

# Help Keep God's Light Shining in the Darkness

You can help provide joy and sustenance, along with sharing the *Christ* in Christmas, with an individual or family in need. There are several ways you can participate in the *LMS Miracle of Christmas* project:

## Adopt a Family

Buy and pack gifts for an individual or family in need on LMS's *Miracle of Christmas* list. You will be provided with an Iron Mountain lidded box and with the gender and age information for each family member to be able to buy appropriate gifts. The names of the families are confidential, of course, but you may choose by family size to fit your budget. Remember, these are children and adults who will receive few or no presents without your help. Fill out the coupon below and return it today to get started, or call Leslie Jaseph at 410-636-0123 or email [ljaseph@lutheranmissionsociety.org](mailto:ljaseph@lutheranmissionsociety.org).

## Financial Donation for Food & Gifts

Fill out the *Miracle of Christmas* coupon below and mail it, along with your check, in the enclosed envelope. Your gift will be used to purchase food and gifts where needed for recipient families.

## Donate Food & Gift Items

Non-perishable food items and new gifts may be delivered to any LMS Compassion Center or LMS headquarters. Particular needs are fresh hams and gifts for teens and adult men. A list of donation centers and hours of operations can be found on the inside of this newsletter. Please mark your donation bags "*Miracle of Christmas*."



## The Miracle of Christmas

YES... I WANT TO HELP LMS MINISTER TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THIS SEASON!

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$175 - Helps provide a Large Family Basket (Food & Gifts)  | <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to "Adopt a Family"<br>PLEASE CONTACT ME    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 - Helps provide a Medium Family Basket (Food & Gifts) |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 50 - Helps provide a Small Family Basket (Food & Gifts)  | <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to make a Special Gift<br>PLEASE CONTACT ME |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$___ - Helps provide Food & Gifts this Christmas           |   |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Gift given in:  Honor of  Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed. (Checks should be made payable to LMS and designated "*Miracle of Christmas*")

Charge my:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Amount of Gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: Lutheran Mission Society, PO Box 438, Linthicum, MD 21090



# MISSION SOCIETY Newsletter

*A Century of Healing... Committed to Compassion*

*Christmas 2010*

## Keep the Candle Burning

*Rev. David R. Maack, Executive Director*



As I visit the LMS *Compassion Centers* during this busy season, I am reminded at every turn that we are blessed. We have a compassionate and wondrous God

who guides our efforts in Jesus' name. We have volunteers that are so faithfully committed – some have been sharing their time and talents for over twenty years. We have a hardworking and dedicated staff that give above-and-beyond. We have visitors and clients who come to our centers for help, many of whom become friends. And we have our wonderful donors and supporters, without whom this ministry would not be possible.

As a cherished donor, I know your heart is with the Lutheran Mission Society. Whether you contribute gifts of your time and talents (volunteer service, servant events, projects, professional services, etc.) or treasures (finances, food, clothing, automobile donations, etc.), you have a heart for the Lord, and you have a heart for feeding His sheep. *John 21:15-17*

You have generously given to the Mission Society because you support the mission to which we are committed:

- the mission of saving souls;
- the mission of providing assistance and hope to those who are poor, those who are homeless;
- the mission of helping heal those who struggle with problems in their lives.

I thank you for your wonderful, generous support for the Mission Society, and – to paraphrase Paul from Philippians 1:3 – "I thank God every time I think of you."

Please know that your prayers and financial support for the Mission Society have never been more important. The

## Cars with Care

For Joe Earnest, LMS Vehicle Donation Coordinator, it isn't simply a car donation: it's a chance to make a new friend and care for people.



Mr. Joe Earnest,  
LMS Vehicle Donations

"Our donors are tremendous people," said Joe. "You just never know who'll be on the other end of the phone. Sometimes it's a person with a long history of supporting the Mission Society, other times it may be a brand-new donor who found our classified ad," he said. "In every case, I love getting to know the person and making their donation an easy and blessed process."

"The car donation program is a great fundraiser for the Mission Society's ministries," said Rev. David Maack, LMS Executive Director, "but it's also a ministry in itself. Joe does an amazing job in both aspects."

"Donating a car can be a very emotional time for folks," Joe said. "I met with one woman who's husband had just passed on to the Lord," he recalled. "We talked and wept and prayed together for most of an afternoon."

Joe has been handling the Mission Society's vehicle donations for a little over two years now, and is always just a phone call away for donors. "One of the great things about handling our own vehicle donations is that we're always here should our donors have a question or need any help. This is the Mission Society. We care about people."

If you are thinking of donating a car, truck or RV, give Joe a call at 410-636-0123 or email [jearnest@lutheranmissionsociety.org](mailto:jearnest@lutheranmissionsociety.org)

**Baltimore Lutheran School** will once again collect personal hygiene items, food, gifts and books for the Mission Society during their week-long **"In the Spirit of Service."** The students, faculty and staff



of Baltimore Lutheran have been a blessing to the Mission Society ministries for many years. One of the highlights for the 6th, 7th and 8th grade students

in past years was to try to fill the principal's office with with packs of a personal care "white good" (think snow forecast and it's not milk or bread). The event kicks off this year at BLS's Wednesday morning chapel on December 1st. The Mission Society's trucks will pick up the collected items on Friday morning, December 10th. A hearty thank you and God's blessings for all those at Baltimore Lutheran School for their faithful "spirit of service." More information on BLS is available online at [www.baltimorelutheran.org](http://www.baltimorelutheran.org).

A big thank-you to **Concordia Lutheran School** in Hyattsville, MD for their assistance with our **Pumpkin Patch** fundraiser! Thanks to their great efforts, the Patch raised over \$1300 to benefit both organizations. Since 1944, Concordia has been providing quality Christian education for children, ages 3 through grade 8. Concordia offers a complete curriculum while also offering a varied elective program to the middle school students, grades 5-8. To learn more about CLS or to schedule a tour, call 301-927-0266 or visit their website at [www.clsmd.org](http://www.clsmd.org).

Thank you to **St. Paul's Lutheran School** in Glen Burnie, MD for graciously including the Mission Society as a recipient for funds raised from their **"Bounty of the Chesapeake"** event on October 31st. To learn more about St. Paul's Lutheran School, call 410-766-5790 or visit [www.stpaulslutheranschoolgb.org](http://www.stpaulslutheranschoolgb.org) on the web.

## Candle of Hope (cont.)

current economic crisis has hit the world – and the Mission Society - hard. Financial support from churches is down 13%, funding by other organizations is down almost 50%, and individual giving is down 24%.

The Mission Society is responding to these challenges operationally and strategically. We have been answering God's call to minister to those in need for over a hundred years, and we will continue to answer that call for another hundred, by God's grace.

Please prayerfully consider a generous response to God's call to serve your neighbors in need through continued support for the Mission Society.



Clients at LMS Compassion Center hold candles during weekly chapel prayer

Help keep the candle of hope burning for those hit hardest by the economy. We share food and clothing with them... and we also share Jesus. The Mission Society has eight Compassion Centers

where people come for help. Lives are being fortified; lives are being changed – because of your compassion.

Please send your special gift today in the envelope provided. Kneel with us in prayer, and stand with us in mission. Light a Christmas candle, in unity with the Mission Society and those we serve in Jesus' name. Together, by God's grace, we can keep His light shining as a beacon for the world's forgotten.

### DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK, RV

Your donation helps provide food, clothing, hope.

### LUTHERAN MISSION SOCIETY

601 Hammonds Lane, Brooklyn Park, MD 21225

410-636-0123

MVA Licensed  
Tax Deductible



FOR MORE INFORMATION

[www.LutheranMissionSociety.org](http://www.LutheranMissionSociety.org)

Donate before December 31 for a 2010 tax deduction.

## 2010 Annual Dinner Features Laughter, Tears and Inspiration



Michael Dausch III, J.D. (l) listens as Mr. Jack Webb, Jr. praises his service

The LMS 2010 Annual Dinner on Sunday, November 7th at Kurtz's Beach in Pasadena, MD was a great afternoon of song, spirit and emotion.

Michael Dausch III, J.D. was honored for 35 years of service on the Lutheran Mission Society Board of Directors. Mr. Jack Webb, Jr., former Board Vice-Chairman, brought tears to the audience with his touching tribute.

Rev. Charles Minetree of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Baltimore brought warmth and humor to the afternoon as Master of Ceremonies, especially when he teamed with Rev. David Maack, LMS Executive Director, for a "not-ready-for-prime-time" rendition of the classic Abbott & Costello *Who's on First* routine.



Rev. Charles Minetree (l) & Rev. David Maack perform takeoff of *Who's on First*



Rev. Dr. Jon Diefenthaler

Rev. Dr. Jon Diefenthaler, LCMS SED President, offered words of praise for the work of the Mission Society in sharing the Gospel of Jesus. Ministry updates were presented by Rev. David Maack and other LMS staff. Justin Griepentrog MSW LSWA, Compassionate Grace Counseling Center Program Director, spoke of the mission and vision of the new LMS counseling program available at low-to-no cost.

The St. Paul's (Glen Burnie) Praise Team provided an afternoon of beautiful and uplifting Christian music that featured two songs written especially for the Mission Society by Mrs. Maureen Griepentrog and Mrs. Gretchen Michaels.



St. Paul's Praise Team shares their gift of song



Mrs. Anita Abel (l) presents Thrivent check to Rev. Maack

Mrs. Anita Abel, representing Mr. Arnold Abel and Thrivent Financial's Central Maryland Team, presented a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans' check in the amount of \$4,500 for the Annual Dinner and one for \$5,000 from the *Lutheran Day at the Park* event held in August. An additional Thrivent Care in Communities grant of \$600 from Thrivent East Baltimore County Chapter #30950 will also be provided.

## LMS Compassion Centers with Donation and Family Thrift Centers

Everyone welcome.  
You can help by donating food and goods... and shopping!

**Annapolis**  
230 West St.  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Open M-F 9:00-4:30 Sat 10:00-2:00  
410-269-5016

**Cambridge**  
415 Race St.  
Cambridge, MD 21613  
Open Mon-Sat 9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
410-228-8437

**Essex**  
438 Eastern Blvd.  
Essex, MD 21221  
Open Mon-Sat 9:30 AM-4:30 PM  
410-391-6877

**Fells Point**  
1706 Eastern Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
Open Mon-Sat 9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
410-327-2220

**Havre de Grace**  
531 Legion Dr.  
Havre de Grace, MD 21078  
Open Mon-Sat 8:30 AM-4:00 PM  
410-939-0879

**York**  
219 South George St.  
York, PA 17403  
Open Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
717-846-0990

**Southern MD Mobile Center**  
(Main) 1200 Charles St.  
La Plata, MD 20646  
Please see LMS website for other locations, dates & times  
410-636-0123

**Immanuel Compassion Center**  
5701 Loch Raven Blvd.  
Baltimore, MD 21239  
Open Sat 10:00 AM-2:00 PM  
410-435-6861

### The Mission Society Newsletter

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