
LCMS Mission Latin America & Caribbean (LAC)

Spread the Gospel | Plant Lutheran Churches | Show Mercy

Rev. Ted Krey - April 2025



1. Spread the Gospel: Jesus

A. Sower casting out the seed-Falls on all types of soil Matt. 13

B. Fisherman-Throwing out the net-Catches all sorts of fish Matthew 13:47-50

- ✦ Why does the Sower sow the seed on all types of soil?
- ✦ Does he know the value of the seed?
- ✦ What is the seed?
- ✦ Objective justification vs. subjective justification

A simple Lutheran Missiology is: Bringing Christ to the Nations and the Nations to the church and/or Spreading the Gospel, Planting Lutheran Churches, Showing Mercy.

Mission, strictly speaking is not:

Humanitarian, building wells, orphanages, houses, eye glass clinics.

Mission strictly speaking is:

A Demarcation line

- a. Kingdom of darkness vs. kingdom of light
- b. Faith vs. unbelief
- c. Oral Witness- Rom. 10:17- Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

A broadening of the definition of mission can occur through Paul's advice: The apostle says everything is sanctified by the Word of God and prayer. (1 Tim. 4:15)

- d. Therefore, what has been attributed to St Francis of Assisi, "preach the gospel, use words if necessary is a false dichotomy."¹

[1] The closest comes from his Rule of 1221, Chapter XII on how the Franciscans should practice their preaching: "No brother should preach contrary to the form and regulations of the holy Church nor unless he has been permitted by his minister ... All the Friars ... should preach by their deeds."

- e. Its also true that mission work that does not bring an oral witness is not strictly speaking mission work.
- f. Need to nuance this, as Short-Term Teams, Medical, could be in direct proximity to Church Planting. Therefore, it is mission critical. For example, a Medical Mercy Team that serves hundreds of Africans in their body, done in a church where an evangelist gives witness shows that we the church care for one in body and spirit.

TRUTH—It remains true that no one, except the Christian church, has the peculiar task of preaching a Gospel that has eternal consequences and moves one through the Kerygma, from unbelief to belief, over the demarcation line. No one else does this; if the church does not do this, no one will.

- A. School does not primarily have this task
- B. RSO does not primarily have this task
- C. University does not primarily have this task

Conclusion: This is the peculiar task of the Church to proclaim the Gospel.

2. Plant Lutheran Churches

Once there is a response, we bring people into the church, Why? This is where Jesus is found, and He gives His gifts. The Lord Jesus discipled His people through His called instruments, ministers who use His means –Word, Water, Word, and bread– to disciple His people and forgive them of their sins. **Here, we present them with the pure doctrine and whole counsel of God, so that they might see all of Jesus.**

3. Show Mercy

A people forgiven are a people who are filled up to show mercy to their neighbor.

4. AS LCMS Mission,

we are your mission arm to the world.

We have missionaries on the ground in 32 countries. 125 years of doing foreign mission work has taught us a few things:

- a. We commit to a foreign field for three generations. (70 years) e. Papua New Guinea, Venezuela, Nigeria, and Brazil, to name a few.
- b. We learn the language and maintain relationships with fellow Lutherans in 35 countries, including church presidents, bishops, pastors, and deaconesses, and they know our Christian witness, and we know theirs. (Mutually accountable as the body of Christ)
- c. We are field driven. Local needs drive the allocation of financial and human resources and needs.
- d. We avoid conversations, such as the pastor who was involved in Haiti and tearfully told me that after seven years of supporting an orphanage in Haiti, they went to visit only to find out that the orphanage did not exist. We are transparent in our ministry and finances and invite you to partner with us as your mission arm. Currently, 20 of the LCMS districts partner directly with us in our respective mission fields.

As your LCMS Mission arm,

we invite you to partner with us in FOROs:

- a. Africa
- b. Europe
- c. **Asia**
- d. Latin America - 13 countries (FOROS), where we meet twice a year.

Area of Work

- a. The lion share of our work is Church Planting,
- b. Theological education- Forming Evangelists, Shepherds and Teachers
- c. Mercy Work
- d. Human Resources**
 1. Vocational Volunteers
 2. Short Term Teams

Number of Open Missionary Positions worldwide is more than 253.

