

Committee No. 7  
HOME MISSIONS

Reference RTD, pp. 121-125  
Report No. 1

As members of Committee No. 7 we wish to highlight the Board for Home Missions (BHM) Report:

- 1) Fields are ripe and workers are needed! Currently Home Missions is serving 28 missions in the establishment phase (first three years of mission status); 20 missions in the development phase (missions in year four and beyond still receiving subsidy); 26 cross cultural ministries; and numerous campus ministries. Another 60 congregations are classified as mission congregations due to their loans with the Church Extension Fund.
- 2) By God's grace and generous gifts, authorization has been granted to eight new mission starts: Lehi, Utah; Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Rockwall, Texas; Fredericksburg, Virginia; Atlanta, Georgia; Victoria, Texas; Meridian, Idaho; and Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Three new ministry enhancements were approved: Centennial, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Abiding Grace, Henry-Newton County, Georgia; and Risen Savior, Lakewood Ranch, Florida. One relocation was also authorized: Peace, Holiday, Florida.
- 3) The WELS Church Extension Fund recently approved a net asset policy to be used toward the new start of home missions. The first disbursement in September 2015 was \$833,000. This blessing from the Lord exceeded expectations!
- 4) The work of planting a new mission involves the efforts of many people: district mission board members, mission counselors, consultants, administrators, individual congregations, and congregation members. We are thankful for the many mission partners who work with our home missions such as: Christian Aid and Relief, Kingdom Workers, Lutheran Women's Missionary Society, Martin Luther College, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, and WELS Foundation. These partnerships illustrate our unity in Christ to reach the lost!

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