

150th ANNIVERSARY

MISSION CHALLENGE OFFERING

God has blessed our church for 150 years with the pure preaching and teaching of His Word. In thanksgiving, every member of St. John is encouraged to participate in our **150th Anniversary Mission Challenge Offering**. Will you be part of this effort to spread God's Word?



The challenge is for each member or household to contribute \$150 above their regular offerings for three mission projects we have adopted through **The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF)**. For \$3.00 per week, less than what Americans spend on average each day for fast food, you can make a huge difference in people's lives by giving them the Word of God. Each mission project will receive one third of the proceeds of this year-long offering.

To learn more about LHF and the missions our anniversary offerings will support, please see the second page of this document.

Gift envelopes for this offering will be available in the narthex throughout the year. Your donations can be deposited in the box marked for that purpose. We would suggest giving your gift in one of the following ways:

- A monthly gift of \$12.50
- A quarterly gift of \$37.50
- A single gift for the entire year of \$150

If you want your mission gifts to be tax deductible, be sure to write your offering envelope number on the gift envelope whenever you make a donation.

OUR GOAL - \$15,000

In October, after our culminating anniversary service, we will invite a guest preacher from **LHF** to our 150th Anniversary Mission Festival, and will present him a check for the three missions we have adopted. **Our goal is to present LHF a check for at least \$15,000 --- a gift equal to \$100 for each of our 150 years, and representing 100 members or households responding to this challenge.** You can watch our progress toward this goal on a chart in the narthex.



150th Anniversary Mission Challenge Offering Information

Our 150th Anniversary Mission Challenge Offering will support the excellent and effective ministry of **The Lutheran Heritage Foundation**. Its mission statement is as follows:

Through the mission gifts of people like you, LHF translates, publishes, distributes and introduces books that are Bible-based, Christ-centered and Reformation-driven.

In more than 80 countries and 100 languages, thousands of people have come to faith in Christ through theologically solid books translated, published and distributed by **LHF**. What a joy for us, among whom God's Word has been preserved for 150 years, to share His saving Word around the world. Let's make a difference in our world for Christ!

OUR THREE ANNIVERSARY MISSION PROJECTS

Each will receive one-third of our total anniversary offering

"A Child's Garden of Bible Stories" for children of Burma

Perhaps no group of people is more important to reach than the little children. This classic children's Bible story book is a great tool for reaching them. It features 60 Old and New Testament stories telling of God's grace and faithfulness as He interacts with His people.

LHF Goal – 2,000 books at \$2.85 per copy. Total goal, \$5,700

Small Catechism with Explanation for the Bemba people of Zambia

Luther's Small Catechism remains one of the greatest resources ever published for teaching the Christian faith to youth and adults. As Luther says at the beginning of each section, the catechism offers the head of the family a simple way to teach the faith to his household. It is equally valuable to pastors for teaching in the congregation. What a great way to bless the Bemba people!

LHF Goal – 2,000 books at \$2.00 per copy. Total goal, \$4,000

Seminary Training for future pastors in South Sudan

It takes a lot of studying and a lot of money to become a Lutheran pastor, and the need is great in South Sudan. Our partner Lutheran church in South Sudan is growing by leaps and bounds – so much so that they don't have nearly enough pastors to serve all their congregations. Some churches have to wait weeks, even months for a pastor to come baptize their babies and new Christian believers. To fill the need, many young men leave their wives and children behind when they travel to Yambio to study for the ministry. While their families continue to farm, the seminarians need help covering the costs of their travel to the seminary, their books, supplies, food and housing.

Total annual cost of Seminary per student: \$2,278

Let's each make a commitment to this Anniversary Offering and celebrate fifteen decades of God's Word in our midst by making that same treasure available to others.