In God's Word in the United States...

Due to generous donors, LCMS missionary kids globally were offered scholarships to participate in summer youth events. Celeste and Bella were excited to take advantage of the opportunity! J.P., Aimee, and Celeste traveled to Houston, TX for the LCMS Youth Gathering, while Bella and J.P. traveled to Bozeman, MT for a Higher Things Conference. LCMS is so fortunate to have such high quality events for youth! It is easy to be discouraged by the narrative that the LCMS is a greying denomination. But with nearly 1,000 people at Higher Things and nearly 20,000 at the Youth Gathering, it is hard not to feel hopeful about the future of the church. It isn't just the numbers of people that inspires hope, but even more the content of the conferences. Both conferences included Bible study, worship, and breakaway sessions on a variety of relevant topics. Participants were fully engaged in God's Word. The future of the church is not just kids, but kids who know that "the word of our God will stand forever" (Isaiah 40:8). At Higher Things, J.P. gave a breakaway session entitled, "Five Reasons NOT to Become a Missionary, and Five Reasons to Do it Anyway." J.P. was thrilled to be able to plant seeds for missionary work in the 100+ people who attended the session. One significant blessing of both events was the fellowship. At the Youth Gathering, Celeste joined with other missionary kids from around the world. At Higher Things, Bella made friendships with kids from across the United States. J.P. and Aimee, too, enjoyed reunions with old friends, colleagues, and supporters, as well as making new connections. Indeed, while helping to work the LCMS booth in the exhibition hall, they met missionaries for the first time who have been on the field nearly as long as them! For all of the family, these events were a welcome reminder of the global Lutheran community that we are blessed to be a part of.



In God's Word in Cambodia...

As reported earlier, in April J.P. traveled to Ratanakiri province and visited with ethnic Jarai church leaders. They shared that one challenge in ministry was a lack of Bibles in the Jarai language. Many did not have any Bible, and if they did, it might only be the New Testament, and it might be a flimsy photocopy. After making initial inquiries, J.P. learned that there were no Jarai Bibles available in Cambodia. Being an ethnic minority language (there are only 300,000 or so Jarai speakers worldwide), availability is limited even in the best of times. But utilizing a contact in a neighboring country that also has Jarai people, he was able to have Bibles shipped over land to Phnom Penh. In late July, while in Phnom Penh for a training seminar, the Jarai pastors received 100 brand new, high quality Jarai Bibles, complete with both the Old and New Testament. They were overjoyed to receive this precious gift. There might not be 20,000 people gathering in these Jarai churches, but nonetheless God is doing a mighty work so that many people would know that "the word of our God will stand forever!"



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Praises: for fruitful times in the US with family, friends, and supporters, as well as safe travel back to Cambodia (after tough goodbyes). **Prayers**: for J.P.'s upcoming travels to Siem Reap and Takeo, for visitation and catechism training, respectively; for Aimee as she begins planning to host a gathering for all LCMS Asia missionary families, to be held in Cambodia in January 2023; for the kids as they begin the school year.

Wanna help us impact the people of Cambodia? Give online here, or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 (payable to The Lutheran Church —Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-116, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write "Cima family-Cambodia."