

OUR PURPOSE

WELS Christian Aid and Relief (CAR) serves as our synod's "ministry of compassion." Galatians 6:10 guides our ministry: As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. In response to our Savior's mercy, and using the gifts generously supplied by his people, CAR seeks to do good by bringing physical relief to victims of natural disasters in the form of cash grants, food, clothing, medical supplies, and volunteer labor. WELS Christian Aid and Relief also partners with WELS Home and World Missions to support humanitarian aid projects, such as bore holes in Africa, food assistance in Ukraine, and school supplies for low-income families in Colorado and Texas. Such efforts help build relationships and provide opportunities to share the good news of Jesus. As faithful stewards of the resources entrusted to us, CAR conducts careful assessments and distributes funds first through our WELS congregations and missions.

DID YOU KNOW?



In addition to disaster relief and humanitarian aid projects, WELS Christian Aid and Relief also assists local WELS congregations as they help their members through major medical emergencies and financial crises. Perhaps you have a member dealing with overwhelming medical bills or an unexpected and oppressive financial challenge. This also includes supporting congregational efforts to provide aid and relief to your community recovering from a natural disaster. We are here to help! Contact Pastor Daniel Sims to find out how we can assist you in your local efforts.

NEW DIRECTOR INSTALLED

On July 1, 2020, Pastor Daniel Sims was officially installed as the full-time director of WELS Christian Aid and Relief. Pastor Sims grew up in Michigan where he attended Good Shepherd Lutheran School in Burton and Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw. After graduating from Northwestern College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Pastor Sims was privileged to spend 23 years in the parish ministry, serving three Wisconsin congregations: Risen Savior in McFarland, Zion in Columbus, and Immanuel in Manitowoc. His wife Jennifer teaches upper grades at Salem Lutheran School on the north side of Milwaukee. The Lord has blessed them with three children: Marcus, a junior at Martin Luther College (MLC); George, a freshman at MLC; and Josie, a junior at Luther Preparatory School. They make their home in Franklin, Wisconsin.

Pastor Sims is excited about his new ministry and is eager to build on and expand the excellent work done by WELS Christian Aid and Relief. He is assisted by a five-member commission chaired by Pastor Bob Hein and by administrative assistant Beth Zambo.



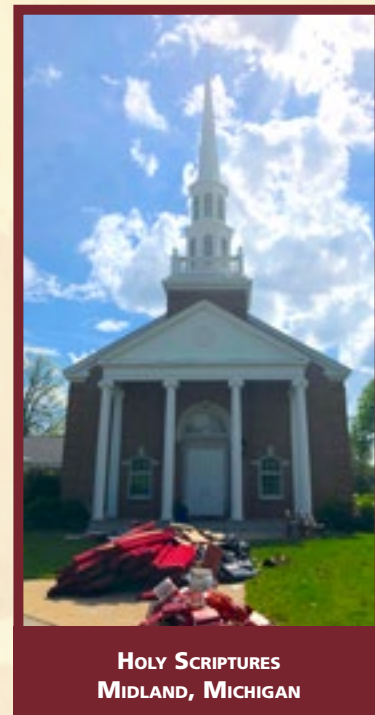
DISASTER RELIEF HIGHLIGHTS

WELS Christian Aid and Relief continues to offer financial assistance and volunteer help in areas hit hard by natural and man-made disasters. This past fiscal year, 2019-2020, \$682,685 in financial and disaster relief aid grants were dispersed. Here are some highlights.

Hurricane Relief: Over 300 volunteers, including 40 students from Martin Luther College, assisted with repairs to the hurricane damaged church and parsonage of Grace in Panama City, Florida. They also helped repair homes of Grace's members and their neighborhood.

Midland, Michigan Flooding: WELS Christian Aid and Relief, along with the leadership team of Good Shepherd and 95 volunteers, worked to clean out and sanitize the homes of 15 families and the ELS church, Holy Scriptures, in Midland, Michigan.

Coronavirus Relief: WELS Christian Aid and Relief continues to respond to needs caused by the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic. So far we have provided \$172,003 for masks, supplies, and food assistance to those impacted by this disease. Assessment of financial needs related to the Coronavirus is ongoing.



HUMANITARIAN AID HIGHLIGHTS

WELS Christian Aid and Relief works with WELS Home and World Missions to support projects that meet community needs and create opportunities to share the gospel of Christ. Following are some of the ways the \$455,919 in humanitarian aid granted during 2020-2021 will assist in their gospel outreach efforts.

Central Africa Medical Mission: CAMM's mission statement reads, "We provide Christ-centered healthcare supporting gospel ministry." WELS Christian Aid and Relief supports the work of CAMM as they provide necessary medical care and nutrition through their four clinics. Many who come to the clinics hear the good news of their Savior.

Malawi and Zambia: WELS CAR supports the digging of ten boreholes in Malawi, and five in Zambia. These boreholes provide safe, sustainable, and reliable drinking water for many. They also help to build bridges and open doors in the communities they serve so that our brothers and sisters in the Lutheran Church Central Africa can share the living water of Jesus.

Others: WELS Christian Aid and Relief gave grants for food assistance, health clinics, and medical aid in places like Indonesia, Albania, Bulgaria, Russia, Mexico, Venezuela, and Asia.

LOOKING AHEAD: DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING

WELS Christian Aid and Relief is working to enhance our disaster relief ministry in the years ahead. Part of Pastor Sims' work will be to develop a written disaster training manual and training meetings for our WELS congregations. We hope to train and equip coordinators and other volunteers in all 12 WELS districts to respond to disasters quickly, effectively, and compassionately.

To find more information, make a donation, or volunteer, please visit us at wels.net/relief.

Pastor Daniel Sims, Director, WELS Christian Aid and Relief

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