



St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church

December Newsletter

Bringing Christ to the Nations: Commission

In October, we introduced the first phase of our synod's long-range plan: **Culture**. In November, we focused on the backbone of our work: **Congregations**. This month, we turn our eyes outward to the third phase: **Commission**.

As we celebrate the birth of the Savior who came for *all* people, we are reminded of the mission he gave us before he ascended: "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). This is our Great Commission.

More than 6.5 billion people—over two-thirds of humanity—live in places where Christ's name is barely known. The question for us this December is: *How can I be part of a global movement to bring the light of Christ to the dark corners of the world?*

Goals for Our Commission

The synod plan outlines five key goals to bring Christ to the nations:

1. **Forge a Borderless Support Network:** Fostering international ministry partnerships to expand the gospel's reach beyond our own borders.
2. **Equip a Global Missionary Force:** Training pastors and evangelists from global sister churches to proclaim God's grace where we alone cannot reach.
3. **Establish Confessional Lutheran Seminaries:** Creating strong theological training centers in key global locations to raise up faithful shepherds.
4. **Expand Multi-Language Mission Efforts:** Ensuring God's Word is accessible to people in their heart language, from printed materials to digital resources.
5. **Pioneer Missions in High-Risk Areas:** Strategically finding ways to share the gospel in places where it is difficult or dangerous to do so.

Ways to Participate

- **Pray:** Remember the 6.5 billion people who do not know Jesus. Pray for our missionaries and national pastors, especially those serving in high-risk areas.
- **Learn:** Visit wels.net/missions to watch videos and read stories about how the gospel is spreading in places like Latin America, Africa, and Asia.
- **Share:** Utilize multi-language resources. Do you have a neighbor who speaks a different language? Look for resources like the "My Son, My Savior" film in their language to share the Christmas story.
- **Give:** Consider a special year-end gift to WELS World Missions to help support the training of workers and the planting of churches globally.

December Birthdays!

12/1: Cindy Kumbier-Borgers, Alexander Kemnitz

12/2: Parker Wendt, Amanda Schultz, Chelsea Weinke, Megan Weinke, Paul Christie, Joseph Haines IV

12/4: Mallory Schultz, Tara Wendt

12/6: Austen Grassel

12/7: Wayne Jahns

12/8: Korey Krupp, Lori Marschall

12/9: Oliver Oelke, Logan Schneiter

12/10: Judy Bunk, Hunter Jorgensen, Ashley Kemnitz

12/11: Peter Jerman, Paula Hass

12/12: Emily Balson

12/13: Michael Johnson

12/15: Kristi Utsch, Zach Frank, Lisa Jerman, Victoria Rushing

12/16: Paige Smith, Mark Roedl

12/17: Dave Babler, Debbie Krause, Paul Metzger

12/18: Asher Ciske, Porter Schumacher, Michelle Lamb

12/19: Savannah Wood, Travis Bortner

12/20: Konar Brown, Holly Christie

12/21: Abby Mose, Brittany Linzmeyer, Tim Tackett, Pam Vanderboom

12/22: Evan Boehning, Zekiel Bonney, Ryan Mikle, Gwen North

12/23: Dylan Bechler, Dina Leichtfuss, David Hass

12/24: Cody Emerich, Matthew Miller, Kristine Mittelstadt

12/25: Tensley Reitz, Linda Mathwig

12/26: Onalee Surian, Meliza Lane, Perry Welch

12/28: Steve Herzberg

12/29: Trinity McNicholas, Gary Priebe

12/30: Emmitt Slattery, Owen Slattery, Cheryl Wunder, Kim Geisthardt

12/31: Liliana Robinet, Laura Tillman, David Jeffers

