### Pastor's Corner

By: Pastor Tom Eckstein



# Missions Supported by Concordia's Offerings in 2024!

As many of you know, 6% of Concordia's offerings were used to support District and Synod LCMS missions in 2023. In 2023 we gave \$20,722 to the ND District LCMS, and 35% of that was forwarded on to the national LCMS to help support mission work on the national and international levels. In 2024 we plan to continue this mission giving to District & Synod – except that in 2024 we are giving 7% of our total offerings for this purpose.

In addition, in 2024 Concordia will support the following missions with our offerings: 1) \$1080.00 in support of "Mesiaki Nairinka" (orphan in Kenya); 2) \$2000.00 in support of "Cullen Flieth" who is studying to be a Director of Christian Education at Concordia University in St. Paul MN; 3) \$2500.00 in support of the "Women's Care Center" in Fargo (a pro-life pregnancy center that helps needy parents so they can keep their children or give them

up for adoption); 4) \$1000.00 to support the work of missionary "Becky Grossmann" with Lutheran Bible Translators; 5) Concordia has budgeted \$2500.00 for "social ministry" to help needy individuals/families in our congregation and community; 6) \$1800.00 for "Youth for Christ" ministry in Jamestown.

# Mid-week Lent Services Continue in March!!

- 1. March 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM: "Baptism: The Gift of Death and Life"
- 2. **March 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM**: "Holy Communion"
- 3. March 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM: "The Lord's Supper"
- 4. Maudy Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM: "The Lamb of God Who Has Mercy on Us"
- 5. **Good Friday, March 29**<sup>th</sup>, **7:00PM**: "The Lamb of God Who Bore Our Shame"
- 6: Easter Sunday, March 31st, "Remember His Words!"

### Lenten Soup Suppers Continue in March!!

Various groups will be hosting "Soup Suppers" at Concordia from 5:30PM to 6:30PM on the following Wednesdays: 3/06; 3/13; 3/06; and 3/20.

Pastor Eckstein's Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> Art Center Lecture on YouTube! If you were not able to attend the lecture "The Bible & Sexuality" given by pastor Eckstein on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> at the Art Center, you can watch it on YouTube. Go to our congregation's web page (www.concordiajt.org) and click on "Sermons and Resources" on the top far right of the page. Under that you'll find a link to the YouTube video.

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Eckstein

### Newsletter Notes from Deaconess Nayva



### Women's Bible Study

### "God's Provision in a Wilderness World"

By Lindsay Hausch

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays March 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Hall 7:00

Feel Free to join us anytime.

#### **A New Song**

Bible Study on the Psalms

Fri, March 1<sup>st</sup> 10:00am

Marian Duff (Host) 1301 15<sup>th</sup> St SW

Thurs, March 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm

Vera Schulz (Host) 114 12<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Apt. 2030

### **Fellowship**

#### GRIEF SHARE

Sundays 2:00pm Fellowship Hall No Class Easter Sunday

#### **Book Club**

Book: Prairie Comrade
BY: Troy Gunderson
By We will be talking with the
Author in May TBD.

Sign up to purchase the book. \$15

### Outreach

#### STEPHEN MINISTRY

Wednesdays March 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 1:00 - 3:30pm

Deaconess Nayva



Main Street Living TV Program www.mainstreetlivingnorth.com Every Sunday on the local Fox Station at 9am

This month provides us with the remembrance and celebration of the most precious Bible lessons of the church year: the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus, the Christ! May these Scriptural truths – of what our loving Creator God has done for us – never get too familiar in our ears that we might begin to take them for granted. Rather, they refresh and renew our faith with the sure hope of forgiveness and eternal life!

Please continue to share information about our LCMS "Main Street Living" media ministry with others. In addition to being broadcast each Sunday morning, you can view archived programs anytime at <a href="www.mainstreetliving.com">www.mainstreetliving.com</a> – then click on the link identified as "Fargo/Bismarck." Worship services from the 5 other MSL broadcast areas, as well as the weekly "This Is The Life" programs, are also available for viewing on the website.

Thank you for your needed financial support! Checks may be sent to:

"Main Street Living NORTH," 821 5<sup>th</sup> Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by credit card or your PayPal account on the website.

God's blessing in Christ! –Ken Koehler, Volunteer Coordinator of MSL.



The LWML will meet on march 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. We will make plans for the Spring Rally in April. We will be colleting stuffed animals for Orphan Grain Train as an ingathering. If you would like to help with this you can put them in the box labeled Orphan Grain Train. See the poster elsewhere in the newsletter of the day's activities.

The LWML will be serving soup supper on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Our free will offering will go for our mites. The district has \$10,000 to pay for mites this year. Thank you to everyone for helping with the noisy mites. We collected \$135.07. We will be doing this again the first Sunday in March. Bring your coins to help pay our mites.

# The first Sunday of the Month is Mite Sunday



Listen up for the **NOISY OFFERING** on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our young people will be passing the bucket for coins to give towards mites. We continue to collect our mites to help pay for mission grants and we pray that we will be able to fund all our projects for this biennium....like Mission Grant #25 "Bringing God's Word to India" You can view the check presentation of \$100,000 on this YouTube link:

https://www.youtube.com/watc h?v=nlMg2SIwZhw

Thank you for helping to share God's word through your mites.



Sunday School continues on Sunday mornings at 9:15. We invite your child to join us for Sunday School as we will be learning of Jesus and His love for us as we go through the Easter story. We will have an intergenerational activity on Palm Sunday as we hear about Holy Week. See the poster elsewhere in the newsletter.

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

--Sunday School Superintendent Sue



Youth Group

Friday, March 1st 6:30 pm

Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>TH</sup> Retreat Carrington

Youth serve Soup Supper March 20th

Nerf Night Fargo March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Easter Breakfast Prep March 30<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm

Easter Breakfast March 31<sup>st</sup> 8:00am

We are asking our youth to serve our congregation by being an acolyte during services. There are still some spaces left on the list. Check out the sign-up list on the narthex table.

# Volunteers in February:

<u>preparation</u>:
Carol Martin

#### **Musicians:**

Sun. 3/3	Carmen McBride
Wed. 3/3	Carmen McBride
Sun. 3/10	Carmen McBride
Wed. 3/13	Carmen McBride
Sun. 3/17	Daine Flieth
Wed. 3/20	Daine Flieth
Sun. 3/24	Ione Somsen
Thurs. 3/28	Daine Flieth
Fri. 3/29	Daine Flieth
Sun. 3/31	Daine Flieth

# Elder and Acolyte Schedule

Sun. 3/3	8am	10:30am	
	E=Dernel D.	E = Doug P.	
	A =	A =	
Wed. 3/6	7pm	E=Ed M.	
		A =	
Sun. 3/10	8am	10:30am	
	E= Dernel D.	E =Ed M.	
	A =	A =	
Wed.3/13	7 pm	E= Ed M.	
		A =	
Sun. 3/17	8am	10:30am	
	E = Dave H.	E =Doug P.	
	A=	A =	
Wed. 3/20	7pm	E =Quincy B.	
		A =	
Sun. 3/24	8am	10:30am	
	E =Curt S.	E = Ed M.	
	A =	A = Layla A.	
Thurs. 3/28	7pm	E = Dave H.	
		A =	
Fri. 3/29	7pm	E = Dave H.	
	**	A =	
Sun. 3/31	7am	10:30am	
	E =Curt S.	E = Larry W.	
	A =	A =	
		<del></del>	



# Please pray for those serving our country...

- SFC Randy Flieth; ND Army National Guard-drilling in Fargo, ND
- Darren Kuhlman; Whiteman Air Base, MO

## Please pray for those having or recovering from Surgery...

## Please pray for those that are dealing with cancer...

- Rose Martin
- Jeff Pansch (Uncle of Tom Boerger)
- Jamie Jo Rawley (Friend of Lila Stokkeland)
- Delle Stinar (Mother of Jim Anderson)
- Mervin Wohler (Brotherin-law of Ann Snow)
- Mary Sandve (Friend of the Elstad family)
- Ronda Gjestvang (Sister of Dale Neustel)
- Marlane Middlestead; (Sister-In-Law of Shirly Genter)

## Please pray for those dealing with various health issues...

- Hannah Magstadt
- Arianna Walch
- Terese Carter
- Delvida Obenauer
- Les Wimer (Brother-in-law of Lila Stokkeland)
- Collins Arnold (Friend of Daine Flieth)

- Evelyn Bollinger (Great grand-daughter of Kathey Ziegler)
- Roger Strander (Brother of Verny Jorgenson)
- Joy Jerome (Cousin of Nayva Mulder)
- Hannalore Doeling (Mother of Deb Doeling)
- James Lunneborg (Brother of Ann Snow)
- Mark Lee (Son of Marvin and Deb Lee)
- Scott Barefoot; (Friend of Pastor Eckstein)
- Rachel Mulder (Mother of Nayva Mulder)
- Sue Hedberg; (Daughter of Gerri & Lloyd Bauske)
- Braxton Hoff (Friend of Jason Carter)
- Kari Knecht (Friend of Daine Flieth)
- Ethan Igl (Friend of Cullen Flieth)
- David Stout (Son of Rev. Tim Stout)
- Tyanna Weeks (Niece of Duane Remmick, Nell Essig, Char Kapp)

## Please pray for the families who have recently lost a loved one:

Lillian Dorr Jack Bethke

### **SACRED ACTS:**

# **Baptisms**

Brody Blumhagen, son of Taylor Anderson and Nathan Blumhagen, baptized on Jan. 28, 2024 Mylah Kappenman, daughter of Raime and Dana Kappenman, baptized on Feb. 11, 2024

# Confirmations Weddings Funerals/Deaths

Lillian Dorr, passed away Jan 27, 2024 Jack Bethke, passed away Jan 30,

# Transferred In Confession of Faith

# Current Membership Stats:

Baptized Members-609 Confirmed Members-460

2024

2024

Baptisms (Infant)-2, (Adult)-0 Confirmations (Junior)-0, (Adult)-0 Weddings-0 Funerals-2 Transferred In-1 Transferred Out-0 Profession of Faith-1

# Miscellaneous Announcements



Attention Thrivent Members – Please direct your Thrivent Choice dollars to Concordia Lutheran Church before they expire on Sunday, March 31, 2024.

There are two ways to direct your Choice Dollars. Either go to <a href="https://www.thriventchoice.com">www.thriventchoice.com</a> or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "choice dollar" at automation.

Thank you for considering Concordia Lutheran Church when making your Choice Dollars donation.



#### Relief for Human Need Worldwide

As many of you know, the OGT North Dakota Branch has been raising funds to purchase a "new" truck. The good news is that we collected enough money to pay for the truck and to have the logo applied to the sides (coming soon). Thank you to all of those who continue to support the mission of Orphan Grain Train!



If you would like to see the most recent news about Orphan Grain Train, you can go to <a href="www.ogt.org">www.ogt.org</a> for updates on our North Dakota Branch and the Orphan Grain Train International acrivities.



Lutheran Bible Translators has a bold goal to reach; that by the end of 2033, "all languages will have access to at least a portion of God's Word in the language they understand best". Read more about the milestones of the LBT in the flyer attached to this newsletter.



Ladies of the Congregation......

There are some of us who have been reminiscing about traditions of our past. Because of this, we are interested in reviving the tradition of wearing Easter bonnets/hats for Easter Sunday. Please grab a hat and join us to celebrate in this special way. See the enclosed flyer for more information.

### Easter Lilies



There will be an opportunity to purchase a lily in honor of a loved one this Easter season. The lilies will be used to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex. The suggested donation for lilies is \$10 - \$12. The funds can be designated "Easter Lilies" and place in the offering plate.



The Mercy Meals packing event on February 24<sup>th</sup> was a success! Thank you to everyone who participated. Check the bulletin for the exact tally. The food packets that we packed will be going to Liberia sometime in the next few months.

If you wish to make announcements in the bulletin or newsletter, contact the church office at:

concordiaitsecretary@gmail.

### **BIBLE TRIVIA!**

Test your Bible knowledge about Holy Week. Print the answer page, tear off the bottom of the page, write in your answers, and turn it in to the office for a chance to win a prize.

- 1. What holiday is being celebrated when Jesus makes his return to Jerusalem?
- 2. What priest announced that Jesus should die because it was appropriate for one man to die for the people?
- Who did Jesus send to prepare the Upper Room for the Passover with his disciples? (Hint: 2 men).

- 4. According to Matthew's Gospel, what did Jesus and the disciples do after the meal and before going out to the Mount of Olives?
- 5. Which apostle cut off a man's ear at Jesus' arrest and then watched Jesus heal the ear?
- 6. According to John's Gospel, what priest was the first to examine the arrested Jesus?
- 7. According to Luke's Gospel, how did Jesus respond to Herod's questioning?

- 8. Who did the resurrected Jesus appear to first?
- g. Who was the first witness of the resurrection to enter the empty tomb of Jesus?
- 10. According to Matthew's Gospel, what is the great promise Jesus makes to his disciples (and to us) after He gave them the Great Commission?

### Concordia Events Calendar – March 2024

	<del></del>	Concordia E	7	1		Γα:
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		<u> </u>			1 '	2
					10am Women's Bible Class @ Marion Duff home	7:30am – 12:30pm Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington
					6:30-8:30pm Youth Group	9-12pm-Orphan Grain Train
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8am & 10:30am Services (Lord's Supper)  Sunday School & Bible Class @ 9:15  2pm-4pm Grief Share meeting  2pm Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian	9-12pm-Orphan Grain Train  7pm -Elders & Stewardship meeting  8pm - Council meeting	10am-Bible Class  1pm -Quilting  7pm - Women's Bible Study @Concordia	9-11am - Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian  5:30-6:30pm Soup Supper  5:45-Confirmation  7pm - Lenten Service (Lord's Supper)	8:30-9:30am - Men's Bible Class @Concordia 2pm-9pm - Pastor Eckstein @ Grace/ Carrington	Youth Retreat in Carrington	Youth Retreat in Carrington 7:30am – 12:30pm Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington 9-12pm-Orphan Grain Train
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8am & 10:30am Services Sunday School & Bible Class @ 9:15	9-12pm-Orphan Grain Train	10am-Bible Class 1pm - Ruth Circle	9-11am - Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian 1pm-3:30pm — Stephen Ministry	8:30-9:30am Men's Bible Class 1pm Women's Bible Study @ Vera Schultz		7:30am – 12:30pm Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington  9-12pm-Orphan Grain Train
2pm-4pm Grief Share meeting 2pm-Pastor @	Circle	7pm Naomi Circle	5:30-6:30 Soup Supper 5:45-Confirmation	apartment  2pm-9pm - Pastor Eckstein @ Grace/ Carrington		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Trinity/Adrian			7pm Lenten Service	, c		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8am & 10:30am	9-12pm-Orphan	10am-Bible Class	9-11am - Pastor	8:30- 9:30am Men's	Youth "Nerf	7:30am - 12:30pm
Service (Lord's Supper)	Grain Train	1pm -Quilting	@ Trinity/Adrian 5:30-6:30 Soup	Bible Class  2pm-9pm - Pastor	Night" in Fargo	Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington
Sunday School & Bible Class @ 9:15		7pm – Women's Bible Study @Concordia	Supper  5:45-Confirmation	Eckstein @ Grace/ Carrington		9-12pm-Orphan Grain Train
2pm-4pm Grief Share meeting 2pm-Pastor @		( Consorting	7pm Lenten Service (Lord's			
Trinity/Adrian			Supper)			
24 Palm Sunday	25	26	27	28 Maundy Thursday	29 Good Friday	
8am& 10:30am Services  Sunday School & Bible Class @ 9:15  2pm-4pm Grief Share meeting	9-12pm-Orphan Grain Train	10am-Bible Class	1pm-3:30pm – Stephen Ministry	NO Men's morning Bible Class (resumes 4/18/24) 9-11am Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian 4pm-6pm - Pastor Eckstein @ Grace/ Carrington	7pm Good Friday Service @ Concordia	7:30am – 12:30pm Pastor Eckstein serving Grace/Carrington  9-12pm-Orphan Grain Train  2pm – Youth prepare
<b>2pm</b> -Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian				7pm Maundy Thursday Service @Concordia (Lord's Supper)		"Easter Breakfast"
31 Easter Day						
7am Easter Service (Lord's Supper) 8am "Easter Breakfast"@ Concordia No Sunday School or Bible Class (resumes			*Chancel Duties: Carol Martin	*Fridays: Pastor's Day Off!	*Mondays: Deaconess Nayva's Day Off!	+++
4/7/24) 10:30am Service @Concordia 2pm-Pastor @ Trinity/Adrian						

**Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries**Search: =march; Who = (everyone except removed); Filter = Birthday or Wedding

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					BECKY HOMES (b.) TAMMI LINDBERG (b.) ANNETTE OVA (b.)	JANICE KIDD (b.)
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
JOAN LEE (b.)	(PIPER) DUPPONG (b.) LEXIE KRAPP (b.)	(JASON) THOMS (b.)	KERRY HOCHHALTER (b.) TYLER SCHULTES (b.) KYLIE TRIPP (b.) ERIC WILLIAMSON (b.)	AL EPPEN (b.) (BRYLEE) IVERSON (b.) RICHARD PIESKE (b.)	TERESE CARTER (b.) SANDY DARROW (b.) SHARI MURRAY (b.)	AMANDA LAWRENCE (b.) (GLORIA) PALMER (b.)
10	11	12	13	14	15	**************************************
DOREEN ALBOHM (b.) ELDEN and MARY ENGLUND (w.)	PETER LINDBERG (b.)	KENNY DENNING (b.) DAINE FLIETH (b.)	GRETA MCKENNEY (b.) MALIA ROBINSON (b.)	TERRY MCCREEDY (b.) JAY MICKELSON (b.) MELINDA SCHMIDT (b.)		AVA HOCHHALTER (b.)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
KASEN KRUEGER (b.) KYLEE WHISMAN (b.)	REINHOLD MORLOCK (b.) RACHEL NELLES (b.)	(LUKAS) SCHUMACHER (b.)	TAMMY CHAPIN (b.) KATHY WEGLEITNER (b.)	Propositionalizadora estado	SHEILA PFEIFFER (b.) ED and DEB HAGEL (w.)	JERRY BRAUN (b.) RUSSELL DUPPONG (b.) DALE NEUSTEL (b.)
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
ELLEN EPPEN (b.) JERILYN KAISER (b.) (COOPER) TIMM (b.)		ASHLEY MARAGOS (b.) TY SPITZER (b.)	SOPHIE DILOCKER (b.)	ELI ANDERSON (b.)	REUBEN MORLOCK (b.) CLARICE SPITZER (b.)	MELISSA MURRAY (b.) (ROBERT) WALTON (b.)
31  ZACHARY CHAPIN (b.)  LAURA HUST (b.)  CAMMY OST (b.)  CORLENE WALKER (b.)						



**Concordia Lutheran Church** 

MARCH 31ST 8:00 AM



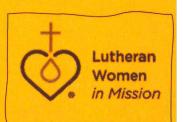


WEAR POUR EASTER BONNEY WITH ALL THE FRILLS UPON IT.

Easter Sunday March 31st



# LWML Central Zone Spring Rally 2024 I'm Stuffed





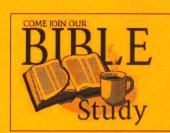
Saturday, April 6, 2024 Zion, Edgeley, ND Registration: 9:30am



Bible study will be led by

### Rev. Paul Preus

Join us as he shares God's Word with us in Christian Fellowship What are you stuffed with?







### Ingathering

- Stuffed Animal(s): For Orphan Grain Train and/or shelters
- Monetary Donations: are always welcome
  - shipping for OGT Supplies

# Save the Date! June 14–16, 2024 Mark Your Calendars! — The LWML ND District Convention In Bismarck

- Location: Ramada Hotel in Bismarck, North Dakota
- Convention Theme: "Lord of All Creation" Convention Verse: "For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through Him and for Him" (Colossians 1:16).
- Saturday evening entertainment: River Rhapsody Chorus is the Bismarck/Mandan local Sweet Adeline's International women's barbershop chorus singing acapella in 4-part harmony.
- Selecting Mission Grants
- Electing new officers for the following offices: President, VP of Mission Grants, VP Human Care, VP Communications, Treasurer, Junior Pastoral Counselor and Nominating Committee Chair.
- If you have a desire to serve your Lord through any of these offices, our current Nominating Committee Chairman
- The Date: Friday, June 14 through Sunday, June 16, 2024
- \* The Place: Ramada Inn, Bismarck, ND

Spring Rally 2024
Graciously hosted
by:
Zion: Ellendale

Thank you!

### What to Bring

- Bible
- Mite Offering
- \$10 per unit Counselor Fund
- Stuffed Animal(s)
- Friends
- Smile
- ❖ Your LWML Heart



# MARCH

This is a monthly prayer guide for your daily use. Each day as you pray, please feed your Mite Box in support of district and LWML Mission Grants. As you lift up the countries and mission grants listed, pray that the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ would be heard by those who live there or are served by our mite offerings. Each country listed has been a recipient of a mission grant from LWML at some time since 1942. What a joy it is to bring these prayers to our Father's listening ears!



- 1. For a clean heart (Psalm 51:10).
- 2. For LWML Mission Grant #6.
- 3. For China, one of the 83 countries where LWML has supported a grant.
- 4. For the work you do.
- 5. For things that make you smile or laugh (Psalm 68:3).
- 6. For the Lutheran Women in Mission Vice President of Communication.
- 7. For the country of Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast).
- 8. For the LWML Mid-South District.
- 9. For trials that strengthen and refine you (James 1:2-4).
- 10. For your basic needs.
- 11. For the country of Cuba.
- 12. For wisdom (James 1:5).
- 13. For government and world leaders.
- 14. For church leaders.
- 15. For the Czech Republic.

- 16. For the LWML Gulf States District.
- 17. For your family.
- 18. For the city/community where you live.
- 19. For the Dominican Republic.
- 20. For friends who are nonbelievers.
- 21. For LWML Mission Grant #7.
- 22. For your coworkers.
- 23. For the country of Ecuador.
- 24. For the persecuted.
- 25. For your enemies (Matthew 5:44).
- 26. For the country of Egypt.
- 27. For the missions of your church.
- 28. For those in nursing home facilities.
- 29. For those who clean and maintain your church.
- 30. For those facing life changes.
- 31. For those with serious illness.

#### Dear Concordia Lutheran Church,

ave you ever faced a task that seemed impossible to complete? Or perhaps you encountered a problem that felt insurmountable; too much for you to take on yourself?



Datoga, Kara, and Sumbwa speakers gathered for a language workshop in Tanzania

### WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

In the story of Nehemiah, God put a desire in one man's heart to rebuild the fallen walls of Jerusalem. The city was in ruins, its massive walls leveled to the ground. The Israelites were exiled to the farthest corners of the Babylonian empire. Instead of despairing for what was lost, Nehemiah stepped boldly forward in prayer for God's direction, provision, and protection, trusting completely in the Almighty as he set out to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem. It was a task too big for one man, so Nehemiah gathered those few who remained near the city, and they worked shoulder-toshoulder to rebuild those once mighty walls. Scripture tells us that it pleased God to see His people working together with a unified purpose, as if with one mind, one spirit, and one heart.

# HIS PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER...

Like Nehemiah, we are faced with a holy assignment that is much bigger than we can accomplish on our own.

3,749 languages still have little to no access to Scripture. We want to see that number reach zero in the next ten years. We have claimed prayer as our strategy, and just like Nehemiah as he prayed, "Oh Lord, let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant...and give success to Your servant today," we also trust in God's faithfulness.



The Komba Translation team at work

The third chapter of Nehemiah is an accounting of the men and women who all worked together with a unified purpose to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. They faced opposition from their enemies and many challenges along the way and yet, because they remained unified in purpose: to restore the walls of Jerusalem for the Glory of God, the impossible task was completed. It took this small group of dedicated workers 52 days (about 1 month and 3 weeks) to rebuild the wall. Scripture notes that when the enemies of the Israelites heard that the wall was rebuilt, "all the nations around [them] were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of [their] God." (Nehemiah 6:16)



Bandi translation workshop from 1989

### PARTNERED WITH PURPOSE

As we enter 2024, we do so with excitement. This is a big year for Lutheran Bible Translators with major milestones!

- The More Than Words campaign, launched in 2019, comes to a close. This drive has been aimed at expanding Bible Translation capacity globally and providing support for missionaries and local leaders.
- 2. 2024 also marks the 60th anniversary for Lutheran Bible Translators. We have seen much change over those passing decades and, with the Lord's guidance, we confidently step into this next season with an audacious goal. By the end of 2033, all languages will have access to at least a portion of God's Word in the language they understand best.

Lutheran Bible Translators is blessed by Bible translation ministry partners around the world. From organizations like illumiNations and Seed Company, to congregations who host Bible Translation Sundays, to dedicated and faithful Prayer Partners, and to all of those who support the financial needs of the ministry. You are an essential part of the Bible Translation movement. Your prayers and your generosity make it possible for people who are living in the darkness to step into the light of knowing Jesus and His love for them. Recently a story came back from the field of a woman who came to faith through hearing God's Word spoken in her own language for the first time. She now teaches her grandchildren about God. Generations of her family have come to know Jesus through the ministry of Lutheran Bible Translators and the Bible Translation movement.

# PRAY. GIVE. ADVOCATE.

- The first is to PRAY. Prayer is the strategy at Lutheran Bible Translators. Sign up as a Prayer Partner and commit to praying daily for the ministry and those driving translation word forward.
- The second is to GIVE. Whether you give one gift or prefer to become a monthly donor. Financial gifts accelerate the mission.
- The third is to ADVOCATE. Share with others the good work that God is doing through His Word and through His people around the world. Invite others to work alongside us, just like the men and women who worked alongside Nehemiah.



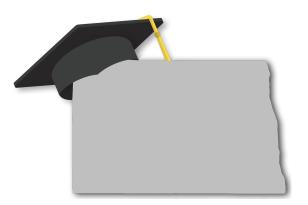
Contributions are solicited with the understanding that Lutheran Bible Translators has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. Lutheran Bible Translators will attempt to honor gift preferences to support particular workers, but the final decision on the use of the funds rests with the organization.

# Noisy Offering





# COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP



WIN A \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP! Learn more and complete your application at lcef.org/northdakotascholarship.

What is the

### **LCEF North Dakota District College Scholarship?**

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) North Dakota District College Scholarship was developed to encourage college students in the North Dakota District of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) to pursue their educational goals.

One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded. Applicants must be a graduating high school senior with a minimum 3.0 GPA or a current full-time post-secondary student at an accredited institution with at least one year of courses remaining and a minimum 2.5 GPA. Applicants must also be a member of a congregation belonging to the North Dakota District of the LCMS.

Applications close April 14, 2024. Winners will be announced on May 6, 2024.

# Questions about this scholarship? Connect with Tami Ulland LCEF District Vice President

tami.ulland@lcef.org 701-360-1469





The LWML hosted a Valentine Tea Party on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

All ladies and young women of the congregation were invited.

Approximately 30 gathered together for food and fellowship.

There were special treats, games and awards...everyone

went home with some chocolate treasures!



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