



Evangelical Lutheran Synod's Anniversary Offering

Celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and 100th anniversary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Your Anniversary Offering Update *A Brief Look at the Work of One of our Missions*

Divine Mercy Lutheran, Weatherford/Hudson Oaks, TX

While it is easy for some of us to focus on the giving side of missions, let's not forget about those who are focusing on the day-to-day real needs in the mission fields, our missionaries.

For example, at **Divine Mercy Lutheran Mission** in Hudson Oaks/Ft. Worth, TX, Pastor Kyle Madson (*pictured right*) is focusing on several outreach projects through their church.



One project is the **Loving Life Ministry Project**, an outreach of Divine Mercy that seeks to help infants and their mothers with much needed clothing, diapers, and other miscellaneous needs. Note that this project provides a double opportunity to reach others in the community. The first way is in asking for donations from businesses and individuals. By this they have an opportunity to make contacts with leaders and workers in the community. The second connection is with families, with moms (and dads), as they help them and their children who are in need. At the same time, each contact provides an opportunity to connect them back to the Word, and, by God's grace, connect them to the church.

On the other hand, they are also reaching out to the fathers by hosting a **"Guys Night"** at their church. The idea is to help fathers be strong in their faith and in their roles as husbands to their wives and as fathers to their children.



As we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017 may we be reminded of how important it is for us and for the generations that follow us to remain on the foundation of God's Holy Word and the sure forgiveness we have in Christ.

Please help us continue to share this Gospel with others. While we have begun some wonderful things through our home mission efforts in starting and supporting new missions we know that our missionaries can not do this alone. They will continually need your prayerful support.

In Christ our Risen Lord,

Daniel A. Basel

Pastor Daniel A. Basel, Chairman
Anniversary Offering Committee

**Anniversary Offering:
Supporting Our Home
Missions and Missionaries!!!**

Please tear along perforation and return with your gift

I would like to support the Anniversary Offering in the following ways:

AO 2/17

My offering today \$ _____ is enclosed.

You can give online at els.org/donate or use the QR symbol on the right:



I intend to give \$ _____ to the Anniversary Offering

____ Monthly ____ Yearly ____ Please send reminders & updates
(Quarterly) (2017, 2018) (by mail and/or email)

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____ Email Address: _____

Optional: My Church is: _____

Please call me at _____ - _____ - _____ to set up an appointment to discuss my gifting options and/or lay out a plan or to set up a gift annuity to support Gospel ministry.

Purpose of the Anniversary Thank Offering - 2016-2018

Our goal is to support missions in our country and to gather this offering in order

- to fund new missions,
- to fund the Vicar in Mission program, and
- to support cross-cultural mission projects.



Dear Fellow Proclaimers of the Wonders of God,

Perhaps you have already seen this graph before having read President Moldstad's Newsletter. Or perhaps you've visited our web page, www.els.org/offering. If you have, thank you for keeping up on the latest news and the latest snap shot of the status of our offering. We all want to see that this graph grows as we give our monthly, quarterly or annual gifts. It means we can continue to see our missions supported and the work enhanced in the areas of training missionaries through our seminary (Vicars in Missions), reaching others through cross-cultural projects and supporting new missions.

This you are doing, as the graph above shows. So, with all our hearts we say, "THANK YOU!" Thank you to all our pastors and congregations who have shared the information on the *Proclaim the Wonders God Has Done Offering*. A HUGE "THANK YOU" also goes out to all who have given individually and/or through their church. We praise the Lord for you. You encourage the workers in the field and others who, like yourselves, give of the earthly substance our Lord has provided.

As the graph indicates, over \$330,000 in cash and intended gifts have come in so far for the Anniversary Offering. In essence your gifts to date total a bit more than 1/5 (22%) of our total goal of \$1,500,000.

Be sure to consider ways to boldly and efficiently support Gospel ministry, whether at your home church and its preaching and teaching ministry, or in support of missions both home and foreign at the synod level. Let's keep the conversation going on how we can make a difference for the proclamation of the Gospel.

- ◇ Are you looking to retire or sell your business or other property? We can help preserve capital for you and your family as well as for ministry.
- ◇ Are you nearing or over the age of 60 and have some funds you can put to work for yourself and ministry? Consider a charitable gift annuity. It can help you make your savings or the value of your property work better for you.
- ◇ Looking to sell low-income property that may trigger hefty capital gains tax? Consider turning it into a charitable remainder trust for preservation of capital, improved life-long income and peace of mind.

Mark your gift form and provide a phone number and let's start a conversation today so our missions can thrive today as well as tomorrow.

Gifts using an IRA Charitable Rollover

Many are discovering a special tool for giving called the IRA Charitable Rollover. If you have reached the age of 70.5 you may qualify for a "tax-free" distributions from your traditional IRA. It can even count towards your annual "required minimum distribution" (RMD). The charitable rollover gives you the ability to make a 100% tax-free distribution from your IRA to the anniversary offering or ministry of choice.

Please send your gift to:

Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. Romans 3:28

ELS Anniversary Offering
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