.

Pacific Northwest Mission Activity under the DMB from July 2014-Present

We adopted a strategic plan as the BHM to guide our actions for the next several years. This plan has unified the BHM in goals, strategy, and action. We are working that plan now. Ted Weiss and Peter Kruschel from our District were instrumental in crafting and implementing this strategy. We are blessed by their service.

PNW Mission Board Activity:

Renegotiations 2015-16

Korean Lutheran Church, Des Moines, WA – Pastor Park will continue to explore opportunities to gather Jesus Lambs through his ministry. This ministry was granted \$35,000 grant from Home Missions.

Light of Life, Covington WA – is receiving \$44,000 in grants for 2014-15 and was granted \$34,000, and \$24,000 for 2015-17. These are the last years they will receive subsidy from Home Missions. May God continue to bless their work. .

Peace in Jesus, Boise ID – is receiving \$80,000 for 2014-15 (This is \$2000 less than budgeted as they volunteered to reduce their subsidy as a show of gratitude for the blessings God has showered on their ministry.) and was granted continued funding for 2015-16 of \$78,285 and for 2016-117 totaling \$75,725. May God continue to bless their service locally and World Wide.

Faith Hmong, Anchorage AK – is receiving \$67,500 for 2014-15 and was granted \$63,000 for 2015-16. This one year grant is allow the congregation and the Mission Board to more closely evaluate God’s blessings on this ministry. We are also looking to help relocate Pastor Pau Moua and his family to a larger parsonage. We pray for God's blessings in this outreach.

Caminando con Jesús, Yakima, WA - is receiving \$60,200 in 2014-15 and was granted \$16,500 for the last half of 2015. With the transition of Pastor Turiff to Memphis, Grace, the Mother Church, is no longer supporting 2 pastors. Pastor Salinas will serve both the Anglo and the Hispanic groups. The \$16,500 6 month grant is to help in their transition. They will not receive any more grants. May God bless this transition.

PNW Top Priorities for hopeful New Starts as early as 2016

- A. **Albany Oregon** – This field is identified because of the nucleus living around Albany as well as the partnership developing with Immanuel Lutheran in Salem Oregon. We are seeking out other partnerships as well as we look to make this opportunity to open a new Mission as strong as Possible. Pray for God’s blessings on this work.
- B. **Hayden – Couer d’Alene – Post Falls ID** We entered a partnership with St. Matthews Spokane (Through the Help of a special grant from a Mission hearted family totaling \$150,000.) We contributed an additional \$20,000 to assist in getting a new mission planted in the Spokane Valley. Pastor Schultz continues to work with St. Matthews as to the best way to do this. When plans are firmed up, we hope to plant a mission sooner than later, whether multi-site or Mission congregation in the area identified above. We pray for God’s blessings

- C. **Meridian ID** – This community between Boise and Nampa continues to be a place we desire a mission outpost. We are working with partners to find the best way to move forward. We pray for God’s blessings.

PNW Mission Activity Notes:

- D. **Tri-Cities (Kennewick, Richland, and Pasco) WA** – King of Kings is moving to a new location in Kennewick. This move is strategically helpful as we look to plant new mission sites in the Tri-Cities. Through a grant from the CEF, this congregation will receive from \$50,000 to \$100,000 to assist them and the PNW DMB will receive the same amount to help plant a new Mission sometime in the Future in the Tri-cities area. This plan is a work in Progress, but we are thankful for the grant and the mission partnership with King of Kings. May God bless our long term vision.
- E. **Beautiful Savior Everett, WA** – CEF worked out a longer term plan with this congregation and granted them special reduced interest rates at 4%. This is a great blessing from CEF! This group is now able to do long term planning knowing what their mortgage payments will be for the next five years. Any savings they have is applied toward their principle so that they can afford a market loan and begin to use their facility more for mission purposes than for income purposes. May God bless them as they go forward under Christ.
- F. **Peace in Jesus, Boise ID** –Pastor Kramer continues to travel the world and throughout the United States sharing the gospel with the Vietnamese population. He continues to work with translating many things into the Vietnamese language. On top of all that, God is blessing his work in Boise as he reaches out to the community with the gospel. This has all led to a unique partnership with the Global Mission Committee. This group has a mentor program to better serve cross cultural ministries and the nationalities they serve not only here but in their countries of origin. We pray for God’s blessings on this pilot program and this new partnership.
- G. **Light of Life, Covington, WA** – This congregation was identified for its activity and growth at our last Home Missions meeting in Milwaukee. We are thankful to all who serve there and for God’s blessings on their work. We pray this continues as they are weaned of subsidy from the BHM. May God continue to shower his blessings on them.
- H. **Beautiful Savior, Hillsboro, OR** – This congregation is still listed as a Non-Subsidized Mission. They receive no financial support from the BHM, but are eligible for CEF grants. They can receive 4:1 grant on 10% down on any land up to 5 acres. They can also receive a 2:1 grant on 10% down on their new facility up to 5000 square feet. They are regularly submitting their reports. May God bless their plans so they can once again look for a more permanent location.

- I. **Shepherd of the Hills, Anchorage, AK** – This congregation was recognized as a former WEF unit. CEF offered grants to any congregation that was a former WEF in order to build something more practical for today's ministry needs. Participating and adhering to the policies of the BHM, the CEF granted this congregation over \$200,000 in funds to adapt their facilities so that they are ADA approved and have classrooms for various educational ministries. We thank God for this blessing and pray for blessings on their ministry. This project is now underway.
- J. **Sweet Home, OR** – Bible Studies have started. We are receiving 9 adults each week: 3 WELS, 3 Missouri Synod, and 3 unchurched.
- K. **Portland, OR** – We are exploring this area to best identify where to plant a new mission if opportunity arises. After discussion with each Portland area pastor and some congregations, we are identifying the Wilsonville/Tualatin/Sherwood area as our prime target. We are also interested in the Northwest Vancouver area or places just North of Vancouver near the I-5 corridor. These are just early stages of Planning so that we can be ready when opportunity presents itself.
- L. **Chehalis, Bellingham, Bonny Lake, South Hill, Puyallup,**– These areas have are interest, though currently nothing new is happening. We may begin to gather information so that God presents an opportunity we are ready.

Vicars In Mission Settings:

Our District received one summer Vicar for 2015, Peace in Eagle River AK, and one vicar in Mission Setting Vicar: Immanuel, Salem, OR - Phillip Janisch

2014 WKW Information

What help is available from WKW?

- 1) **Travel Canvass Witness (TCW)** – College students from campus ministry programs and Synodical schools. Active during school breaks and vacations (1 - 10 weeks).
- 2) **Youth in Service (YIS)** – Teens assisting in outreach within a supervised environment. Active during school breaks and vacations (1 - 2 weeks).
- 3) **Member Ministry Assistance (MMA)** – Lay men and women assisting congregations with outreach. Active at any time of the year (1 week - 6 months).

Church Extension Fund

These congregations are considered subsidized because the loan rate is below 5.5% or they qualify to receive a loan based on their Mission status:

- M. Beautiful Savior, Beaverton, OR (This congregation is currently looking for land on which to build.)
- N. Peace in Jesus, Boise ID - Vietnamese outreach
- O. Cross of Christ, Boise, ID
- P. Light of Life, Covington, WA
- Q. Living Hope, Redmond, WA
- R. Beautiful Savior, Everett, WA
- S. Shepherd of the Hills, Anchorage AK
- T. King of Kings Kennewick WA

CEF currently loans 6.5 million dollars to congregations in the Pacific Northwest District.

Have a question, concern, suggestion, or request? CONTACT ME...

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