

District Mission Board Report Winter Mission Conference – January 2018

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.

DMB Business

The two newest missions, The Vine, Coeur D' Alene, ID and Cross of Christ, Meridian ID held their opening services this past fall. Combined, these services attracted nearly 200 worshippers to their opening services.

Our Board is submitting two proposals for consideration this spring. We are submitting a proposal to "restart" Grace in Seattle. We are also looking to seek help for the mission work to Hispanics at Faith in Anchorage, Alaska. Both of these proposals are called Enhancement requests. This means we are asking for limited funding for a short and predetermined timeframe as we carry out mission work.

We continue to receive training along side the AZ/CA Mission Board. As part of our training we partner with a mission congregation and canvass their neighborhoods with the expectation of having a gospel focused conversation and inviting them to an event. We canvassed with the

members of Cross of Christ in Meridian, ID and River of Life in Goodyear, AZ. These canvasses are organized under Praise and Proclaim, a ministry led by Dave Malnes out of Meridian, ID. Please consider using this ministry to help your congregation with your outreach.

We are willing to come to your congregation to lead a mission Sunday as you direct it. These services are led by the Western Region Mission Counselor, Kevin Schultz, Brian Hackmann, or myself.

This Sunday, January 28, 2018, Pastor Matt Vogt accepted the call to serve as our next Western Regional Mission Counselor. He will begin his service April 22, 2018.

Peter Kruschel retires from the full-time ministry on February 28, 2018. Afterwards, he transitions into serving his home congregation, Beautiful Savior Ev. Lutheran, Las Vegas, NV, as an assistant Pastor in a semi-retirement capacity. The Western region is hosting a service of celebration for Peter's many years of service in the WELS on February 19th, 2018 at Beautiful Savior in Las Vegas, NV. Please share this information with your congregations.

MLC Daylight Program (Replaces Travel Canvass Witness Teams)

What is Daylight?

The MLC Daylight program matches future pastors, teachers, and staff ministers with congregations who would benefit from help in reaching out to their communities. In groups of various sizes, MLC students assist with sports camps, Vacation Bible School, neighborhood canvassing and other outreach activities. MLC students are eager to help your congregation! Starting this school year, MLC's goal is that every graduate will participate in a Daylight short-term mission during their time at MLC.

Mission of Daylight?

To make and mature disciples of Jesus through short-term missions is the purpose of Daylight. The Daylight program supports MLC's mission by maturing MLC students through mission experiences that equip them to become disciples who make disciples in the public ministry.

What does a Daylight experience look like?

Eight Qualities of a Daylight Experience

1. Time: each experience should be around 10—40 hours to be completed within the first two years of enrollment
2. Activity: Short-term mission that develops ministers of the gospel by proclaiming with word and deed the good news about Jesus. Find various examples of different types of service below.

- a. Evangelism – proclamation, door-to-door canvassing
 - b. Witnessing – telling, ministry activities that tell (sports camps)
 - c. Discipleship – teaching (VBS), observation
 - d. Helps – labor, construction, office support, worship
3. Size: team (2-4 is ideal, larger groups can be accommodated)
 4. Location: mission/ministry setting that is not the student’s home church – can be home or world missions.
 5. Participant Demographics: MLC students
 6. Sending Entity: MLC’s Daylight office has administrative responsibility. Students can work with local congregations/missions directly, Kingdom Workers, Daylight, or other WELS organizations.
 7. Mission Philosophy: Daylight, students, and congregation/organization partners will work together to create opportunities that develop ministers of the gospel.
 8. Leadership & Training: Daylight will be responsible for pre-field preparation and post-field debriefing; on-field is a train-as-you-go model.

What are the projected costs for congregation/organization partners?

Daylight costs should be covered by MLC and students. No monetary cost apart from those associated with providing lodging, meals, and if applicable, transportation while “in the field”.

MLC will recommend and solicit opportunities for the following windows for service:

- 1) Fall break: 10/19/17-10/22/17
- 2) Thanksgiving break: 11/22/17-11/26/2017
- 3) Christmas break: 12/15/2017-01/02/2018
- 4) Spring break: 02/24/2018-03/11/2018
- 5) Easter break: 03/29/2018-04/02/2018
- 6) Summer break: 05/12/2018-08/12/2018

This is not to exclude potential weekend mission opportunities throughout the school year.

What are additional expectations of a congregation/organizational partner?

1. MLC will require a congregational team request form, with guidance from Daylight on how to create a developmentally appropriate experience.
2. Please make requests for a Daylight team as far in advance as possible. The deadline for guaranteeing requests is one-month ahead of the activity date. We will strive to honor all requests, and want to give as much advance notice if we are not able to fill a particular request.
3. Local pastor/contact will train on site for specific ministry activity.
4. Daylight strongly recommends daily devotions and debriefing.

What will MLC’s pre-field preparation look like?

1. Team will skype with pastor/local contact if applicable
2. Team will do small group Bible study.

3. Team will probably need some large group training on STM travels, etc.

What will post-field debriefing look like?

1. Daylight will conduct debriefing with team upon return to campus.
2. Daylight will retain all debriefing surveys for records.

What are Long-Term Goals for Daylight?

1. To prepare reflective mission-minded church workers and lay people.
2. To maintain a balance between expectation for student growth and kingdom-growth. God-centered short-term missions put God as the main focus.
3. Strive to build partnerships with congregations.
 - a. Partnerships to last 3-5 years
 - b. Annual evaluations will inform program improvement

Pacific Northwest Mission Activity under the DMB from July 2017-2018

Our Board continues to use the BHM Strategic plan to guide and direct our activities. Our current activity under that plan follows:

PNW Mission Board Activity: Renegotiations

A. Saviour of the Nations, Vancouver, BC (Geoff Cortright, David Sigrist, Qiang Wang)

July 2017-2017: \$111,000

The staff continues to make connections with the many cultures in their community. They have met many new people using their outreach methods – including ESL classes and Meetup. Qiang Wang is more than half finished with his PSI training. They have worked with several other people who have now returned to their home countries.

One of their challenges is using a shared rental space. However the affordable cost makes it worth the extra efforts to remain at that location.

B. Hmong Ministry, Faith, Anchorage, AK (Pastor Pao Moua)

We are very thankful for Faith Anglo's help for all these years. Faith Hmong continues to receive funds from the BHM.

July 2017-2018: \$58,000. (Plus Parsonage funds)

Faith Hmong continues to expand its outreach to the Hmong community in Alaska. It utilizes food, camps, outdoor recreation, and special holidays as ways to connect to the Hmong population and to share the gospel. They continue to use Faith Anglo's sanctuary and fellowship hall on Sunday Afternoons. Recently 50+ new people from the Hmong community in Anchorage have started worshipping at Faith. Their total number of souls has now surpassed 100. We pray for God's blessings as Faith ministers to this new group.

C. Korean Ministry, Holy Trinity, Des Moines, WA (Pastor Youn Park)

July 2017 - June 2018: \$35,000

Pastor Park is very gifted in Organization and Administration. He is using those gifts to look at various outreach strategies, mainly through education. He has students in ESL, Korean School, and Sunday School. He is also involved with the PSI program. He regularly worships in the sanctuary of Holy Trinity on Sunday afternoons. He uses the old portables from ELHS for office, meeting and education space.

This ministry will no longer receive ongoing, annual funding from the BHM. This places the ministry in a very difficult situation. Pastor Park plans to continue to serve as a their shepherd. We hope to help fund some of their outreach activities going forward but cannot support their budget at the levels we have in the past. We are thankful for God's blessings and pray for his guidance through this challenging time.

D. Peace In Jesus, Boise, ID (Pastor Dan Kramer)

July 2017 – June 2018: \$75,000 (JMC)

February 2017 - June 2022: Friends of Vietnam \$300,000 (JMC)

This ministry continues to be blessed and to serve as a blessing to our Synod's world-wide Vietnamese outreach. Pastor Kramer seeks to contact every Vietnamese family in Boise, to travel to Vietnam as able, to translate materials that can be used to instruct and to proclaim the message of the Gospel in the Vietnamese Language.

Peace in Jesus is also working under the Joint Mission Counsel to establish a new ministry called Friends of Vietnam (FOV). It is modeled after Friends of China. This effort is underway and they have already commissioned manpower to make this happen. We pray for God's blessings.

The work of the FOV has faced big challenges. The original director is no longer with FOV. He did not leave quietly. These challenges continue, but the Board and the plans of FOV have been revisited and reworked so that this mission can move forward. We pray that God blesses this work.

E. Light of Life, Covington, WA (Pastor Dan Lange)

July 2017 – June 2018: \$14,000

This is the last year of funding for Light of Life.

Their preschool continues to be the key driver of their outreach to their community. They have 56 children enrolled. They face the challenge of staff turnover, limited space, and funding a growing mission. May God continue to bless them.

F. The Vine, Coeur d’Alene, ID - A Branch of St Matthew, Spokane (Pastor Kevin Schultz)

July 2017-June 2018: \$128,000.00

This group has a nucleus of 10 members. Their opening worship service on October 1, 2017 had over 125 people in attendance. They continue to worship an average of 55 each week. 20 of these regulars are the launch team from St. Matthews and will be returning to Spokane in a few months.

The Vine conducts regular events throughout the community in order to meet and invite as many people as possible. They continue to regularly canvass the area as well as carry out random acts of kindness to local public servants such as the police department. These activities have led many people to inquire about and attend their services.

G. Meridian, ID – Multi-site of Cross of Christ, Boise, ID (Pastor Ben Workentine)

July 2017 - June 2018: \$115,000.00

Cross of Christ Meridian had their opening service on September 10th, 2017. God blessed this event with 70 in attendance. They continue to worship with an average of 35 each week.

God has blessed the work of this second site of Cross of Christ. They wrestle with the challenge of the optimum place to permanently plant this second site. We pray for God’s blessings.

PNW DMB Partnerships

Unsubsidized Missions: *(These missions are not currently receiving funds from the BHM. They are working with the DMB and are submitting reports so they are eligible to receive special funds to enhance their ministry.)*

- **Beautiful Savior, Hillsboro, OR** –They receive no financial support from the BHM, but are eligible for Special funds and 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 7000 square feet.
- **Caminando con Jesús/Grace Yakima, WA**
Grace Yakima received funding from the BHM for 3 ½ years. They are to continue to report to us and will remain an unsubsidized mission for two more years in which they are eligible to receive special funds.

Future Unsubsidized Missions: *(These missions choose to partner with our DMB and Home Missions. Over the course of at least one year, this mission shares its ministry plans with our DMB, works with us, and sends monthly reports to us. After a year, they can officially receive the status of an Unsubsidized Mission.)*

- **Gethsemane, Tigard OR** – The PNW DMB is meeting with the leaders of Gethsemane Ev. Lutheran Church and exploring outreach strategies with them. Gethsemane will be deciding in the near future whether or not to have an official partnership with our DMB.
- **Divine Savior, Renton WA** - Our partnership will be through the Sudanese group they host. We pray for these blessings.

CEF Grants: *(The CEF can now grant funds directly to the BHM which Home Missions can use without restriction toward new North American mission work. In addition to these periodical block grants, a portion of the CEF reserves act as an endowment with annually dispersed earnings to be used as income for BHM. CEF also continues to give special grants to Mission congregations that have established themselves and are ready for land and a building. These grants are matched up to 10% of the land value at a 4-1 ratio, and up to 10% of the building (5000 ft²) at a 2-1 ratio. With the down payment of the 10% for land/facility and the grants, a new congregation will have 50% of the land and 30% of their building paid.)*

- **King of Kings Kennewick, WA** – King of Kings has purchased the land on which they will build. They have been approved to receive a 2-1 matching grant for the

cost of up to 5000 square feet of their new facility. They are working through the new policies of the CEF at this time. They will receive over a \$100,000 grant when their planning is finished and they are ready to build.

Special Funds Received 2017 - \$129,661.23

- **\$850 Light of Life - Covington, WA. Easter Outreach – March**
- **\$1,326.23 Light of Life - Covington, WA. Christmas Outreach – December**
- **\$23000 Peace in Jesus, ID. Committee on Relief – April**
- **\$1,500 Peace in Jesus, ID. Streaming – August**
- **\$2,000 Peace in Jesus – Boise, ID. Copier - December**
- **\$4,985 Peace – Eagle River, AK. Summer Vicar – June**
- **\$4,000 Cross of Christ – Meridian, ID. Canvass – August**
- **\$3,000 Cross of Christ – Meridian, ID. First Service – August**
- **\$40,000 Cross of Christ, Meridian, ID. Church in a Box – August**
- **\$35,000 The Vine, Coeur d’Alene, ID. Church on Wheels - August**
- **\$3,000 The Vine, Coeur d’Alene, ID. First Service – August**
- **\$11,000 The Vine, Coeur d’Alene, ID. Church on Wheels Truck (Returned) Campaign – August**

PNW DMB Mission Targets:

I-5 Vision: Chehalis, WA, North Vancouver, Bellingham, WA, Albany OR, Roseburg OR

I-84 Vision Ontario OR/Caldwell ID (Western Treasure Valley)

I-90 Vision Spokane Valley WA, Moses Lake WA, Issaquah WA,

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:

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

Our CEF is willing and able to lend to self-supporting congregations. They will be competitive, so please discuss rates and long term loans with them before you dismiss them as an option. If you bring an approved loan to them from another lender, they can often beat it. This serves our Missions well when more congregations borrow from CEF as the funds go directly back into Mission funds for expanding Missions.

Over 5 million dollars in CEF money is on loan to congregations of our District. This number will increase nearly \$2,000,000 more when King of King finalizes their loan.

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

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