



Prayer:

Christ Jesus, your love changed our lives. In love you suffered and died for our sins and made us your brothers and sisters through faith. Move us to show love to those around us as we share your love with them. Help us as members of the WELS to train pastors and teachers who will teach the next generation of your love. Enable us to send out missionaries across the country and around the world who will tell people of your love. Lead us to support this work with generous offerings. Bless all that we do as individuals, congregations, and members of the WELS. May we show ourselves to be your disciples as we love one another. In your name we pray. Amen.

Our Congregation Mission Offering for:	
2009 \$ _____	2010 \$ _____
My personal offering for WELS mission work:	
2009 \$ _____	2010 \$ _____

For general information about the WELS check out the web site: www.wels.net

For questions or personal assistance please contact:

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Christian Giving Counselor: Rev Steve Staude
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Circuit Pastor:

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
(John 13:34-35)

Christ's Love



Our Calling



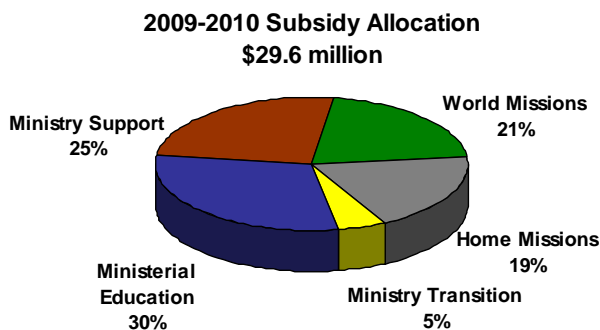
Christ's Love changed our lives. The apostle Paul tells us, "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). In love Christ offered his life on the cross as the payment for our sins and the sins of the whole world. In love Christ made us his own by calling us to faith.

Our Calling as believers is to love one another just as Christ has loved us. We share Christ's love with the members of our families, our friends, and others we meet in our everyday lives. As members of the WELS, we share that love with people across the country and around the world.

The WELS is made up of over 1,200 congregations, over 300 Lutheran elementary schools, 400 early childhood ministries, and 23 Lutheran high schools in North America. It has about 400,000 baptized members and 300,000 communicants, served by over 1,000 pastors. Together these many believers show their love by training workers, reaching out through home and world missions, strengthening, equipping, and encouraging congregations and individuals, and providing the support services that make the other ministries possible.

Ministerial Education trains the workers who will share Christ's love to the next generation. The WELS operates a three-tiered system that includes two high schools: Luther Preparatory School, Watertown, Wisconsin, and Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, Michigan; one college: Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota; and one seminary: Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wisconsin. Together these schools prepare more than 1400 students for future service. Through their gifts and offerings, WELS members subsidize one-fourth to one-third of the educational costs at these schools.

Home Missions reaches out with Christ's love in communities across the country. About 190 missionaries and 100 congregations are being assisted in various forms through gifts and offerings from WELS members. Cross-cultural work is being carried out in Spanish, Hmong, Chinese, and Vietnamese. In addition, approximately 8,500 college students are served through campus ministries supported by Home Missions.



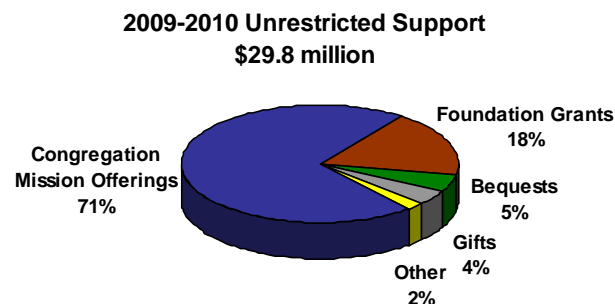
World Missions takes the message of Christ's love to the world. Gifts and offerings from WELS members support 35 foreign missionaries and mission outreach efforts in 24 countries around the world in partnership with over 560 national pastors, evangelists, lay leaders, and students. In addition, World Missions provides Christian literature in more than 40 languages, making it possible for the WELS to spread the message of Christ's love in nations where we cannot send missionaries.

Ministry Support provides the underlying framework that makes the other ministries possible. Gifts and offerings from WELS members make it possible for the WELS leadership, the Ministry of Christian Giving, Financial Services, Technology, Parish Services, Communications, Facilities, and Human Resources to provide needed guidance and

support—often behind the scenes—for the WELS to carry out its work.

Ministry Transition offers limited support to called workers whose positions have been eliminated due to synod budget cutbacks. Called workers are not eligible for unemployment benefits, so gifts and offerings from WELS members are needed to support these workers as they make the transition to new calls or positions.

Congregation Mission Offerings make it possible for the WELS to share Christ's love through its many varied ministries. The offerings WELS members give through their local congregations provide almost three-fourths of the unrestricted support that the synod has available to carry out its work. Other sources of income can vary widely from year to year, but Congregation Mission Offerings have historically provided the solid financial base for the synod's ministries.



Our Calling as believers is to love one another just as Christ has loved us. As members of the WELS we have the special opportunity to show that love through our generous Congregation Mission Offerings. These gifts of love help to carry out our calling of sharing Christ's love with people across the country and around the world.