

Mission on the Move: God's work, God's gifts



A Gift of Significance that Transforms

Mission on the Move is a capital campaign that responds to the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20) by inviting people to see God's claim on their lives. Each follower of Jesus is called to live life beneath the cross and to witness boldly in an increasingly

pluralistic world. Together we will gather and share the resources of the church to

- serve God in diverse settings,
- reach out in communities where Lutherans have not been commonly found,

- seek the unchurched who have little awareness of Christianity or the story of Jesus.

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MOM's Generosity

- Purchases land and assists in the building of facilities for two new mission congregations.
- Supports vibrant congregations and critical ministries during times of transition .
- Places resources for outreach initiatives in every congregation of the New Jersey Synod.
- Transforms the mission culture in the New Jersey Synod

What is at Stake

"God changes people.
 Changed people change the church.
 Changed churches
 Change the world."

For a downloadable version of this mission story in bulletin insert format go to www.njsynod.org and click on MOM

Changing the Mission Culture in North Plainfield

Pastor Sara Olson-Smith was able to congratulate her congregation and give thanks to God last July, when the members and friends of St. Peter in North Plainfield achieved their 2007 Vision Appeal goal in just 7 months.

St Peter is a mission critical congregation located in a latino neighborhood. Members desired to reach out, but did not know how to engage the people of a culture so different from theirs. As the congregation aged, and mission strength waned, St. Peter even considered selling the vacant lot next door to provide funds to keep the congregation going.

With the help of the Office of the Bishop, and the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit of the ELCA, the members of St. Peter agreed to engage in a capital campaign to raise \$25,000 of new money for mission, to year round stewardship education and practice. ELCA and NJ Synod partners offered grants over three years to help the congregation call a vibrant young pastor with the skills needed to revitalize their ministry.

"The decision of the congregation to head down this path was reached after great debate, prayer and with a courageous faith," said Pr Scott Schantzenbach, Coordinator for MOM .

Mission Director, Pr Judith Spindt said, "This news is a great witness to what God can do when people open themselves up to the power of the Spirit."



**New Jersey:
God's Mission field.**

"Due to the generosity of St. Peter's members and friends we were able to meet our 2007 Vision Appeal goal in July. What an incredible thing to have reached our goal 5 months early, passing our goal of \$8,333 for the year."

"New Jersey is exotic"
 Else Thompson, ELCA Director of Human Resources

Become a Mission Enthusiast

- Join people who are committed to making followers of Jesus for the sake of the world.
- Join people who know that New Jersey is a rich and diverse mission field that also suffers from poverty and injustice.
- Join your voice with those who are eager to proclaim the good news of Jesus
- Strengthen your understanding of the partnerships that proclaim the Gospel and change lives
- Add your name to the list of those who will receive regular updates about the mission activities of the New Jersey Synod and its congregations.
- Contact Dawn Appelget and become a MISSION ENTHUSIAST today.

Dawn Appelget

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Mission Updates Posted On Web at: www.njsynod.org



MOM is already on the move

Bishop Riley, his assistants, the entire synod office staff and the **MOM** Team have already made pledges to **MOM**. Together with lead gifts, pledges have brought early totals to \$274,255.00

The Conference of Cluster Counselors and Synod Council have been invited to join the momentum with early pledges.

In the next six months, the **MOM** Team will be visiting congregational councils to share information and holding events for clusters to secure their generous participation.

Mission Enthusiasts and others will continue to help us tell the mission story on the territory of the New Jersey Synod.

New software will enable us to carefully account for every pledge giving appropriate credit to the congregations.

Mission on the Move Goals and Allocations

Two New Mission Starts (Land or First Building)	\$1,600,000
Transitional Ministry Support (Fund for Mission)	\$700,000
Congregational Outreach Ministry	\$310,000
Campaign Costs	<u>\$90,000</u>
Total Gifts needed	\$2,700,000

Heaven is singing for joy, Alleluia! for your life and mine will always bear witness to God. Alleluia!

El cielo canta alegría, ¡aleleuia! Porque tu vida y la mía proclamarán al Señor.