

# YOU GET TO TELL THEM

LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD OFFICES OF  
INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL MISSION  
NOVEMBER 2018



**IT'S DONE.** Jesus said so Himself. Salvation is won! News this good just can't be kept quiet, and our Lord has even given us the command to tell the world of how He has rescued us from sin, death and the devil by way of His cross. It's His mission, and He works it out through His people — people like *you*.

God calls all of us to serve and share the Gospel, and there is no shortage of opportunities — even right here in the LCMS! — to share the story of salvation in your backyard, across the country and around the world.

It's not just for *a special few*. It's for you, too! There are still many who don't know what they don't know. They don't know Christ.

You get to tell them.

Together with your church, you can serve locally, domestically or internationally. Whether you're a 20-something or in your golden years, a high-schooler or at the peak of your career, our Lord calls and equips His people to tell the story. What joy!

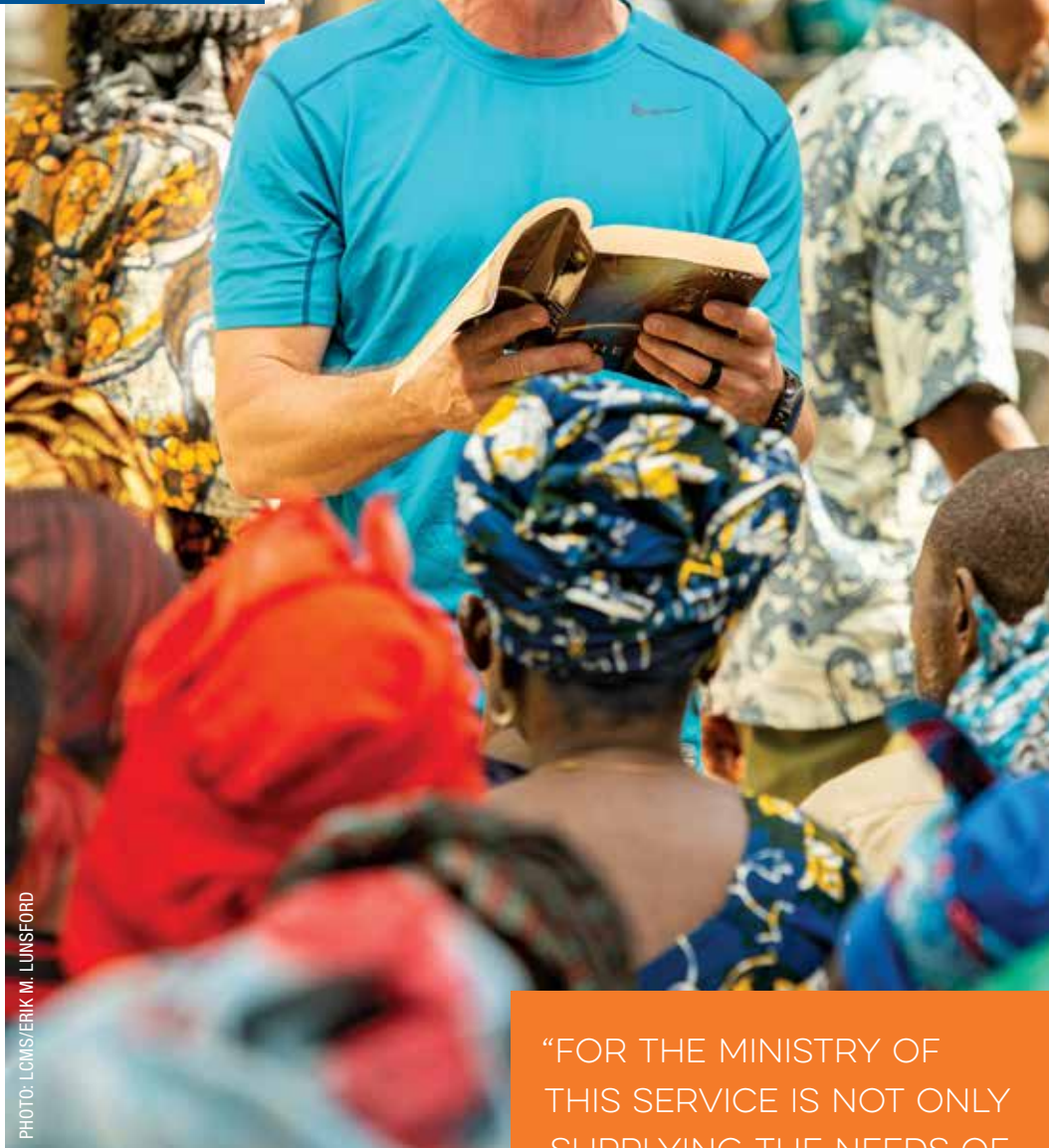


PHOTO: LCMS/ERIK M. LUNSFORD

“FOR THE MINISTRY OF THIS SERVICE IS NOT ONLY SUPPLYING THE NEEDS OF THE SAINTS BUT IS ALSO OVERFLOWING IN MANY THANKSGIVINGS TO GOD.”

—2 COR. 9:12

## MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



### CAREER MISSIONARIES

Church workers and laypeople use their expertise — in theology, education, communications, business and more — to share the Good News of Jesus as they work alongside the Synod's partners around the world. Those in this role serve for at least five years.

**7 DAYS  
TO 5+ YEARS**  
Range of commitment  
for mission work

**122**  
Current  
international  
career/GEO  
missionaries

**230**

International short-  
term volunteers  
in 2017

**60+**  
Short-term  
domestic  
servant events  
per year



### GEO MISSIONARIES

Like career missionaries, GEO missionaries are “globally engaged in outreach” in various locations around the world. However, church workers and laypeople in this role commit to serving for no less than 30 months, with the option to extend their service.

**40**

Positions available per  
year in the Lutheran  
Young Adult Corps



### YOUTH SERVANT EVENTS

LCMS Servant Events offer opportunities for youth to learn that serving others can make a difference because of Jesus Christ. Serve for a weekend or a week, while assisting ministries with construction, outreach, human care or other projects.



### SHORT-TERM VOLUNTEERS AND TEAMS

The LCMS also offers a variety of short-term volunteer opportunities. Adults (18+) can serve alongside LCMS missionaries and partner churches for one week to six months, while youth and adults can join short-term teams that serve for one to two weeks.

### MERCY MEDICAL TEAMS

Medical professionals, pastors and hard-working laypeople can serve abroad in clinical and health-related settings through Mercy Medical Teams. During the two-week trip, the team works in conjunction with LCMS partner churches to address needs of both body and soul.



**34**

Countries  
served in 2018

**6**

Types of  
mission work  
opportunities



### LUTHERAN YOUNG ADULT CORPS

Young adults (ages 18–26) gain valuable experience serving in urban ministry settings while growing in faith and sharing Jesus through acts of mercy. The Lutheran Young Adult Corps offers two tracks: a 10-week summer program and a 10-month gap year.



# ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

## CAREER MISSIONARY

### Anthony DiLiberto

*Served in Peru 2008–2014. Now serving in Puerto Rico, since September 2018*



"I served as a GEO and career missionary in Peru for five years before coming to Puerto Rico in October 2018, assisting with the Synod's disaster response after Hurricane Maria. We have two mercy houses on the island from which we offer different services to the community — food distribution and English and music classes. I'm also church planting on the western coast in Mayaguez, serving with a pastor sent by the Lutheran Church in Venezuela at an established congregation called Prince of Peace. A lot of my work here will be rebuilding the congregation before moving to a different part of the island to plant another congregation and start another mercy initiative.

Puerto Ricans feel forgotten ... [but] Puerto Ricans have certainly not been forgotten by our Lord and His Church, so it's important for us to communicate to them that they are precious children of our heavenly Father and are dearly loved. Serving as a missionary, especially in places that have been affected by disasters, places of darkness and desperation, it's the hardest thing I've ever done. It's the hardest job I've ever loved — difficult work but also incredible and rewarding and joyful."

## GEO MISSIONARY

### Hannah Shull

*Serving in Chiayi, Taiwan, since August 2018*

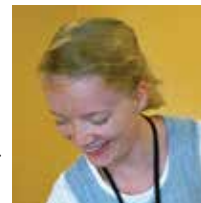


"I teach at what is called a 'cram school' where elementary students come after regular Chinese school to learn English. Not only do I get to teach what is expected, English, but I also have ample amounts of time during class to share the Gospel with my students every day. That means that the more than 150 students that I teach each week are hearing the Word of God. The people of Taiwan need to know the saving grace they have in the Gospel. Most of the population of Taiwan is Buddhist and/or practices idol and ancestor worship to have 'good favor' or a pleasant afterlife. Most important is the life-saving message of the Gospel that we as joyful Lutherans have to share."

## SHORT-TERM VOLUNTEER

### Hannah Luebcke

*Served in Krakow, Poland, in July 2017 and Brenna, Poland, in July 2018*



"I co-organized and co-facilitated a weeklong English Bible Camp as part of a team sent by the LCMS. My task was to prepare/help the kids create a craft for each day that lined up with the camp theme — the waters of Baptism and God's saving grace given to us in Jesus. The kids [in Poland] need to know that Jesus isn't just a statue in a church or a painting on a wall.

The English Bible Camps provide an encouraging atmosphere for interactions that are real and grounded in sharing the living power of the Gospel. Poland has just begun to reclaim its freedom of religion, and it is more important than ever to share the Gospel with those who have possibly never heard it. The joy is in supporting the mission of the church — we are building each other up and encouraging one another regardless of our cultural differences and the language barrier. It's powerful to see the Holy Spirit work in and through the kids during the week. And there is beauty in realizing that regardless of geographical distance, we truly are one church body."

## MERCY MEDICAL TEAMS

### Kimberly Pepmiller

*Served on several Mercy Medical Teams from June 2013 through May 2018 in Kenya, Madagascar, Uganda and Tanzania*



"In each location, I served as a nurse on the Mercy Medical Team, assisting with obtaining patient weights and vital signs, such as blood pressures, heart rates and temperatures. I have worked alongside local nurses to obtain chief complaints from patients, assisted in the treatment area to provide wound care and injections, and [served] in the pharmacy with packaging and providing prescription medications for patients.

In all of these locations, there has been great need and appreciation for health care and the love of the Gospel. Health care is less prevalent and can be expensive in these areas. Being able to provide necessary care and share the Gospel at the same time is wonderful. These teams allow us to connect communities with local Lutheran congregations and local health-care partners. The Mercy Medical Teams ... allow me to connect my vocation and my faith. It is wonderful to be able to use my nursing training to provide care to those in true need and who are truly appreciative of the care. At the same time, it is a joy to be able to share God's love with those in our care. We are able to provide help and healing for both spiritual and physical needs."

## LUTHERAN YOUNG ADULT CORPS

### Nathan Leonard

*Served in St. Louis for 10 months from August 2017 to May 2018*



"I worked with Messiah Lutheran Church and Compass Educational Programs at Tower Grove East ... to set up the Messiah Community Center. This included spending time there during events and open hours, setting up a Facebook page for the center, planning programs for the center, as well as being at the center and interacting with the various people that would visit. With Compass Educational Programs, my job was a bit different. I would spend time preparing snacks and activities for the kids to do, but my primary focus was to spend time with the kids in the after-school program as a mentor. What people in the city need the most right now is love and support.

While I was there, many people were still affected by the fallout from Ferguson, with other events in the year bringing that tension back to the forefront. The biggest place I saw it through, though, was the kids I worked with at Compass. Getting to be with those kids every day, spending time with them, growing to know them, and sharing the love of Christ with them was one of the coolest things for me. I got to make new friends, go through some crazy fun experiences and, most importantly, share the Gospel each day."

## YOUTH SERVANT EVENTS

### Jolene Siebarth

*DCE at Immanuel Lutheran Church, St. Charles, Mo., who has served with youth in more than two dozen servant events*



"We've participated in servant events that have included a wide variety of projects — from construction (building homes, wheel-chair ramps, fixing) to painting to leading VBS and visiting in nursing homes. We've also chopped wood for stoves to keep families warm all winter, cleaned debris from tornado damage, organized thrift shops and so much more. People all need to know they are loved ... and, most importantly, that they are loved by a God who loves them so much. He gave the life of His Son to ensure they spend eternity with the Savior.

Relational ministry, ministry of care and compassion, are vital parts of ministry to all people. Being walking, talking, physical hands and feet of Jesus ... that's how we serve and show the love of Jesus to all people. It is a humbling joy and honor to serve God and His people through these acts of service, compassion and mercy. In all things, we point them to Jesus. Having the opportunities to do that by working together, serving one another and caring for others ... it opens doors to further show that joy and love to God's people."

## HOOKED ON MISSIONS



### Delano and Linda Meyer

*Served as career agricultural missionaries in West and Southern Africa (1994–2010) and currently serve in a short-term, volunteer capacity*

"We currently serve as short-term agricultural volunteers in East Africa for six to eight weeks each year in places like Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Malawi. [Our] earlier experience is vital to the work we are now doing as volunteers. People have much the same problems throughout Africa. Linda and I traveled to villages, cities and a few IDP (internally displaced

people) camps and conducted training seminars that used lots of pictures and insightful questions to encourage full participation from men, women and youth. Topics that Linda and I taught usually included money management, crop production, soil conservation, Christian family life, care of animals, Christian stewardship and soil fertility. We teach that we are saved by God's grace alone and express our faith through our actions. Our main focus remains to instill in those we teach the confidence that our Lord Jesus can supply their needs and to look to His Word for guidance. We want people to look to Jesus, work hard, plan well and serve His Church as they are able. It is a humbling privilege to serve our Lord as missionaries."



DO YOU WANT TO SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST?  
WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU.



HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU HAVE TO SERVE?

- One week
- Two weeks
- Four weeks
- Ten weeks
- Ten months
- One year
- 30 months
- Five years or more

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO SERVE?

- Domestically
- Internationally
- Anywhere



WHAT AGE GROUP ARE YOU IN?

- 11 to 17 years
- 18 to 24 years
- 24 years or more



WHAT SPECIAL SKILLS OR EDUCATION DO YOU HAVE?

- High school diploma or GED
- Bachelor of Arts or Science degree
- Master's degree
- Church work degree
- Ph.D. in theology or other field
- Medical training
- Building trades
- Other







## SUPPORTING MISSION WORK YOU GET TO (HELP) TELL THEM

*There are so many beautiful ways to serve, and everyone has the opportunity to use their gifts.* Not your time to get up and go? Go before the Lord in prayer on behalf of those who serve! Support them with your abundance; while others may feel that they have the drive and freedom to serve but not the finances, you may be the one that makes it possible for *them* to get up and go! Together, you get to be the ones to tell of Christ, near and far.

IF YOU CANNOT BE A WATCHMAN,  
STANDING HIGH ON ZION'S WALL,  
POINTING OUT THE PATH TO HEAVEN,  
OFF'RING LIFE AND PEACE TO ALL,  
  
WITH YOUR PRAYERS AND  
WITH YOUR BOUNTIES  
YOU CAN DO WHAT GOD COMMANDS;  
  
YOU CAN BE LIKE FAITHFUL AARON,  
HOLDING UP THE PROPHET'S HANDS.

— "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying," LSB 826:3



## CULTIVATING A DESIRE TO SERVE


- Include those serving domestically and internationally in the **Prayer of the Church**. 
-  ➤ Regularly post domestic and international needs in the bulletin and newsletter.
- Financially support international and domestic service as **part of the church budget**. 
- Support **new church plants** in the area. 
-  ➤ Encourage gifted people of all ages to consider serving.






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