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Just wanted to drop you a quick note letting you know some of the things that KIMA is working on at the moment.

- On May 6-8, 2019, The Texas District of the LCMS is hosting its Theological Convocation in Austin at the Crowne Plaza. Dr. Reed District Lessing, Senior Pastor at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Ft. Wayne, Indiana will share biblical and practical insights from his forthcoming CPH commentary on Zechariah. In addition to going through the main passages in the book, participants will see how relevant Zechariah is when it comes to preaching, pastoral leadership, outreach and restoring broken lives. And the Christology in the book is amazing! KIMA has been in contact with the District Office to arrange some type of translating program so that the presentation could be understood in Spanish. Rev. Isaac Garcia and Rev. Omar Garza have been in meetings with the pastors in Mexico and they are going to see if there might be several pastors of the Lutheran Synod of Mexico who might like to attend. Each would have to have their own Visa and Passport and we would try to provide transportation via a van from somewhere around Brownsville or McAllen. KIMA would try to find homes of Lutheran people in the Austin area who might provide housing. KIMA is also checking to see if any scholarship for the Convocation might be available. General Registration is \$150.
- KIMA has also been in contact with Rev. Isaac Garcia to see if there might be interest in a small group of teenagers and counselors from the Lutheran Synod of Mexico who might want to attend the LCMS National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next summer. It would be important for these youth to be potential leaders in the Lutheran Synod of Mexico so that they might take some of these

experiences back with them to possibly use in Mexico.

• KIMA has been contacted by Alvaro Velazquez who lives in Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico which is



located in southern Mexico near the Guatemalan border and the Pacific Ocean. Señor Alvaro Velazquez says they have been meeting in his home for about two years. They have about 22 people who gather for worship (around 10-11 families). They meet each Sunday and then also during the week with a group of children. He is taking classes through our Lutheran Seminary, The Reformer, in the Dominican Republic. This program is called FPH and is similar to what we know as the SMP program. Some of the challenges that they face are that

there is no pastor there to consecrate and distribute the Sacrament; they are struggling financially to cover the basic needs like worship and education material, and supplies for their outreach events. There are children waiting to be baptized and others that want to be confirmed so they can take Communion if and when it is offered. There is another small group that meets in the far south so the need of an ordained pastor is great. Of course, they would like to be able to rent or construct a place of their own for their worship gatherings.

• Last week KIMA received a \$400 gift from Thrivent Choice Dollars. This gift was made possible because someone felt moved to designate their Choice Dollars for the Kingdom work through KIMA. Since then another person called and told me that their agent told them that they had to designate their Choice Dollars before the end of the month or they would be gone. Needless to say, my wife and I got on the computer and designated our total of \$47 to KIMA. It's not much compared to others, but hey, it might help one of those pastors hear more about what God

says through Zechariah, or a teenager from Mexico to see what they can do for Christ when they all work together, or provide a few items for outreach down in Chiapas.



Any contributions to help finance any of the above projects may be sent to KIMA at the address printed at the top of this Newsletter or you may contribute electronically by going to the Internet at https://app.moonclerk.com/pay/3npxmz29g32a

Board members: Rev. Norman Finke, Dr. Gerald Brunworth, Lois Wolf, Sylvia Bulot, Ralph Genz, Rev. Gregory Finke, Rev. Steve Roth, Debra Hill, Rev. Donald Berg, and Rev. Juan Zamora

> "Share with God's people who are in need." Romans 12:13 "A Step Forward in Faith"