

## **A CIRCUIT MISSION CELEBRATION\***

- Purpose:** To encourage congregational outreach activities and to support the outreach initiatives in the Alberta-British Columbia (ABC) District and Lutheran Church – Canada’s (LCC).
- Timing:** Begin planning six months in advance of the mission celebration. (Check with the District office to make sure that the designated date for the celebration doesn’t conflict with a major District activity).
- Planning:** A circuit pastor should be selected (at a Winkel) to serve as the coordinator of the circuit mission celebration. He will organize a small committee of two other people to serve on the “Action team” responsible for the organization of the Circuit Mission Celebration.

### **1. Possible Circuit Mission Celebration Focuses:**

**LC-C World Mission Fields:** Nicaragua, Ukraine, Thailand, and Cambodia

**District Mission Outreach:** Program-funded congregations and other outreach efforts such as:

- Cross Pointe (South Calgary), Calgary AB
- Shepherd of the Hills, Airdrie AB
- White Rock Mission, South Surrey, BC
- Shepherd of the Valley, Salmon Arm, BC
- Christ, Grand Forks, BC
- Redeemer, Kitimat/Terrace, BC
- Trinity, Richmond, BC (Chinese outreach)
- Faith, Surrey, BC
- Vancouver Korean First Lutheran Church, Vancouver, BC
- Trinity (Deaf), Vancouver, BC & Cross of Christ (Deaf), Edmonton, AB
- Bethany, Campbell River, BC

**LCC Auxiliaries:**

- Lutheran Woman's Missionary League -- Canada
- Lutheran Layman's League
- Concordia Lutheran Mission Society

**LCC Listed Service Organizations (LSOs)**

- Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada
- Lutheran Braille Workers -- Canada
- Kapasseni Project
- Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP – Canada)
- BC Mission Boat Society
- CREW Ministries
- Haiti Lutheran Mission Society
- Malabar Mission Society
- Philoxenia/Hospitality Ministry

**Congregational Outreach Ideas**

- Church Float in a parade
- Fair Booth
- TV ministry/radio outreach
- Website outreach
- Unusual Public signage
- Lutheran Open House
- Bring a Friend Sunday
- After School Program
- Family Night Outreach
- "Fishermen's Club" (weekly evangelism training/praying)
- Home Bible studies as an evangelism tool
- Other Ideas!

2. Each congregation chooses one mission field or outreach event. They are responsible for preparing an exhibit (3' x 8' maximum table space), which might include such things as: map of target field, photos of persons involved, type of mission work, obstacles/challenges to overcome, photos of mission buildings, mission work, people to be reached, etc. Also a facts sheet handout could be prepared and distributed including statistical and historical information and prayer requests. If the focus is outreach events, then each congregation might develop an exhibit that includes pictures/video of the outreach event; an explanation of how to develop the outreach event, etc.

### 3. Suggested Agenda for Mission Celebration

2:15 p.m. Registration of congregation members and set up of exhibits

3:00 p.m. Mission Worship Service including components such as:

- World flag display hung in church in advance
- Individual congregational banners
- Crucifer and torch bearers in processional
- Instrumental accompaniment on hymns (brass choir, trumpet melody, descant, etc.)
- Junior and Senior Choirs/Musical groups

4:00 p.m. Refreshment Break & Tour of Exhibits

4:45 p.m. Mission speaker focusing on a particular subject

5:30 p.m. Potluck Supper

6:15 p.m. Closing Devotion with people seated at supper tables.

**Follow-Up:** The coordinating pastor makes sure that an informal congregational bulletin insert is created and sent to all circuit congregations. A report is also submitted to the District office for publication in *The Canadian Lutheran* or some other District medium of communication (e.g. the District website).

\*Adapted from “A Circuit Celebration” by Rev. Paul Pollex of St. Thomas, Ontario.