

SERVING THE LORD IN

FRANKFURT, GERMANY

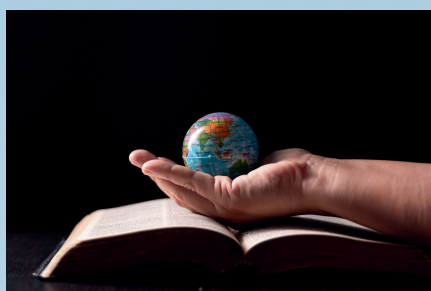
News from the Teeple Family



July 2026

**“As the Father has sent
me, even so
I am sending you.”**

John 20:21



Sign up for our newsletter!

Send an email with your
contact information to
gina.teeple@lcms.org
or use the QR code below:



There are many opportunities to serve as
short-term or GEO missionaries. Check
out the current list and download an
application at lcms.org/service. Click on
“Service Opportunities.”

God’s Mission Is Our Mission

When we think about mission, we often think about missionaries – people who leave home, learn another language, and go somewhere else to tell people about the forgiveness of sins and salvation that are found only in Jesus Christ. And while that is partially true, Scripture helps us see that mission begins long before a missionary ever goes anywhere! Mission begins with God.

John 3:16, one of the best-known verses in the Bible, tells us that God loved the world so much that HE SENT His Son. Galatians 4 tells us that, at just the right time, GOD SENT His Son to redeem us and make us His children.

God is a sending God.

A German Lutheran theologian named Georg Vicedom called this the “Missio Dei,” or “mission of God.” When we understand it this way, we know more deeply that mission does not belong to us; mission belongs to God! He is already at work in the world, and He invites His people to take part in what He is doing. After Jesus rose from the dead, He told His disciples, “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (John 20:21). Do you see the sequence? First the Father sends the Son, then the Son sends the Church.

The Church, then, is not simply a group of people who gather together. The Church is a people who have been sent.

This is one reason the words we confess in the Nicene Creed are so vital to our identity: “one holy, Christian, and apostolic Church.” The word apostolic reminds us that the Church is a sent Church. Jesus sends His people into the world with the Good News about Him. Paul asks in Romans 10, “How are they to hear without someone preaching?” People need to hear the Gospel, and God has chosen to use His Church to make Christ known.

That means mission is not just something missionaries do. It is something the whole Church does together. Some are sent across the ocean. Others faithfully serve Christ in their own neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, and communities. Some preach. Some teach. Some pray. Some give. Some encourage. All of these can be ways of participating in GOD’S MISSION!

So, thank you for being part of that mission with us! When you pray, give, encourage, and share the Gospel where God has placed you, you are joining in the Missio Dei. The mission belongs to God, and He allows us – His one, holy, Christian, and apostolic Church – the privilege to take part in it!

You are invited!

Would you like to see firsthand what is happening on the mission field in Eurasia? We would love to have you join us for a FORO event!



What is a FORO?

The word FORO comes from the Spanish word for “forum.” A FORO unites missionaries and mission partners to foster relationships and combine diverse gifts for the purpose of planting Lutheran churches around the world.

Who is a FORO Partner?

FORO partners are LCMS congregations, districts, schools, and organizations. These FORO partners share the gifts that God has given them, including subject matter expertise, financial support, prayer, and encouragement. When all these gifts come together around one shared mission, something beautiful happens!

What is a FORO event?

Throughout the year, missionaries and FORO partners gather on the mission field to discuss the vital work of spreading the Gospel, planting Lutheran churches, and showing mercy. These events include times of worship, cultural outings, mission education, and ministry reporting. Most importantly, they provide an opportunity for FORO partners to see firsthand the incredible things God is doing in a specific area.



If you are interested in learning more, please contact Gina at gina.teeple@lcms.org.

Where are FORO events happening?

We have upcoming FORO events in Romania from January 20-26, 2027 and Spain from April 8-13, 2027. We would love to have you join us for one of these events!



On any given Sunday *at Trinity Lutheran Church...*

We have been surprised by how many people visit Trinity each week - sometimes as much as one third of the congregation are guests and visitors! We are grateful to God for the opportunity to share the Gospel with them! On any given Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church, you might find:

People who have recently relocated to Frankfurt.

People from all over the world relocate to Frankfurt for a job opportunity. Many of these people do not speak German. Rather, they speak English, either as their first language or as a second language. Worshipping at Trinity allows them to continue learning and growing in their faith!

People visiting family or friends that live in Frankfurt.

Here is what is remarkable about this - it isn't just people visiting friends or family that are already members at Trinity. It also includes people visiting friends and family living in the area who don't otherwise attend church. This open door is a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel and extend hospitality with both the visitors and the local people who may worship again!

People on vacation.

We had one couple attend worship an hour-and-a-half after landing in Germany from the United States! They came to worship with their luggage! Visiting our congregation and attending worship was literally the first thing they did on vacation! 😊

Missionaries coming from or going to the field.

We have been blessed to welcome two missionary families in the past few months. One family was finishing up their mission service, and the other was on their way to the mission field!



**The Lord bless and keep
your hearts and minds
in Christ Jesus!**



Many schools in Frankfurt start classes toward the beginning of August. We had a special prayer and blessing during our worship service for all our youth as they begin their new school year.

Prayer Requests and Praises

Please pray:

- Thanks to God for SENDING His Son to redeem the world and then SENDS His Church to spread the news of salvation through Jesus Christ!
- For our son, Elliot, as he begins his new academic year at a new school in Oberursel.
- For our daughter, Lauren, as she begins her final year at the University of Alabama.
- For the Lutheran Christian education that begins this month at Trinity Lutheran in Frankfurt. We have classes for the young children, the youth confirmands, the Youth Group and young adults, those who are new to the Lutheran faith, and adults classes on Sunday morning, Monday evenings, and a new class that will be starting online!
- For our congregation's upcoming Worship in the Park and our ecumenical St. Boniface Walk that we would be faithful public witnesses to all the people we interact with, and draw more into fellowship with God.

Look who came to visit!

Deaconess Melissa Pflug joined us for a few days toward the beginning of July. Melissa is the Regional Coordinator of Care and Development for the Eurasia region. As part of her role, she cares for the 28 missionary families currently serving throughout Eurasia, and she has taken wonderful care of us!

Our daughter Lauren and her boyfriend, Dalton, were also able to join us for a little over a week at the end of the month. We thoroughly enjoyed showing them our new home, visiting a few castles and quaint German towns, and just spending time together. We were sad to see them go, but we are excited for Lauren to start her senior year at the University of Alabama this fall. It also helps to know she will be visiting again at Christmas :)

We had
our first
visitors in
July!



Please prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support our work in Germany! Checks can be made payable to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central
40718 Highway E 16
Mapleton, IA 51034

OR



Please include the words 'Teeple - Germany' on the memo line. You can also give securely using the QR code above, or at lcms.org/givenow/teeple. Questions or concerns? Please contact a donor care representative at (888) 930-4438.