

"Jesus Is Lord!"

MISSION

P.O. Box 11

Walburg, Texas 78673

A mission society supporting the
world mission of the
Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

...“that every knee may bow
and every tongue confess that
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD....”

Quarterly Publication

May, 2016

From the Desk of our President

Dear Fellow Missionaries:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

You hold in your hands the May 2016 issue of the *Jesus is Lord Mission Society Newsletter*, along with the ballot of proposed projects and the ballot of proposed officers, suggested by your Nominating Committee to steer this most wonderful mission society.

You may notice that the list of mission grant recipients has been whittled down from the usual dozen or so projects that we support to exactly one handful. With a smaller number of projects we can make a bigger impact in those areas of the world that the LCMS says are critical areas to reach with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. Yes, you are correct in saying that every area of our world is a critical area to reach with the Good News of a perfect Savior, crucified and raised to life again as the payment for our sins and the sins of all the world. That includes our neighbor across the street, the person in the cubicle next to us, the friend in our exercise group, or the student in the desk in front of me. We chose to select the smaller number of projects from those projects shared with us by LCMS Office of International Mission and to support them with more money, taking more ownership in those foreign lands.

Then a very difficult decision had to be made. It is the same type of decision that our churches have to make as they decide on budgets and what to spend where. It is the same decision you have to make at home as we prayerfully and thoughtfully decide what percentage of our funds will be used to further the spread of the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ through our congregations, JILM, and other mission opportunities, among those who do not yet know Him as their only Lord and Savior from sin and death.



-- Michael Riddell

There was some discussion that we needed to lower our goal because the gifts that we have been receiving over the past few years have been less and less with the difference being made up by spending some of the money from a couple of very large gifts we received a few years ago. Those funds are now

depleted. The cushion is gone and still your Steering Committee voted unanimously to present these five projects to you with a total commitment that is a little less than last year. When we are blessed by God with donations that take us far above the \$175,460 designated for these projects then we can ask our Office of International Mission to share with us other areas of the world that are in need of the gifts of the faithful missionaries of the Jesus is Lord Mission Society. (When our estimated 5% operating expenses are added in for things like paper and postage and printing of newsletters, we arrive at that same \$184,000 mark we have been aiming for during the 2015-2016 fiscal year.) By God's grace, working through generous and committed missionary donors, that goal will be reached and incredible work will have been done for the good of the Kingdom both here on earth and for all eternity in heaven.

One final true confession. I was asked to come up with a theme for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. We have been thinking about that and praying and asking others to come up with something. Nothing has come to mind other than what we celebrated this past year, namely our prayer that God would take us to the deeper water, where our feet can no longer touch, where we are called to put our complete faith and confidence in Him. We might just keep that as a reminder for another year.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

As we were thinking of themes, I read this thought from Michael Riddell in his book, *Threshold of the Future: Reforming the Church in the Post-Christian West*. He says, **“Participating in the mission of God means leaving our place of security. Mission is always in the direction of the other, and away from ourselves.”** (*Threshold of the Future: Reforming the Church in the Post-Christian West* by Michael Riddell, 1998, p. 24.) How true that is, and how it plays into our theme. Once again we are called to leave our place of security, to allow God to stretch us, showing us that our prayerfully set goals are not reached because of how wonderful we are, but because of His ability to use us in His kingdom work wherever and whenever He has need of us. He is calling us to leave the kiddie pool where we can stand, feet firmly on the ground, and to reach in the direction of others, be that across the street, across the school desk, across the

grocery store checkout line, or across the ocean, with the Good News of Jesus Christ so that

... at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:10-11)

In HIS service and yours,
Pastor John Heckmann
Hebrews 13:20-21

[Editor’s Note: Rev. Heckmann has provided several meaningful quotes to guide us as we consider the work that lies ahead. These quotes are placed throughout this newsletter; we encourage your prayerful consideration of their message.]

JILM FINANCIAL REPORT
January - March 2016

	Income	Expense	Balance
Beginning balance, 1/1/2016			\$39,725.83
Gifts and interest received 1/1-3/31/2016	\$37,652.81		
Expenses		\$ 2,884.68	
Project Support		\$ 43,250.00	
Completed Projects (74%):			
Gambia (\$4,232.00)			
Ghana (\$3,182.00)			
Ghana (\$3,182.00)			
Ghana (\$4,200.00)			
Liberia (\$5,282.00)			
Area 1 (\$11,550.00)			
Sri Lanka (\$26,460.00)			
Incomplete Projects:			
Area 2 (\$23,625 remaining)			
Russia (\$5,500 remaining)			
India (\$10,500 remaining)			
Restricted Outreach (\$7,757 remaining)			
Ending balance, 3/31/2016			\$31,243.96

Ministry funds contributed to date: \$2,506,636.88

To fulfill the Great Commission, we need to stop doing ministry by addition and start doing ministry by multiplication...planting churches that plant churches that plant churches that plant churches.

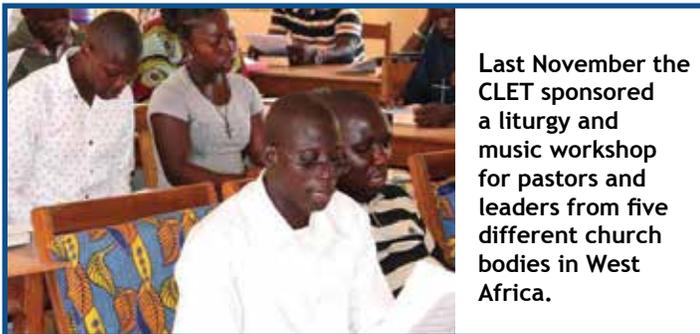
- - Be Fruitful and Multiply by Robert E. Logan (p.58)

2017 JILM Proposed Mission Projects

The LCMS Office of International Mission has prepared a group of projects for consideration by JILM members. From the preliminary list of 15 projects totaling more than \$500,000, the Steering Committee has selected five projects to recommend for adoption. The total commitment for these recommended projects is \$175,460.

Togo - Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET) \$44,000

The Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET) seminary in Dapaong, Togo, is an international institution that trains leaders for the Lutheran churches of a large French-speaking sub-region of Africa. This region includes churches from Togo, Burkina Faso, Benin, Ivory Coast, Guinea, the Republic of Congo, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Through this project, students will receive support for seminary expenses, books, and health care costs. They will also receive funds for visits back to their sending church body for practical experience and to address spiritual issues of their developing churches. A typical scholarship can range from \$6,500 to \$13,500 per student.



India - Church Planters/Vicars \$42,000

All candidates for the pastoral ministry in the India Evangelical Lutheran Church (IELC) must complete a 1-2 year vicarage before ordination. The typical assignment is to organize and plant a Lutheran congregation in a new area under the supervision of an IELC pastor. The IELC, however, cannot afford to pay these men during this service. The congregations being established are also unable to help financially. This project provides modest stipends for these vicars until their ordination. There are typically 30-40 vicars requiring such support.



Eurasia - Outreach and Church Planting \$33,000

This project is designated as the primary source of funds for annual outreach and church planting opportunities throughout the Eurasia region that arise during the year. The project allows for an immediate response to mission endeavors identified by either LCMS missionaries or by leaders of partner churches. This fund is a key to preventing stagnation and slow response times that can result from the traditional budget cycle. Churches will be planted, sustained, or revitalized in order to carry Jesus Christ into a highly secular or non-Christian part of the world. The project will include regular preaching of Law and Gospel and faithful efforts to reach new people, both unchurched Christians and non-Christians.

(projects continued on page 6)

Sri Lanka - Vicar Stipends \$26,460

LCMS missionaries have selected and trained several men as candidates for the next generation of pastors in Sri Lanka. Like existing pastors, these men are entirely dependent on LCMS support as they work as vicar-evangelists who evangelize non-Christians and plant new congregations under the supervision of existing pastors. This project allows for the continuing provision of modest, \$175-per-month stipends to these seven vicar-evangelists as they work among the unchurched in Sri Lanka.

GIFTS TO JILM
JANUARY - MARCH, 2016

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O'Neal and Edna **Wiegelt**
Carolyn **Young**
Rudy and Genie **Zoch**

CONGREGATION AND ORGANIZATION DONORS

Austin, TX, Our Savior
Lutheran Church
Gatesville, TX, St. Paul
Lutheran Church (The
Grove)

Killeen, TX, Grace
Lutheran Church
Uvalde, TX, Trinity
Evangelical Lutheran
Church

Walburg, TX, Zion
Lutheran Church

*“Every heart with Christ, a missionary;
every heart without Christ, a mission field.”*

IN HONOR OF

Bettie Horn **Bendewald**
Carl **Drosche**

Louise **Drosche**
Joyce **Heckmann**
(80th birthday)

Lois **Scholz**
James **Tate** (70th birthday)

IN MEMORY OF

Victor **Bauer**
Delores Bethke **Billing**
Lois **Blanke**
Virginia **Canady**
Tim **Carr**
Jeff **Franzmeier**
John **Fritz**
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Alma **Rottmann**
Elaine **Ruff**
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Steve **Sutkowski**
Al **Weigelt**
John Allen **Wood**
Irene **Wright**

*The church doesn't exist for itself; it exists to serve the world.
It is not ultimately about the church;
it's about the people God wants to bless through the church.
When the church loses sight of this, it loses its heart.*

Velvet Elvis by Rob Bell (p. 165)

THRIVENT CHOICE CONTRIBUTORS

*Thrivent Choice contributed a total of \$3,635 to Jesus Is Lord Mission
on behalf of these members from January 1 through March 31, 2016.*

Helen **Bartz**
Martha **Bibler**
John **Bobo**
John **Brown**
Elsie **Cloeter**
Bobby **Davis**
Harold **Fleischhauer**
Edmund **Frank**
Sara **Frank**

Daniel **Gensch**
Edward and Arlene **Greenthaner**
John and Debra **Heckmann**
Raymond and Viola **Hobratsch**
Priscilla **Holz**
Jimmie and Nancy **Horton**
Lawrence and Joanne **Kelm**
Twila **Main**
Reginald **Meyer**

Dalton **Noack**
Richard and Paula **Noack**
Neal **Rabe**
Ben and Lois **Rathgeber**
Barbara **Senzig**
Wilbert **Sohns**
Mason **Townsend**
Alber **Walther**
O'Neal and Edna **Weigelt**

Russia - Ingria Outreach and Church Support **\$30,000**

This project supports the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia (ELCIR). In three congregations, funds support salaries and travel costs for the pastors. One congregaton's remote location in Siberia makes cooperation in continuing education and peer support from the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELC) important to its continued health. Outreach in these congregations includes family camps with Lutheran instruction for children and adults, sacred music concerts, work with local universities and conservatories, special seminars on parenting, youth retreats, and outreach to Ukrainian refugees with clothing, food, furniture and other needs.



A recent confirmand in one of the Ingrian congregations proudly displays her confirmation certificate and Luther's Small Catechism with Commentary.



**Volunteers -
Let Your
Light Shine!**

Over the past twelve months there have been on-going meetings, discussions and work sessions leading up to the present selection and presentation of the 2016-2017 JILM Mission Projects . . . and you have all played a part in it. Members, faithful mission minded donors and volunteers; you all have done your special part in making this possible. Thank you! Your support and participation is like a beacon of light racing into the darkness to illuminate God's messages

of peace, love and salvation. God says, "You are the light of the world." We are those through whom God works so that according to Matthew 5:16 others may see our good deeds, and "give glory to our Father in heaven."

You Can Help Light The Way...

Please tell a friend about JILM and how they can help many around the world to hear God's special message. If you want to receive JILM literature to distribute please contact me at: starpin2@gmail.com

Blessings,
Fred Tscheulin
JILM Volunteer Coordinator

Christ's strategy is to scatter His people throughout the world between Sundays, penetrating society's structure from within.

They are the true ministers of Jesus Christ in the world.

Rightly understood, every believer is in full-time service for Jesus Christ. That movement is a lay movement, and the church's impact is the aggregate of all the laity's impact as they carry out their common tasks between Sundays.

Perspective (a biweekly devotional letter of Concern Ministries, Inc.) by Richard Halverson, n.d.

*Mission is no longer about crossing the
oceans, jungles and deserts,
but about crossing the streets
of the world's cities.*

A Theology as Big as the City, by Ray Bakke (p. 13)

JILM OPERATIONS

JILM Newsletter

Editorial Staff

Joyce Best
Barbara Biels
John Brown
Roger Neeb
Dalton Noack
Glenn OShoney
Fred Tscheulin

Ambassador at Large

Dalton Noack

JILM Office Managers

John and Mary Ann Brown

JILM Volunteer Coordinator

Fred Tscheulin
512-674-5374

JILM Website Manager

Larry Noack

JILM Website P.R. Material Manager

Betty Liese

Membership

449 Families and Organizations

Steering Committee

John Heckmann, President (Pastor)
Wilbern Michalk, Vice President and
Member at Large (Pastor)
Jane Ellwanger, Secretary (Layperson)
Alber Walther, Treasurer (Layperson)
Joyce Best, Newsletter Editor (Layperson)
Paul Howe, Member at Large (Pastor)
Glenn OShoney, Member at Large (Pastor)

Contact JILM

PO Box 11
Walburg, TX 78673
Fred Tscheulin starpin2@gmail.com.

STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTION

JILM's nominating committee recommends these members for elected and appointed positions on the Steering Committee:

Incumbents:

President: John Heckmann (Pastor)
Vice-President and Member at Large:
Wilbern Michalk (Pastor)
Member at Large: Paul Howe (Pastor)
Member at Large: Glenn OShoney
(Pastor)

To Be Elected:

Peter Heckmann, Secretary (Pastor)
Alber Walther, Treasurer (Layperson)
Mary Ann Brown, Member at Large
(Layperson)

To Be Appointed:

Joyce Best, Newsletter Editor (Layperson)
Fred Tscheulin, Volunteer Coordinator
(Layperson)



A big Thank You to Jane Ellwanger who has been our dedicated secretary on the Steering Committee for several years. Her attention to detail has been critical in helping the committee carry

out the business entrusted to it by JILM members. Her willing and joyful spirit has been a gift to the committee as its members strive to be better missionaries. Although she will no longer be on the Steering Committee, we look forward to her continued involvement in JILM.

"Jesus Is Lord!"

MISSION

P.O. Box 11

Walburg, Texas 78673

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

Lord, take us
to the
**DEEPER
WATER...**

2015 Jesus is Lord Mission Project
Goal: \$185,088

Proposed 2016
Jesus is Lord
Mission Project
Goal: \$175,460

