



Western Wisconsin District Mission Board

"Go and make disciples of all nations"

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Western Wisconsin District Mission Board Report to The Western Wisconsin District | Summer 2021

Board for Home Missions Updates:

1. *Spring BHM Meeting:* The Board for Home Missions met in Pewaukee on April 15-16 and approved financial support for home mission churches. New home missions will be planted in these four locations: Waco, TX, Durham, NC, Parrish, FL, and Dickinson, ND. Home Missions also decided to provide financial support to three existing ministries in Willoughby, OH, Hutto, TX, and Summerlin, NV. Our WWDMB made a restart request for Our Savior in Burlington, IA, for subsidy to call a missionary pastor. Unfortunately, it was deferred but we may bring another request next year. The following churches were granted vicars through the Vicar in Mission Setting program of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and Home Missions: Resurrection in Verona & Monroe; Good News in Mount Horeb; St Peter in Schofield & Wausau; and Wisconsin Lutheran Chapel in Madison.
2. *100 New Missions in 10 Years:* The BHM discussed a memorial we are bringing to the Synod at this summer's convention. As we prepare to celebrate our 175th anniversary as a church body, we recommend the goal of starting 100 new missions and 75 enhanced ministries in the next 10 years (beginning 7-1-2023). You may read the memorial on pages 182-183 in the 2021 Book of Reports & Memorials. Paul Schupmann from our DMB is serving on the "100 New Missions Task Force" that is overseeing this endeavor.
3. *Report To The Synod:* The Board for Home Missions' full report to the Synod is on pages 105-110 in the 2021 Book of Reports & Memorials.

Western Wisconsin District Mission Board Updates:

1. *Blessed to Serve:* Ron Demulling's term of service on our DMB ended last summer after many years of faithful service. Ron's passion for sharing the gospel is missed, and we wish him and his wife, Brenda, God's blessings in retirement and as they continue serving the Lord as he gives them opportunities. At the same time, we welcomed Pastor Ben Schmudlach and David Schwantz to the DMB. These men are also excited about sharing Jesus and they both bring valuable spiritual gifts and experiences to the table.

2. *Our District's Missions:* There are two subsidized missions in our district: Good News in Mount Horeb and Bethlehem in Richland Center. Good News secured a loan from Church Extension Fund to buy a parcel of land. This spring they broke ground for construction on a permanent facility for worship and ministry. Bethlehem purchased a school building a few miles outside of Richland Center this winter and held its first services on Christmas Eve. Funds are being raised to make renovations for expanded ministries to seniors and young children. There are currently four unsubsidized missions in our district in Fitchburg, Horicon, Roscoe, IL, and Burlington, IA.
3. *A Successful Thank Offering:* Having received the blessing from Home Missions and the District Praesidium, our DMB reached out to the district last fall asking for financial gifts (over and above Congregational Mission Offerings) to help our mission in Roscoe, IL, which could no longer worship in a local school because of Covid-19. Our goal was to gather \$20,000 to help the members of Amazing Grace rent another place. Indeed, God can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine (Ephesians 3) as the total amount received was \$122,805! This generous response has propelled Amazing Grace to move forward with its ministry. Monies not necessary for their short term facility needs were placed into their existing building fund. A loan has been secured through Church Extension Fund, and ground was broken this spring for a building project on land already owned by the mission. On behalf of our DMB and the members of Amazing Grace, thank you.
4. *Future New Missions?:* There are a number of towns, cities and communities that are on the "pipeline" as potential places for new missions, restarts, second sites, enhancements etc. They are: Abbotsford, Beloit, Deerfield, Eau Claire, Johnson Creek, Kronenwetter, Ladysmith, Lake Delton / Wisconsin Dells; Lodi, Moline (IL), and Whitewater. Please keep these places in your prayers. Let us know about anywhere you would like us to explore for new mission potential.
5. *Reaching the Lost - Daughter Congregations:* Your WWDMB, with help from Lakeside Lutheran, has produced its first mission video (God willing more to come!). In this first video, we highlight how Resurrection Lutheran Church in Verona daughtered Good News Lutheran Church in Mt. Horeb. We hope that you will be able to play this video for your congregation at its next mission festival, at a Bible class or as you see fit (approx: 10 minutes). To God be all the glory!

"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:57,58).

On behalf of the Western Wisconsin District Mission Board,



Pastor Jeffrey P. Mahnke