



We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done . . . so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Psalm 78:4 and 6

“2 million people dead, primarily from famine and disease, and 4 million homeless” was the news from Sudan in 2005. Reporting on Sudan, Africa's decades long civil war, Glenn Kessler in the Washington Post, January 10, 2005, wrote “The two-decade (20 years) civil war, which pitted the Islamic government against rebels based in the mostly animist and Christian south, left 2 million people dead, primarily from famine and disease, and 4 million homeless.”

The sentence above gives some indication of the reason many Sudanese felt they had to escape from their homeland as refugees, often leaving all but the clothes they were wearing. In the past several years, many of these refugees have come to the United States to start making a new life for themselves and their families. By God's grace, these and other African refugees and immigrants have relocated to the Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota inner-city.

Another group of Hmong people emigrated to the United States seeking escape from Communist control and genocidal extinction after it was revealed that many of them had been recruited by the American CIA to fight secretly against the communists during the Viet Nam war. Many of these Hmong people from Southeast Asia, mainly Thailand and Laos - roughly 100,000 of the 300,000 in the US - live in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. While Hmong people usually have adult parents and grandparents living with their families, many of the older generation do not speak English. Thus the children must “parent” the adults as they adjust to living in the United States.

God is at work among these refugees and immigrants through Partners in Mission, a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of the LCMS, in inner-city Minneapolis/St. Paul. Originally established in 1986 to teach children of the Philips Neighborhood about Jesus, this RSO has become involved with established LCMS congregations in the metropolitan area who attempt to reach many immigrant families and lead them to know the Savior.

The LWML grant of \$50,000 will enable Partners in Mission to assist the people of Grace Lutheran Church, Brooklyn Park; St. Matthews Lutheran, Columbia Heights; Trinity First School, Minneapolis; Grace International, African Immigrant Lutheran Church, Robbinsdale; Christ Lutheran Church, Eagan; King of Kings Lutheran Church, St. Paul and others to fund programs that meet the physical, educational and spiritual needs of these children and their families in the name of Jesus.