

Floor Committee 09: Home Missions

Subject: Board for Home Missions

Reference: *Book of Reports and Memorials*, pp. 147-151

Report No. 01

The Board for Home Missions seeks to continue to "stick to the knitting," that is, to focus on proclaiming Christ and His Word alone so that many may be brought to faith and salvation.

The committee wishes to highlight the Board for Home Missions' (BHM) Report.

We give thanks for those who have proclaimed God's Word faithfully and who have completed their service on the Board for Home Missions: Pastor Nathan Strutz, Dr. Keith Eldred, Mr. John Beeskow, Pastor Stephen Helwig, and Mr. Steven Kalscheuer. We also thank Pastor Charles Westra who served as BHM chairman for nine years until elected as South Atlantic District president. A special thanks to Pastor Tom Trapp for his 41 years serving in campus ministry. We would also like to welcome Pastor Jon Bilitz as the new campus pastor in Madison, WI. We especially thank all of the congregations for their partnering through their mission offerings which support Home Missions. In addition, we thank the Joint Mission Council for their active work in cross-cultural ministry and the Church Extension Fund for establishing the Home Missions Endowment.

We wish to encourage congregations to use the following WELS resources:

- Mission counselors – Working through district mission boards, congregations are encouraged to make use of a mission counselor to assist in developing a strategy for starting a new mission.
- Builders for Christ – This group, which is part of Kingdom Workers, has put together a three-man staff to advise congregations who are contemplating a building project. These are men who have "been there, done that" and so can bring expertise to congregations.
- Campus Ministry - As students head off to colleges, congregations and parents are strongly encouraged to provide the WELS Campus Ministry with contact information at <https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/campus-ministry>.

We are synod – we walk together. We pray that we continue supporting and looking for opportunities to share God's Word with our neighbors across the street and across state lines. We give thanks that the Lord uses Home Missions to be part of the rescue mission team. That is our Great Heritage.

Pastor, Joel Sauer, chairman

Teacher Kirk DeNoyer, secretary