

MISSION GRANT PROPOSALS FOR THE 2026 CONVENTION

1. Youth Gospel Outreach — Glocal Mission, Houston \$6,000

Glocal Mission is a Christ-centered nonprofit dedicated to making disciples who make disciples. In response to today's increasingly secular culture, this initiative equips and mobilizes multiethnic youth, especially from underserved communities in Houston and surrounding areas, to become gospel-centered leaders and local missionaries. Through youth training retreats, seasonal outreach events, neighborhood evangelism, and discipleship cohorts, young believers will be equipped for personal evangelism, cross-cultural missions, and biblical disciple-making. Funding will help address spiritual emptiness, identity confusion, and apathy by raising a new generation of youth who boldly live out their faith and advance the Great Commission in their communities and beyond. This mission grant will support leadership training, outreach supplies, care packages, stipends, event rentals, and program materials.

2. Christian Family Discipleship — Concordia Center for the Family \$10,000

A 2019 LCMS study found that only one in five baptized children remained active into young adulthood, revealing a significant gap in faith formation within homes despite congregational support. Changing family structures and generational shifts highlight the need for Christian resources that serve diverse households. Technology is also reshaping how youth explore questions of faith, with many turning to artificial intelligence for answers they hesitate to ask adults. Concordia Center for the Family (CCF) aims to strengthen partnerships between homes and congregations in Texas by equipping families for lifelong discipleship. Trained CCF Family Discipleship Facilitators will bring theology, skills, and attitudes that support dynamic family discipleship. This mission grant will fund facilitator training, including registration, facilities, supplies, and travel for CCF trainers.

3. Spanish Resources — Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$12,500

The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) exists to share God's Word in people's own

languages. Hispanic congregations in Texas and across the U.S. long to teach about Jesus but often lack Spanish-language materials. LHF provides free Spanish books, including Bibles, Luther's Small Catechism, and other Lutheran resources, to support Texas Hispanic ministries. More than 3.5 million Spanish-speaking people live in Texas, and many are either unchurched or not fluent in English, so these materials address a significant need. Providing these books places God's Word directly into people's hands, allowing the Holy Spirit to work through it to share the Good News. This mission grant will fund printing and distribution of over 3,500 Spanish-language books for Hispanic ministries in Texas and around the world.

4. Community Gospel Outreach — Redeemer Lutheran, Lubbock \$20,000

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Lubbock, Texas, is committed to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with its surrounding community, which includes many unchurched individuals, new residents, and families needing support. The congregation has developed a variety of outreach efforts, including meals for those rebuilding their lives, welcome packages for new neighbors, school partnerships, seasonal gatherings, concerts, VBS with school supplies and Bibles, Trunk or Treat, and similar events, all designed to build relationships and demonstrate Christ's love. However, Redeemer's small and aging membership limits its ability to sustain these ministries without outside help. This mission grant will provide meals, supplies, hospitality, and event support for community outreach activities, enabling Gospel-centered engagement with neighbors through service, fellowship, and evangelism.

5. Sharing Our Savior, One Meal at a Time — Forged by Fire Services \$7,500

Forged by Fire Services, along with their Sharing our Savior meal ministry, aim to respond swiftly and compassionately after times of natural disaster, ensuring individuals and families are physically and spiritually nourished. A mobile kitchen trailer hits recovery zones fast, delivering hot meals to those in need. On average, 500–2,000 meals are served per day during deployments. In

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addition to meals, a spiritual care tent shares Christ's love through prayer, LCMS-approved devotions, new Bibles, and individual cross necklaces, offering hope, healing, and encouragement. Future plans include launching a free laundry service ministry in 2026. This mission grant will support the purchase of food supplies, fuel, spiritual care materials, essential items necessary for the mobile kitchen, and laundry supplies.

6. ASL Jesus Signs Workshops —Texas \$15,000

The Deaf (individuals who communicate in American Sign Language (ASL)) community is one of the largest unreached people groups in the world, with 98% having no knowledge of Jesus Christ. In Texas alone, an estimated 345,000 Deaf individuals remain unreached. Because Deaf people often blend into the general population, they are frequently overlooked, even within churches, where language barriers prevent meaningful access to the Gospel. Interpreters, when present, may lack training on how to communicate Lutheran theology clearly. Deaf Outreach Texas will address this need through three-day ASL Jesus Signs workshops designed specifically for Deaf participants. These workshops provide biblical instruction, worship, fellowship, and culturally appropriate teaching. This mission grant will cover faculty expenses, Bibles, printed materials, food, and technical support.

7. Deploying Lutherans Doing Life Together — Baylor University, Waco \$20,000

Lutherans Doing Life Together (LDLT) is a student-led LCMS campus ministry at Baylor University that partners with and receives support from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waco. For the past ten years, LDLT has provided students with opportunities for worship at St. Paul, along with meaningful faith development, and Christian fellowship on campus. First-year and other students lack access to off-campus transportation, making it challenging and often costly to attend LDLT events and church services. Despite these barriers, the ministry has played a vital role in helping students remain connected to their Lutheran faith and receive spiritual support

throughout their college experience. This mission grant will fund the purchase of a van or bus to offer safe, reliable transportation and expand student participation in LDLT activities.

8. Generating Power of Christ — Camp Blessing Texas, Brenham \$8,000

Camp Blessing in Brenham, Texas is a residential Christ-centered summer camp for children and young adults with special needs. The week-long residential camp offers barrier-free activities and surrounds campers with love, acceptance, and fun. The camp's mission is rooted in the gospel, expressed through service and compassion. Volunteers, ranging from middle and high school students to college students and adults, serve as one-on-one buddies, summer staff, cabin parents, and medical clinicians. During a camp power outage, medical connections and communication systems could fail, placing campers at risk. Backup battery-powered generators would provide essential power for medical equipment and uninterrupted power for critical health and safety needs. This mission grant will cover the purchase of three generators for the clinic and both a male and female cabin.

9. Interactive Classroom Displays — St. Paul Lutheran, Vernon \$25,000

St. Paul Lutheran School is requesting funding to purchase interactive digital display boards to create a more engaging learning environment for children ages two to five. These tools will strengthen the school's mission of providing a strong Christian education while enriching early childhood development. As a mission outreach of the church, the school serves 69 children during the academic year and about 40 in the summer, welcoming families from Vernon's culturally diverse community. The teachers serve as front-line missionaries, offering each child a solid faith foundation and opportunities to grow. Through lessons and activities, teachers share the unconditional love of Jesus and encourage children to develop as Christ-like followers. This mission grant will secure seven interactive display boards and related equipment and provide teacher training.

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10. Spiritual Care — Upbring, Canyon Lake \$10,000

New Life Children's Center provides a safe, nurturing home for girls ages 11–17 who have endured trauma, abuse, or major crises, recognizing that such harm stands in direct opposition to God's purpose for creation. Many of the girls arrive with no prior relationship with God. The ministry is dedicated to offering spiritual hope and guidance, introducing each girl to the loving God who desires their healing through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Through its Spiritual Care Program, New Life creates meaningful opportunities for the girls to connect with God, including chapel services regularly led by local Lutheran pastors, creative art projects, music activities, counseling, and Bible studies. This mission grant will supply essential materials and Bible study resources.

11. Together We Go, Together We Grow — Expansion Mission Network, Rockwall \$24,000

Expansion Mission Network is committed to sharing the gospel with Hispanic communities across Northeast Texas. In partnership with LCMS congregations, the ministry focuses on planting Hispanic churches throughout the metroplex. Grant funding will support the operational needs of the organization so that leaders can focus on outreach events for children and youth and support Bible studies that bring parents and families together around God's Word. These efforts help individuals hear the Gospel, grow in faith, and become active members of local Lutheran congregations. The mission also aims to establish a Spanish-speaking congregation where believers can worship, receive the Sacraments, and mature in Christ. This mission grant will support the Church Planting Discipling Program, education, church planting operations, and outreach mission events.

12. Learning Center Flooring — Trinity Lutheran, Riesel \$20,000

Trinity Lutheran Early Childhood Learning Center in Riesel, Texas, has served families since 1996 as the only daycare in this rural community and an important ministry of Trinity

Lutheran Church, established in 1883. The Center currently provides Christ-centered care for 53 children from three months to five years, along with after-school programs, sharing the love of Jesus through daily teaching, weekly chapel, vacation Bible school, and community service. The current flooring, now 30 years old, poses safety concerns for children and staff and needs replacement. This project will enhance safety, create a welcoming environment, and support continued outreach to families, many of whom have no church home. This mission grant will allow the removal and replacement of the flooring.

13. Bridge to Belonging — Camp Lone Star, La Grange \$20,000

Camp Lone Star (CLS) provides transformative overnight camp experiences that nurture spiritual growth, leadership, and community in children and youth. Committed to ensuring every child can encounter the joy and life-changing impact of camp, CLS seeks a partnership with the LWML Texas District to remove financial barriers for families earning under \$47,000 a year. Currently, 65 percent of these families are unable to attend even with existing aid. By doubling scholarship support, CLS can welcome more campers into a Christ-centered environment where they experience belonging, adventure, and the gospel in a uniquely unplugged setting. This mission grant would match CLS's support, increasing the award level and enabling additional campers to receive the extra funding they need to attend.

14. Mobile Ministry Van — Bryan-College Station \$20,000

College is a formative season when young adults explore identity, truth, and purpose, often while feeling disconnected from familiar support systems. University Lutheran Chapel meets this need through relational ministry built around a dedicated 15-passenger van. Serving American and international students at Texas A&M University, the RELLIS Campus, and Blinn College–Bryan, the van becomes a practical expression of Christ's love. Many students who may never attend a church service are willing to join outings, where travel time naturally creates space for

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games, stories, and genuine connection. These shared moments open doors to meaningful gospel conversations. The van functions as a mobile ministry setting where pastors and student leaders can listen, pray, encourage, and share Christ authentically. This mission grant will support the purchase of a van.

15. Feet on the Ground — MOST Ministries \$12,000

Mission Opportunities Short Term (MOST) Ministries offers Christians the chance to participate in short-term mission trips that share the gospel through both Word and service. LWML sisters feel called to be “feet on the ground” for Jesus, yet members need financial support and encouragement to join a mission team. Because MOST team members must fund their own trips, cost can be a barrier for first-time participants. MOST Ministries strives to open the door for more LWML Texas District members to experience the joy of living out the Great Commission and serving people around the world. This mission grant would provide eight partial scholarships of up to \$1,500 for LWML Texas District members taking their first MOST Ministries mission trip.

16. Tailgate Outreach — Lutheran Student Center, Lubbock \$15,000

The Lutheran Student Center’s (LSC) mission is to connect Texas Tech University students and the community with Christ and His Church through fellowship, service, and faithful teaching. After selling its former building, LSC has entered a new stage of ministry without a fixed location, creating an unexpected, but meaningful opportunity to go directly to the students wherever they naturally gather. The Pop-Up Tailgate Outreach will bring ministry directly to campus and neighborhood events. This mobile approach equips volunteers and students to share Christ’s love, offer resources, and foster meaningful relationships that encourage young adults to grow in faith and live it out in service to others. This mission grant will provide portable branded equipment, supplies, and gospel materials to support this effort.

17. Reaching Forward — Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministries \$5,000

Bethesda Lutheran Disability Ministries’ (BLDM) Reaching Forward Initiative seeks to strengthen the church’s commitment to sharing Christ’s love with individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities, whose spiritual needs tend to go unrecognized. Congregations often struggle to fully include these children of God in worship and community life, leaving them without the fellowship and care they deserve. BLDM provides a clear and compassionate vision to equip pastors, volunteers, and families with the training, tools, and confidence needed to offer meaningful spiritual support. BLDM will expand its outreach to 20–30 additional congregations, offering inclusive ministry resource kits, mentor training, and family outreach materials at no cost. This mission grant will cover the costs of printing materials, postage, and travel.

18. #Shine San Benito Mission — The Table Lutheran Church, San Benito \$15,500

The Table Church is actively involved in mission outreach programs designed to serve the San Benito community. Through a variety of initiatives, the church seeks to make a meaningful impact on residents. The church organizes community service projects, providing meals, and classes. The Table Church hosts a vacation Bible school program, creating opportunities for community members, especially children, to learn and grow in a positive environment. With the gifting of a permanent facility, The Table Church needs to purchase supplies and equipment to fund its growing programs and support advertising efforts. The goal of The Table Church’s outreach is to connect community members with Jesus, as well as to the Word and Sacraments. This mission grant will provide furnishings, equipment, marketing, signage, outdoor tools, and cleaning supplies.

Seminarian Scholarships for Texas Students \$50,000

The Mission Grants Committee recommends the amount of \$50,000 for the 2026–2028 biennium. The delegates will be asked to approve the amount.