

LWML South Dakota District 2024–2026 Mission Grants



1. Main Street Living Ministry Outreach TV Program — \$4,998

Main Street Living program is specifically designed for the homebound, assisted-living and nursing homes, as well as the “mission field” of all other individuals who are at their homes on Sunday mornings and/or who have access to the Internet. The video recording equipment that was purchased seven years ago for the South Dakota market is in need of updating to meet broadcast video quality standards. This \$4,998 grant will cover the cost of camera and equipment upgrades to assist in presenting a quality evangelistic television ministry that invites the unchurched and shut-ins to better know the saving grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

2. Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat, RSO — \$5,000

Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat (SCR), an LCMS Recognized Service Organization, provides week-long counseling retreats for men and women in full-time ministry who are in various stages of burnout, stress, depression, compassion fatigue, and conflicts of all kinds. By God’s grace, SCR has successfully helped hundreds of ministry workers over the years, many of whom were ready to quit the ministry or give up on life before they came to the retreat. Funds for this \$5,000 grant will support scholarships to help pastors, ministry workers, and spouses who need extra financial assistance in order to attend a Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat.

3. Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Chapel Furnishings, Bismarck, ND, RSO — \$3,000

A gift from the South Dakota District LWML will be used to refinish chairs for the chapel on the Bismarck campus of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch and purchase special oversized seating, thus creating an inviting, child-friendly environment, that engages at-risk children, facilitating growth in the Gospel and Christ-centered healing. The Ranch was blessed to recently receive a grant at the National LWML Convention in Milwaukee for the construction of a Chapel on our Bismarck campus, and this \$3,000 grant would give the South Dakota District LWML an opportunity to furnish the Chapel.

4. Lighthouse Preschool, Aberdeen, SD — \$5,000

The Lighthouse Preschool grant of \$5,000 will help with tuition assistance for families unable to pay full tuition and for advertising of their program. Approximately half of the grant funds will be used to assist in tuition, and the remaining will be split between advertising in printed form and the rest in updating the church sign to include the preschool. Any remaining funds will be put toward upgrading sensory equipment for special needs children.

5. Critical Tools for Body and Soul, MOST Ministries, RSO — \$5,000

Mission Opportunity Short Term (MOST) Ministries, a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS, sends medical teams to Guatemala to proclaim the Gospel and address the health needs of rural Mayan people. A lack of basic medical testing apparatus, supplements for malnourished children, and visual teaching aids hinders the effective diagnosis and treatment of life-threatening diseases. Witness activities and prayer are central to each clinic and visual aids are used effectively to share the Gospel so that people see as well as hear (Luke 11:23) the message of God’s saving grace and compassion. MOST Ministries will use this \$5,000 grant to outfit six medical teams to Guatemala with basic medical testing equipment, supplements for malnourished children, and visuals for heal education and evangelistic outreach.

- 6. Proclaiming Christ to the Nations, Concordia Seminary International Student Support — \$5,000**
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, currently enrolls 60 international students from 20 different countries around the world. When these students graduate, they will return home to serve as seminary professors, theological instructors and church leaders in their respective countries. They will help raise up the next generation of Pastors who will share the Gospel far and wide. Many of the international students are from developing countries that do not have seminaries for advanced degrees and/or do not have the funds to send students to high-quality seminaries. Funds from this \$5,000 grant will be used to help the international students attain their degrees. These 3 pastors will be teaching at seminaries when they complete their degrees.
- 7. Mt. Calvary Learning Center Security Upgrade, Huron, SD — \$5,000**
Mt. Calvary Learning Center in Huron, SD provides opportunities for a Christian education about Jesus Christ as the only Savior from sin and Lord of Life through formal classes and an informal living-learning environment with Christian teachers. They are a mission, reaching families through their children. The Learning Center still has needs with one of the biggest being an upgrade of security for both daycare and preschool. Currently they have cameras in several areas, but still have quite a few blind spots. Having additional security camera upgrades will allow them to always have eyes on each child and provide a better monitoring system for parents. Funds of \$5,000 will be used to upgrade the security system at the Learning Center.
- 8. Faith Lutheran Preschool, Pierre, SD — \$2,500**
Faith Lutheran Preschool in Pierre, SD, strives to teach and spread the word of God to the children they serve and their families. Expanding their Christian curriculum allows students to take the information home and share the word of God's love with others. With more academic skills required prior to kindergarten, new learning items are needed to help children with fine motor skills, cognitive skills, as well as social and listening skills. The \$2500 grant money would allow them to purchase a new Christian curriculum and additional academic materials without having to increase our tuition prices for families.
- 9. New Shepards for South Sudan, LHF — \$5,000**
Seminarions in South Sudan are focusing on how to bring to their people the message of God's gifts of love, peace, and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. This is sorely needed in this young country, which has been torn apart by years of brutal civil war and influences from the Muslim religion of Islam. Besides extreme poverty, the people also face famine, disease, and have an average life expectancy of only 56 years. Because of these issues, it would be unthinkable for most South Sudanese men to attend seminary. Funding is needed for travel expenses, tuition, books, supplies, food, beds and medical care. Lutheran Heritage Fund (LHF) remains committed to providing the Lutheran education and materials these men need not only to become good pastors, but also to become the skilled translators of tomorrow for LHF's Sudanese translation projects. It's important to realize that these Sudanese books and materials are used not only in Sudan, but also among Sudanese immigrants in the United States, including those in South Dakota. This grant of \$5,000 will support the "New Shepherds for South Sudan" program.
- 10. Faith Lutheran Motor Coach Improvements, Pierre, SD — \$5,000**
"In Christ Alone, My Hope is Found." "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Fix your Eyes on Jesus! Moving Faith into Action! These are all quotes written on the Faith Lutheran Church, Pierre, motor coach. The motor coach was purchased by the Mexico Mission group in 2021 for a less costly way to travel to Mexico. Since that time, the potential for the benefits of the motor coach has been expanded to include serving not only Faith Lutheran, but churches throughout the state and region. The \$5,000 grant will be applied to

the motor coach upkeep needs of tires, a tie-rod, and an engine control module. By receiving this grant, the fees charged to travel on the motor coach will be kept to a minimum.

11. Servants of the Gospel Through Dots of Love, LBW, RSO — \$3,000

This grant will allow Lutheran Braille Workers to add twenty-five (25) new Lutheran titles of life-changing and Scripture-based materials for people who are Blind over the next two-years. Once a title is transcribed it can be produced and distributed for many years, thus helping thousands of people who are Blind gain better access to God's saving Word in a manner that serves their needs. These funds will be used to cover the Braille transcription fees charged by the Volunteers of Vacaville Prison Transcription Program (The Blind Project) in Vacaville, CA. In addition, this funding will provide additional service opportunities for dozens of LBW volunteers and the participants in the Prison Braille Transcription Program.

12. Faith Health and Wellbeing and Community Outreach, Sioux Falls, SD — \$4,600

Faith Health and Wellbeing Ministry is a compassion ministry caring for the mind, body, and spirit through Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD. Located within the Whittier community, this ministry provides support, prayers and tools needed to maintain or improve physical, spiritual, mental/emotional, and social wellbeing. Participants can choose between three specific programs: Meal Ministry – comfort and long-term meals; Weekly Physical Activity - Move Better, Feel Better, Think Better Classes and Pickleball Lunch and Learn with wellbeing challenges. This grant of \$4600 will help ensure Faith Lutheran Church continues these gatherings which foster relationships where God's love and Word work through participation to grow the body of Christ.

13. Theological Libraries and Resources, Africa, LCMS Africa Region — \$5,000

Students training to become pastors or deaconesses need printed and digital resources in the theological libraries of the seminaries and training centers in Africa. This project seeks to establish and fortify printed and digital collections, cataloging, transport, and training for theological libraries of partner institutes and seminaries on the African continent. The needed resources will allow students to seek otherwise inaccessible theological knowledge, better equip them to provide pastoral care within their ministerial contexts and enable pastors and deaconesses toward faithful stewardship of their national churches. This mission grant of \$5,000 will help establish essential libraries and resources.

14. Haitian Seminarians, Ministry in Mission, RSO — \$4,000

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and Ministry in Mission is the only Recognized Service Organization in Haiti working with the National Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti. The purpose of this grant is to subsidize the seminary education offered by Ted Krey, the Director of the Latin America District, for Haitian men desiring to serve existing churches and build new churches in Haiti. This request is a subsidy, not the total cost of seminary. This \$4,000 grant will be used for travel expenses to transport the four seminarians to the Dominican Republic and back to Haiti, visas, school supplies, laptop computers, and general personal needs.

15. Proclaim the Gospel – Serve in Mercy, RSO, LCMS — \$2,902 (partial)

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) supports the extension of mission outreach, education, and mercy through independent Recognized Service Organizations (RSO), whose programs are in harmony with the doctrine and practice of the LCMS. RSO provide social ministry, educational services, camps, campus ministry, mission outreach, international services, communication programs, and more in hundreds of communities. It is our desire to build up the Lutheran identity of the RSO by having the ability to offer them devotional and worship material. This grant will assist the RSO in strongly living out their Lutheran identity in Word and Sacrament ministry and in acts of mercy.