



# Lutherans in Medical Missions November 2018



## From Our Executive Director



*“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven” – Ecc. 3:1*

Next year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lutherans in Medical Missions. My season with LIMM began 15 years ago in the beautiful country of Kyrgyzstan, where as a medical missionary I was praying for ways to help equip women with the knowledge necessary to grow healthier families and communities. Bobbie Lautenschlager was the Executive Director of LIMM at that time, and together with her physician husband John, traveled half way across the world to find out how LIMM could share in that vision.

Soon medical professionals were making trips to work with local doctors and nurses on our medical van and in villages, teaching and sharing with men and women in towns and villages. Soon medical professionals were heading to countries all over the world, teaching and empowering local church members and those whom they served, with the Cross ever at the center of every action.

My season as Executive Director of LIMM will come to an end December 31<sup>st</sup>, but I will continue to say “Yes!” as long as the Lord allows me to live in this world. Please join me in celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lutherans in Medical Missions by saying “Yes!” and helping us continue sharing Christ’s healing in underserved areas for the next 25 years!

*Rita*



### Inside this issue

From Our Executive Director.....	1
History and Missions.....	2

**Lutherans in Medical Missions (LIMM) works with local and global partners to share Christ’s healing in medically underserved communities.**

## Lutherans in Medical Missions History and Missions

### Lutherans in Medical Missions

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Please visit our Facebook page:  
**Lutherans in Medical Missions**

**Donations may be sent to:**  
Lutherans in Medical Missions  
P.O. Box 766  
Concordia, MO 64020

**Or go online at [www.limm.org](http://www.limm.org) to  
donate through paypal or credit card.**

Contributions made directly to LIMM

Lutherans in Medical Missions (LIMM) was incorporated in the State of Missouri as a not-for-profit corporation on December 7, 1994, and received IRS tax-exempt status as a 501(c3) organization in January 1996. LIMM was granted Recognized Service Organization (RSO) status by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in August 1996, and maintains it to date.

LIMM hired its first staff person, Executive Director and Founder Bobbie Lautenschlager, in February 1998. In November 2002, LIMM hired a Program Coordinator which serves as an assistant to the Executive Director. These remain the only salaried part-time positions.

LIMM was created to help meet the needs of medical professionals desiring to use their skills as a witness for Christ in Lutheran medical ministries across the world. The founders were health care professionals, church leaders, and others concerned with the lack of medical opportunities for service in LCMS mission work. It was their desire to re-energize the medical mission ministry of the LCMS, which was so very active in earlier decades.



For years, LIMM's primary task involved connecting and financially assisting medical professionals who had a desire to serve on short term mission teams. Physicians, nurses and those in related health care disciplines traveled abroad, setting up clinics, teaching national physicians, providing assessments, and aiding in disaster areas, always sharing the good news of the Gospel. LIMM continues to be involved in such activities, and currently partners with LCMS Mercy Medical Teams (MMT) and Community Health Education (CHE) trips, providing leaders and helping equip team members, when requested.

The vision of using CHE projects to demonstrate Witness, Mercy and Life Together began to take root on LCMS mission fields at the beginning of this century. CHE is intended to empower individuals and communities in creating healthier, happier and more productive lives. In 2003, LIMM began sending health care professionals to countries such as Kyrgyzstan, Cambodia, Thailand, The Republic of Georgia, West Africa and the Philippines. Together with LCMS called workers, these professionals taught and trained national Lutheran men and women, as well as others, how to teach and train their neighbors.

Within the past five years, we have supported CHE Health and Wellness projects in Central America, South-east and Central Asia (including Turkey), Africa, the Philippines and the United States.

LIMM has been blessed to disperse almost \$25,000 in grant money this year. All funding is approved by the Board of Directors. Currently, LIMM Board Members are President Sharon Thomas, Vice-President Harold Melser, Secretary Linda Jurgens, Treasurer Joel Holcombe, John Lautenschlager, David Wesche, Hector Hoppe, and Scarlet Holcombe.

*Lutherans in Medical Missions participates in Thrivent's Choice Dollars® program. If you have Choice Dollars available to direct, please consider directing to Lutherans in Medical Missions. We will use your Thrivent Choice grant funding for future mission projects.*

Lutheran in Medical Missions is a Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, and a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization under IRS code section 501(c)(3). Contributions made directly to Lutherans in Medical Missions are tax-deductible.