

Will you join us in prayer?

Please pray that God will provide a larger place for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church so more people may be welcomed at worship.

Pray for Simeon's education and for the 16 non-English speakers who are currently studying in the LMSI pre-seminary program.

Would you like to help?

With his English ability, Simeon Mamidi is able to be educated in Hong Kong as he serves his church in India. But tuition, travel, and room and board are expensive. Contributions toward this cause would be greatly appreciated!

To donate please use the attached envelope or visit els.org/donate.



Gospel ministry in India
blesses many children



Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Board for World Outreach

6 Browns Court, Mankato, MN 56001
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MISSION NEWS & HELPING HANDS



Sharing the Gospel in South America and Asia

NOVEMBER 2017

Young Man with a Purpose

My name is Simeon Mamidi. I am a seminary student serving a congregation of the Lutheran Mission of Salvation – India (LMSI). Through the season of Pentecost, I have been preaching on Epistle lessons, and it gives me great delight to quote what the Apostle Paul wrote to the Romans: *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose (8:28).”* I have seen in my own life that God arranges blessings for us according to his purpose.



Simeon Mamidi addresses the
2016 ELS convention

Several years ago, I completed my Master's Degree in Business Administration and began my career at a bank (HSBC). I was earning a good salary, and it appeared that my life was on track toward a successful secular employment. My situation was the envy of many young Indian men. But God had something better in mind for me. He opened another door and gave a new *purpose* to my life. My church proposed to prepare me for pastoral ministry. The ELS Board for World Outreach (BWO) accepted the proposal and committed to fund my theological education and my ministry.

Because I speak English, the BWO sought my admission to the WELS-affiliated Asia Lutheran Seminary in Hong Kong (ALS). I started my education with ALS in August 2013 studying the Biblical languages first and then continuing as a full-time student. At ALS we have one week of on-site class in which students meet either at Beijing or Hong Kong for intensive study. We then go back to our local regions to serve congregations and complete our assignments for the rest of the three weeks. I could not have thought of studying at ALS in my wildest dreams, so I am thankful the Lord has provided this blessed opportunity.

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After I completed two years of study, I was installed as a vicar at St. Peter's Lutheran Church to serve under my father, President Solomon Mamidi. Then God revealed a further *purpose* for my service to the church. Near the end of 2016, the Lord called home Rev. Inti Moses, the pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Early in 2017 I was assigned to serve the

members of Good Shepherd. I am happy to report that 50 members are attending regularly, and we have some new members joining the church. In fact, we are running out of space!

As you can imagine, I am a busy man. I am serving Good Shepherd regularly and preaching at St. Peter's twice a month as I continue my vicarage. In addition I continue my own study at Asia Lutheran Seminary and have recently begun teaching Indian pre-seminary students. I hope someday to teach at our LMSI seminary.

I thank the Lord that I have been *called according to his purpose* - called to faith in Christ and to service in his church. Through the support of ELS Board for World Outreach and my teachers at Asia Lutheran Seminary, I am being prepared to be a Lutheran pastor in the Hindu country of India where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is so desperately needed!

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Graduation at Asia Lutheran Seminary



Sunday worship in India