



**7017 North 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Milwaukee, WI 53223, (920) 254-5270, ntxoovyias@wi.rr.com**

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! May His grace and love abide with you always.

There are many Hmong<sup>1</sup> people in North America and around the world that need to hear the Gospel. The Hmong ministries in the LCMS have been reaching out with the Gospel to the Hmong people in their communities. The hope is that the Hmong ministry in the LCMS will continue to grow stronger and continue to reach out to Hmong people around the world. This hope keeps the ministries going.

In 1995, a historic event took place. For the first time, the LCMS Hmong ministries came together for a conference to encourage each other. At this first conference, four established missions representing three Districts met together. Thereafter annual conferences have taken place. Today there are 23 missions in eight Districts.

The Hmong Pastors' conference is held bi-annually to provide the opportunity for pastors and men in pastoral training to come together for fellowship and learning. The most recent conferences were held in St. Paul, MN (June 27-30, 2010). At the general conference a new ministry was officially recognized. The LCMS Hmong Women in Mission was formed to connect and resource Hmong women for mission (see related article).

Since 1987, four Hmong missions have been chartered as congregations in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. The first congregation chartered was Hmong Lutheran Church in St. Paul, MN. The second congregation was Hmong Outreach Lutheran Church in Oshkosh, WI. The third congregation was Hmong Hope Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, WI. The fourth congregation was Hmong Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Green Bay, WI. The rest of the Hmong ministries are recognized missions. Hmong Pastors, leaders and Districts are continuing to work and plan together to grow and to have strong foundation in the LCMS.

Ten years ago in 2000, pastors, leaders and Mission Executives from MN, WI, and MI came together to form the Hmong Mission Society (HMS). The purpose of the HMS was to be a resource to the growing number of Hmong missions in the LCMS. The HMS has been active in promoting Hmong missions in North America over the past decade. Here, at the end of 2010, there are four Hmong Lutheran churches and 23 Hmong Lutheran missions in eight Districts. These eight LCMS Districts are expressing interest in planting more Hmong missions in North America.

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<sup>1</sup>Hmong is a people group and recent immigrants to the US from Laos after the Vietnam War. The Hmong were close allies of the US during the Vietnam War. They were recruited by the CIA to help protect the Ho Chi Minh Trail, guard US Radar and rescue down pilots. After the Vietnam War, many Hmong also immigrated to Canada, Europe, Australia and South America. Most of the Hmong people today live in China, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and Burma.

Earlier in 2010, Rev. Dan McMiller, the Mission Executive of South Wisconsin District LCMS, suggested the HMS meet with other District Mission Executives with active Hmong ministries to better facilitate future mission plants, recruiting leaders and financial support. A synod-wide conference for all LCMS District Mission Executives is taking place in Nashville, TN in November. The HMS has been invited to meet with the eight District Mission Executives that are involved with Hmong ministry. Please pray for this important meeting that the outcome of the meeting will bring glory and honor to God and be a blessing for the expanding of Hmong ministries with the partnership of the Districts.

I want to thank every individual, congregation and District for your prayers and faithful support of Hmong ministry. Please continue to pray that the Lord will continue to bring more Hmong people who are still lost in their unbelief to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation.

In Christ,  
Rev. Yia Vang  
President of Hmong Mission Society (LCMS)

## Hmong Ministry Conference

On behalf of LCMS Hmong Ministry Conference, I would like to extend a personal thank you to Our Savior



Lutheran Church, the speakers, and all the volunteers who helped with the Hmong Ministry Conference this past June in St. Paul, Minnesota. Without your help, the conference would not have been a successful one. I cannot thank you enough but I know that God will bless you richly.

I am happy to announce to you all that the next Hmong Ministry Conference for 2011 will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with the theme of: **"Passing the Faith."** We read in 2 Timothy 3:14-15 *"Continue in what you have learned and become convinced of, because you know those from whom you*

*learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation thru faith in Christ Jesus."*

The committee is still in the process of securing a location and choosing the dates for the 2011 LCMS Hmong Ministry Conference. Possible dates are the last week of July or the first two weeks of August. Please pencil on your calendar and plan to attend. More information will be announced as soon as it is available.

**Rev. Dr. Lang Yang, President**  
LCMS Hmong Ministry conference

## Hmong Lutheran Women in Mission (LCMS)

My Dear Loved Ones,

The Hmong Mission Society has formed a new auxiliary organization, **Hmong Lutheran Women in Mission (LCMS)**. This committee has met two times this year to form this new ministry, to give it the name and to discuss future goals and activities.

**The HLWM Mission statement:** To connect, network and resource all Hmong Lutheran Women to the Lord's service.

**The HLWM Vision:** Hmong Lutheran Women share one common mission: To build healthy relationships, friendships, and inspire Hmong women to follow Christ through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

We have elected Klee Thao (Nam Ceeb Vaaj) as Vice President, Susan Vang (Nam X.F Ntxoov Yag Vaaj) as the Recording Secretary & Financial Equalization and Maisie Vang (Nam Yim Leeg Lauj) as the point of contact for Relations, Collaboration and Communication. (The board and advisors for 2010-2012 contact information are below.)

Our next scheduled meeting will be held on January 8, 2011 via Skype. In this meeting, we will discuss our Bylaws and the first Women's Retreat for October 1, 2011. I would like to encourage everyone to look online at the LWML website for products they have to offer. (Bible studies, skits, devotion...etc.) If you have any questions, please contact any of the committee members. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; be persistent in prayer. – *Romans 12:12*

President: Shing Vang (Nam Txoov Tuam Vaaj) 651-361-0205 [shingtvang@hotmail.com](mailto:shingtvang@hotmail.com)

Vice President: Klee Thao (Nam Ceeb Vaaj) 651-216-9532 [hlythoj@yahoo.com](mailto:hlythoj@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Susan Vang (Nam X.F Ntxoov Yag Vaaj) 414-446-5548 [susankvang@gmail.com](mailto:susankvang@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Chue Yang Thao (Nam X.F Txoojzoo Thoj) 920-499-3458 [Chiathao8@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Chiathao8@sbcglobal.net)

Pastor Counselor: Rev. Dr. Lang Yang (X.F Num Laaj Yaaj) 989-239-4758 [numlaaj@yahoo.com](mailto:numlaaj@yahoo.com)

Communication: Maisie Vang (Nam Yim Leeg Lauj) 651-246-9099 [vangmaisie84@hotmail.com](mailto:vangmaisie84@hotmail.com)

## Youth Conference

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." - Matthew 9:37-38.

Greetings to all!

Truthfully, we're all capable of serving but the question is one of willingness. I understand that people have busy schedules and can't fulfill certain duties outside of the realm of family, work, and school, but God has

called each and every one of us to serve in his Kingdom. In Isaiah 6:8, Isaiah hears God asking, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And Isaiah replies saying, "Here am I. Send me! Send me!" In the same way, can we be eager to serve God as He calls also to us?

As the 2011 Conference draws near, I want to remind the youth that the election for our youth board will be taking place at this conference. There are leaders gifted with vision and direction within each and every one of the youth groups out there. I would like you all to consider nominating individuals to lead, share ideas and visions, and share the gospel with next generation of youth within the LCMS Hmong church. And for those who would like to consider those board positions, pray about it.  
In Christ's love and mercy,

Daniel Vang  
National Youth Board President

## Trip to Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa

Representatives of the Hmong Mission Society (HMS) were invited to Mission Central to meet with Missionary Gary Thies and Rev. Carl Kaye, LCMS missionary in Thailand. The representatives from the HMS were Lang Yang who came from Michigan, Yia Vang, Chia Thao, Blong Vang, and Jeff Prewitt all from Wisconsin. Missionary Gary treated us to a tour of the mission museum with artifacts from cultures around the world. If you ever get a chance to visit Mission Central in person, please do. Check it out at [www.missioncentral.us](http://www.missioncentral.us).



After the enjoyable tour of the mission museum we all sat down to meet in the Mission Central house that serves as offices and meeting spaces. The purpose of our meeting was to discuss working together in Thailand and S.E. Asia to spread the Gospel to the Hmong people, plant churches and train leaders. The HMS has been doing the above for a number of years. HMS has a vision to keep doing the same types of mission outreach in S.E. Asia for many years to come. HMS has a desire to serve closely with LCMS World Missions.

Rev. Carl Kaye is new to the work in Thailand and at the end of July, 2010 his family (wife-Grace and son Nathanael) moved from Bangkok to Chiang Mai. The HMS mission center is also located in Chiang Mai. Rev. Kaye and the representatives of HMS explored ways we can all serve together in the foreseeable future. There is much work to be done in spreading the Gospel in Thailand among the Hmong people and many other people groups of Thailand. Rev. Kaye is called to serve the many people groups of Thailand. He has graciously been involved in a number of LCMS social projects in rural Hmong villages making a number of trips with Suphan Hang and others. It was a wonderful opportunity for us all to meet face to face. Many thanks to Missionary Gary Thies and Mission Central for making it happen.

After our meeting concluded Missionary Gary Thies shared many wonderful stories of how God is moving in so many people to support the world missions of the LCMS. We were all enthralled with story after story of God's provisions, people's hearts being moved to pray and to give, missionary personnel and families being supported to live and serve in mission all around God's world. The stories of Mission Central told by Missionary Gary were only a thimble full from the barrel of stories demonstrating God's faithful grace. Mission Central serves with an amazing heart so that many more souls might be saved by Jesus our Lord.

**Article submitted by Rev. Jeff Prewitt**

## Thailand Mission Trip April 22-May 12, 2010



Pastor Chia Thao on a recent mission trip to Thailand was once again privileged to travel, evangelize, baptize and teach God's Word. He was accompanied by Suphan, Vaxue, Neng and other Hmong family and friends. This first picture shows Pastor Suphan baptizing a family of four. Some of the places visited were Ban Pakkha Mai, Tak, Pakkha Lokho, Ban Koon Hoiklai, Chiang Rai and a few new villages. At each place there were opportunities for witnessing, teaching, Bible studies, singing Christian songs, and praying.



In this picture two people are being baptized: a member's wife and his younger brother.

Thank you to our Lord Jesus Christ for the opportunity to travel to Thailand for His mission. I want to thank everyone who prayed and helped to make this trip possible! May God bless you and may His name be praised! If you would like a more detailed story of my trip day by day please email me at [chiathao8@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chiathao8@sbcglobal.net) and I will send it to you.

**Pastor Chia Thao**

## New Hymnal

On behalf of the Hymnal Committee, I would like to encourage all LCMS Hmong ministries to continue their fundraising for the new hymnal. We are still in great need for funds in order to print the hymnal. It is important that we all work together to raise the necessary funds so that we could expedite the project. We greatly appreciate those who have given generously to make the new hymnal possible.

Please use the form below to send in your contribution to: **LCMS Hmong Hymnal Project, P.O Box 98, Richville, MI 48758.**

Thank you

-----Detach-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00 to the Hmong Hymnal Project.

Your contribution is tax deductible. Make check payable to: **Hmong Mission Society LCMS and Memo: LCMS Hmong Hymnal Project.**

### **For more information contact:**

Hmong Mission Society LCMS Or  
Rev. Yia Vang, President  
920-254-5270  
[ntxoovyias@wi.rr.com](mailto:ntxoovyias@wi.rr.com)

LCMS Hmong Hymnal Project  
Rev. Lang Yang, J.D.  
989-239-4758  
[numlaaj@yahoo.com](mailto:numlaaj@yahoo.com)