

*Reference: RTD, pg. 71*

*Report No. 1: Our current situation*

We are grateful to our gracious God that the number of souls we serve has increased from 33,000 two decades ago to 83,070 in 2010 and to 86,502 in 2012, with 32,000 more being served in seed-sowing ministries. Our expatriate force is comprised of 42 full-time missionaries, 8 teachers, and 61 lay workers, while our national staff is made up of 146 pastors, 17 student pastors, 13 vicars, and 194 evangelists; these workers serve a total of 533 congregations and 132 preaching stations. The BWM's seven administrative committees currently oversee ministry in 21 world fields.

*Reference: RTD, pp. 71-72*

*Report No. 2: Expansion*

Exploratory visits have been carried out in Guatemala, Haiti, and South Korea, with limited mission work already being done in the latter two countries through alternate mission strategies until a long-range strategic plan is developed and resources are secured.

*Reference: RTD, pp. 72-73*

*Report No. 3: Noteworthy activities*

- We thank God for blessing gospel ministry in some of the world's most challenging fields:
  - Nepal: 13,700 have been reached through Bible storying.
  - Pakistan: 30,000 have been reached through Bible Correspondence and Teaching School courses. A small confessional Lutheran church body of 36 communicants has been formed.
  - China: WELS worker training students are being encouraged to learn Mandarin, Chinese Christian materials are being produced and published, and pastors and lay workers are being trained at Asia Lutheran Seminary in Hong Kong.
- We commend the BWM for its use of creative methods, such as Latin American Traveling Theological Educators (LATTE), Apache Christian Training School (ACTS), and the Greater Africa Theological Studies Institute (GRATSI), all of which work in cooperation with the Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.
- We rejoice that the Multi-Language Publications Committee has produced 2,471 titles in 65 languages.

*Reference: RTD, pp. 73-74*

*Report No. 4: Safety concerns*

We ask the Lord for his continued protection on those who share the gospel in high risk areas of the world such as Mexico, Nigeria, Nepal, Indonesia, and Pakistan. World Missions continues to monitor those areas in order to minimize the risk to our expatriate and national workers.

Reference: RTD, pp. 74-75  
Report No. 5: A look ahead

- We encourage our mission fields to continue to work to become independent church bodies that are self-disciplining, self-administering, self-propagating, and self-supporting.
- We celebrate the successes of the newly-formed Christian Aid and Relief Committee as they use humanitarian assistance as a bridge for gospel witness in India, Indonesia, and Nepal, and as they explore its use in Haiti and Pakistan.
- We look forward to an increased use of technology to leverage our global efforts in theological education.
- We pray for the success of two conferences that will be held this fall:
  - Christ in Media Institute Conference (Bethany Lutheran College, Oct. 12-14, 2012)
  - Asia Publications Conference (Hong Kong Retreat Center, Oct. 29-Nov. 2, 2012)
- We encourage our congregations to make use of material from Missions Promotions at synod offices; information can be found at [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net) as Mission Display Kits.
- We thank Pastor John Kurth for his willingness to continue to serve as a transition counselor by helping mission families readjust to life in the United States. He is working part-time while the BWM searches for a long-term replacement.

Reference: RTD, pg. 75  
Report No. 6: Conclusion

*“The world missions team continues to seek the prayers, interest, and support of all the members of WELS for the work of reaching the world’s lost, which is at the very core of our synods mission. May the Lord bless our calling in regard to worldwide gospel outreach so that as many souls as possible might know Christ’s love.”*

Daniel Kroll, Chairman  
Lawrence Olson, Secretary

<u>PASTORS</u>	<u>TEACHERS</u>	<u>LAY DELEGATES</u>
Steven Abramowski	Paul Bases	St Paul Arlington
Marcus Birkholz	Jared Christensen	St John Butterfield
Percy Damrow	Theodore Glodowski	Christ the Lord Cottage Grove
Andrew Fix	Scott Gostchock	St Matthew (Flora) Danube
Darren Green	Jason Hahn	Abiding Savior Elk River
Mark Kock	Michael Homan	St John Goodhue
Douglas Lange	Roger Klockziem	St John Hancock
Paul Lindhorst	Lawrence Lotito	First La Crescent
Adam Manian	David Mielke	St John Lake City
William Monday	Christopher Olson	Zion (Island Lake) Marshall
Lawrence Olson	Casey Pufahl	Prince of Peace Mason City
Duane Schmeichel	Kenneth Rupnow	Trinity Montrose
Martin Schwartz	Kurt Schmidt	St Paul New Ulm
Timothy Smith	Alan Spurgin	Trinity Nicollet
Jon Wolff	James Unke	Zion Osceola
	David Wendland	Faith Prior Lake
	Philip Zahn	Ascension Rochester
		New Life Shoreview
		Grace South Saint Paul