



We do missions!

passionate believers ...confessing Christ



Urban Ministry in Milwaukee

Rev. Dr. Christian Ikanih, a native of Nigeria, is pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church in the heart of the city. Pastor Ikanih reaches out with the love of Jesus to a diverse urban culture that includes many African immigrants. The District supports this ministry of hope in an urban neighborhood that confronts hopelessness every day.

Free at Last Ministry

Through the ministry of Rev. Afam Ikanih and layman Patrick Batom, the Gospel of Jesus is setting men free from slavery to sin. Through Bible studies, worship and counseling at the House of Correction, as well as assisting the ex-offenders through Mission of Christ congregation, these men are realizing how to be truly free at last.



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French African Ministry

Rev. Gui Kasongo, a native of the Congo, serves as pastor of the International Lutheran Church of Zion, which meets at Benediction Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. Serving the growing French-speaking African immigrant community, Pastor Gui and his congregation also support mission work in the Congo.

International Student Ministry at UW-Milwaukee

Bessie Fick and Rev. Kenneth Wieting serve UWM's international students and their families at Luther Memorial Chapel and the University Student Center in Shorewood. In an atmosphere of friendship and hospitality, they share the love of Christ in word and in deed.



Hispanic Outreach Ministry

Hispanic ministry continues to grow in Southeastern Wisconsin. Pastor Germán Novelli Jr. serves at Grace Lutheran Church, Milwaukee; Rev. Alfonso Prada is pastor at St. Martini Lutheran Church, Milwaukee; and seminary student Edmundo Rosales serves as pastoral assistant at Santa Cruz (Primera Iglesia) in Racine. These men have teamed up with Pastor Tim Sims, Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, and some dedicated mission advocates to form Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones (CPTLN)—“Christ for all the nations.”

Calvary Lutheran Chapel at UW-Madison

Rev. Jason Zobel, Vicar Dan Anderson, and Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Madison are partnering with Calvary Chapel to reach the diverse UW community which includes LCMS college students, international students from all over the globe, and thousands of un-churched young people. Judy Tang continues with international ministry, offering ESL and Bible studies to a growing number of Chinese scholars and their families.





Karenni Ministry

The Karenni are an ethnic group from Burma (Myanmar). Nearly 200 of them have settled in Milwaukee, coming from refugee camps in Thailand. Rev. Carl Lehenbauer (Trinity-Freistadt), Rev. Phil Hillenbrand (Beautiful Savior-Mequon), Rev. David Zeuschner (Chapel of the Cross-Milwaukee) and Rev. Thomas Kaul (Faith-Germantown) lead worship services every Sunday afternoon, and volunteers teach Sunday School and ESL classes to a group that often numbers more than 60-70 Karenni.

Hmong Ministry

God has blessed us with several Hmong congregations in our District. Rev. Faivneng Her is pastor of Hmong Hope at Berea, Milwaukee; Rev. Moua Vang serves the Hmong at Benediction; Rev. Blong Vang is pastor of the Hmong at Trinity, Oshkosh; and Rev. Moses Thao serves a small group at Redeemer, Manitowoc. Wisconsin has the third largest Hmong population in the United States.



Deaf Ministry

Our District is blessed to have two men, Rev. John Reinke (Our Savior Deaf in Madison), and Rev. Bud Palmer (Emmanuel Deaf in West Allis), and several deaconesses serving the Deaf communities in southern Wisconsin. Together they also serve Holy Cross in Delavan and stream video of their Bible classes and worship services to the Deaf population in the United States. The Deaf are among the most unchurched people group in our nation.

Ministry at the SOS Center in Milwaukee

An old funeral home on 46th and North Ave. in Milwaukee has been the sight of mercy ministry in the name of Jesus for decades. With support from our District, generous donors, some suburban congregations and a Siebert grant, this ministry offers after-school programs, summer Bible camp and youth activities, serving the community in the name of Jesus and teaching kids that there is always hope with faith in Christ.



People of the Book Lutheran Outreach (POBLO)

POBLO is "a mission movement which trains and sends ethnic missionaries to minister in partnership with congregations desiring to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to new Americans" (poblo.org/about-us). We have three POBLO missionaries serving in our SWD: Praveen and Priya Manuel, who are reaching the Indian population in and around Waukesha with the support of Brookfield Lutheran Church and other congregations, and Ebu Faye, who is working primarily with Somalians together with Bethany and Mount Cavalry congregations in Milwaukee.



Ministry in the Dominican Republic

In partnership with LCMS International Mission, Bethesda Lutheran Communities and the LCMS English District, SWD supports the multiple ministries in the Dominican Republic. Led by Rev. Ted Krey, their mission is spreading through their Lutheran schools, their ministry for disabled children, growing congregations and training new pastors, bringing the love of Jesus to one of the poorest nations in the world. As this ministry grows, more support is needed for the multiple ministries serving there.



Each of these ministries is supported in part by the South Wisconsin District with your mission dollars. If you would like additional information about how you can support one of these ministries please call our District Missions Executive, Rev. Peter Kelm at 414-464-8101 or kelm@swd.lcms.org.