

OUTREACH

# God's Love Motives Us to Reach Out With Gospel



## MISSION IN ACTION

Doug Kallesen  
Director of Outreach

as difficult to keep track of, but it shows us just how intimately God is aware of us, our need, our world and every day life. Even before Adam knew that it would be good that he have a companion God had already provided Eve as his help mate and soul mate.

My point is simply this: God is in love with each and everyone who has or ever will take a breath on this planet. God does so love the world that He gave... He gave His only begotten Son so that we would not perish... be lost to hell... but would have everlasting life through Jesus His Son.

Of the nearly 6.5 billion people currently living how many have heard the Gospel of Jesus? In Florida and Georgia we had 2.5 million new residents arrive since 2000 yet nearly 9.5 million people in our two states have no church affiliation. How God's heart must hurt and how urgent is His call for the His Church to take this life-giving gospel to the world!



God's love for us is unending! It amazes me how deeply God loves each and everyone of us and how familiar He is with us.

David writes, "The Lord knows my sitting down and my rising up." In Matthew we read that God even knows the number of hairs on our head. Yes, I realize for some of us that's not

The heart of God is missions and Jesus is at the center of it!

Jesus says in John 15, "You did not choose me but rather I chose and appointed you to go and to bear fruit, fruit that will last. As the Father has sent me so I am now sending you." Mission is the heart of God and Christ is at the center of all that Christ's church is to do. This is the filter

3. Strengthen existing congregations by helping them grow in church attendance, adult confirmations, sharing the gospel in their community, develop a ministry that meets their specific community's need, and mobilize the members for mission.

mother congregations that will daughter a mission not only once but multiple times, funding for us to begin nearly 15 missions annually each of the next 10 years and the training and resources necessary to accomplish the task.



How does all of this work? How can I get involved?

The District Outreach Counselors met with me in Orlando, June 18-19, and determined it would be best for each circuit to develop a blueprint that would include having each congregation report what their congregation's outreach goals were, including how they would encourage the members to share the gospel. Identification of new mission areas, how congregations in the circuit could be revitalized and how volunteer missionaries could be recruited, equipped and sent would also be included in the circuit blueprint for *Ablaze* Outreach.

If you would like to be involved in your circuit's outreach council contact your pastor or my office at 407-857-5556 or 877-457-5556 ext. 2. Some circuits have outreach councils that are active; several circuits have no outreach council and will have to be formed. I look forward to our partnership in sharing, starting, strengthening and sending God's people into mission! □

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that all of ministry must flow through and be evaluated by.

The Florida-Georgia District, in Convention, unanimously adopted several *Ablaze* goals. It is my hope and prayer that you will ask, how can I personally respond, how can my church get involved and how can I work within my circuit and District to see these goals completed and surpassed? I also ask you to please pray about them regularly.

1. Share the gospel (critical events) with 2 million people.
2. Start 200 new churches by 2017.

4. Send Members into the Mission by identifying, equipping, and sending volunteer missionaries into our local mission congregations, Southeast Asia, the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

As a mission planter I have always experienced God's giving the mission congregation all that we needed, to do all that He was asking us to do. I believe God will again provide all that we need: the people to work in the harvest fields,



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ERIC EICHINGER, a 2006 graduate of Concordia Seminary-St. Louis who will be serving as Associate Pastor at Faith Lutheran-Eustin, FL, was ordained in his home congregation, Zion-Kalamazoo, MI, on June 11. Dr. Paul Maier, Second Vice President of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, ordained Eichinger. Pastor Tim Seeber preached, and Pastor Louis Grother, Zion's pastor emeritus who baptized Eichinger as an infant, participated in the laying on of hands. Shown here are (front, left to right) Paul Maier, Eric Eichinger, Louis Grother, Nathan Schwartz, (back, left to right) Tim Seeber, Alan Hellwege, Larry Brelje, Paul Nauman. □

At Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, we're putting our faith into action. In fact, we've committed \$100 million to Habitat for Humanity through our Thrivent Builds program. Together, Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent Financial members will work with families in need to build decent, affordable housing in their own neighborhoods.



For additional information on how you can get involved, please call 1-877-682-0370.