

GLOBAL MISSION COMMITTEE

2008 Annual Report

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Global Mission Committee

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Chile Group

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Indonesia Group

Rev. Lowell Anderson **
Rev. Paul Harder
Lyman Hitchcock

Thanks to those who have completed their service:

Barbara Capers
Karen Dunlap
Norma Gruen
Kathleen Lutz

** Sub-Committee Lead

Lutheran Magazine Insert

During 2009, *The Lutheran* is including four special interest inserts for the Indiana-Kentucky Synod. Global Mission is the focus of the May insert. The committee has worked hard to design 4 pages of information regarding our companion relationships, accompaniment, and ideas for your involvement. Check us out in the May issue.

2009 Youth Gathering in San Antonio

The ELCA Division for Global Mission encourages regional synods to sponsor the attendance of a youth from our companion church bodies at the ELCA Youth Gathering. The Global Mission Committee budgeted funds for the 2009 Gathering and will be sponsoring a young woman from Chile. She will also spend a week in our synod and will be hosted by St. Thomas in Bloomington.

Chile (IELCH) Companion Synod Update ***Buen Samaritano Preschool***

The 3-year support by the IK Synod of the Buen Samaritano Pre-School project came to a close in 2008 as planned.

Chile Session at Synod Assembly

At the 2008 Synod Assembly, Candy Simms and Linda Doerge shared pictures, stories, and music from their August 2007 visit to Chile, called "God In Between". Candy and Linda focused their discussion on women's issues including domestic abuse, education, health issues and economic development.

Education & Publicity

Sharing the Light of Christ in the World

Education & Publicity has been active with support activities for the other sub-committees and with Global Mission educational efforts for the synod. This group has worked very hard preparing information for the *Lutheran* magazine article and is also in the process of reviewing the Global Mission information available on the I-K Synod website.

HKBP District 5 Companion Synod Update

HKBP Leadership

In September 2008, the HKBP held their elections for leadership positions. Rev. Dr. Bonar Napitupulu was re-elected as Ephorus of the church (similar position as Bishop Mark Hanson). Rev. Piter Hutapea was elected as Praeses of District 5 (similar position as Bishop Jim Stuck). Plasthon Simanjuntak, former District 5 Praeses, is now serving a congregation on the island of Java. For the first time, the HKBP leadership elected a woman to the position of Praeses, Rev. Debora Sinaga. Several I-K Synod members met her during a visit to Indonesia in 2002.

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SALT 2 Trip – July 2008

Eight delegates from the Synod visited Indonesia for 14 days in July, visiting several ministries of the HKBP District 5 and conducting a week-long intensive English Language Learning (ELL) seminar called SALT (“Speaking as Lutherans Together”). SALT brought us together with 25 elementary and secondary English language teachers and pastors of the HKBP for discussions about women’s issues in the church. In addition to the week long ELL seminar, the delegation visited the Deaconess School, the Biblefrau retirement center for Bible Women, a vocational technical school and STT Theological Seminary. With four clergy and a seminarian in our delegation, we visited several congregations, preaching and bringing greetings from the I-K Synod. Two committee members also spent 3 days on the Island of Nias visiting some of the projects supported by the I-K Synod through the Ecumenical Nias Island Counseling Center and were very impressed by the work being done by a small staff. The cultural and relational exchange was very beneficial to our accompaniment with our companion synod.

Love Offering Funds Update

The Global Mission Committee continues to oversee the disbursement of the Tsunami Love Offering Funds. In 2008 this fund again supported the Ecumenical Nias Island Counseling Center (ENICC) and also funded a portion of the visit to ENICC by two committee members. Plans for the remaining funds, which amount to less than \$18,000, are temporarily on hold as we establish a relationship with the new leadership of the HKBP and discover their direction for ministry. We also intend to publish a final report on the many ways your gifts have helped those in need.

ELCA Regional Representatives to South America and Asia

The ELCA has Regional Representatives who live the accompaniment model of ministry in South America. David Wunsch and Kate Lawler live in Buenos Aires, Argentina and work in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Peru, and Uruguay. David is originally from the I-K Synod. The ELCA also has Regional Representatives in Asia; Richard Sarker works on “development” and is based in India, and Phill Baker works on “theological education and church relations” and is based in Kuala Lumpur.

***Contact a member of the GMC to arrange for a speaker
on Global Missions to visit your congregation.***

Watch the -IK Synod Web site for future mission trip opportunities.