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 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
 Minneapolis, MN 55441-3008
 Phone: 763-412-2013
 Email: worldmis@aflc.org
 Web: www.aflc.org/world-missions

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UGANDA

Kaggwa "Frenchman" is a Ugandan Christian who carried a deep grudge for ten years. When he was 10 years old, a neighbor boy beat him severely, leaving him unconscious. He spent the next four months in the hospital and missed an entire year of school. People told him that he would never amount to anything because of his marred appearance.

Frenchman came from a Christian family, so he knew that to get even was not the right thing to do. Through the preaching and counsel of an AFLC missionary, the Lord brought Frenchman to the point of forgiveness. He went to the home of the attacker and asked for forgiveness for his bitterness. The man also humbled himself and asked for Frenchman's forgiveness for the first time since the incident.

God has worked a beautiful story of forgiveness in the life of Frenchman, and it is bearing much fruit. Frenchman now longs to become a pastor so that he can show all people the hope of forgiveness with God.



BRAZIL

Silvio was a normal boy until the day his father was convicted of murder. It devastated the whole family. You can imagine how the outcome of his father's trial crushed him.

One day while walking by Lar Parana Church, he heard music and entered. There he met Pastor Oseias, who began to work with this broken boy. The hope of Jesus Christ began to touch the whole family, and Silvio's mother, Therzinha, received Christ as her Savior. Over the years AFLC missionaries raised Silvio. Often he would come for advice and prayer. What would have happened to Silvio if not for our work in Brazil? Would he have followed in his father's footsteps?

Today, Silvio has a lovely wife and family of three. He is the lay leader of the Lar Parana Church. Silvo is going to our seminary and even teaches a few classes there, giving the hope of eternal life to others. Silvio is just one of the many lives cast aside by society and given up as a lost cause. But Jesus made the difference in his heart, just as He has made a difference and given hope to our hearts.



SPREADING THE
HOPE
 ★ of ★
JESUS
 THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

IN HIS GREAT MERCY HE HAS
 GIVEN US NEW BIRTH INTO
 A LIVING HOPE THROUGH THE
 RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST
 FROM THE DEAD, AND INTO
 AN INHERITANCE THAT CAN NEVER
 PERISH, SPOIL OR FADE — KEPT
 IN HEAVEN FOR YOU.
 — 1 PETER 1:3-4 —



HOPE of JESUS

The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations World Missions Department has committed itself to sharing the hope of eternal life in Jesus Christ with people around the world. Our goal is to make disciples, one person at a time, through evangelism and training.

Believers have been called to share great hope to a hopeless world. The Scriptures tell us to “always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect” (1 Peter 3:15). There is no greater calling than to give people eternal hope.

We would like to share examples from our work around the world. We want to tell you about people who have been given hope and who go on to give others hope. Would you ask God what you can do to share the hope of Jesus around the world through AFLC World Missions?

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”

— II Timothy 2:2 —



AFLC WORLD MISSIONS

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Plymouth, MN 55441
763-412-2013 worldmis@aflc.org



INDIA

Usha grew up as a Hindu. After her marriage, Usha and her husband were blessed with a boy whom they named Sudhakar. However, life for Usha was very hard; her husband was not faithful and became infected with the AIDS virus. As a result, Usha became infected and their next son, Sreekanth, was born with the AIDS virus.

Through the ministry of the AFLC in India, Usha heard the good news of Jesus Christ in 2001 and received Him as her personal Savior. She has joy and peace knowing God is constantly with her in the midst of her trials. Her husband has since died.

Today Usha works at the Horeb Children’s Home and at St. Paul’s Lutheran School on the AFLC’s mission field in India. Her boys live with her and attend St. Paul’s School. She knows that her boys have a godly influence in their lives. Her prayer is that they will serve the Lord faithfully. Usha is an example of one who received the hope of eternal life through Jesus and is using her gifts to share that same hope with others.



MEXICO

Milton had an eternal hope in Christ before he had any contact with the AFLC. He was employed as a school teacher who had been sensing a call to ministry from the time of his youth. Milton surrendered to God’s calling and attended our AFLC seminary in Minneapolis before returning home to share hope in Mexico.

Saturday mornings Milton can be seen sitting with a group of men around a table filled with tamales and the Word of God. These men are learning how they can have hope in Jesus. They are learning how to share that same hope with others. Several of these men are preparing to be lay pastors and leaders in the church. This type of discipleship takes time, but the benefits are eternal. Pastors are teaching pastors to teach pastors, and the hope of eternal life spreads.

The Central Mexican Lutheran Church has been lead by Milton’s father, Rev. Samuel Flores, for the last 26 years. In 2007 Milton became the new president of the CMLC.



DISTANCE ED

Pastor Zakaria, dean of Waama Bible School in Mbulu, Tanzania, is concerned that his students get a conservative Lutheran, biblical education. He’s so concerned that he came to Minnesota to study at the Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary. However, he was a long way from home. The call of his family and his people was heavy on his heart while he spent a year studying in America. The financial cost was more than most international students can bear, even if they could get a visa to come. After a year of study, Pastor Zakaria returned home with two years of seminary to finish. As he boarded the plane, he wondered how he would complete his studies.

Distance education will help people like Pastor Zakaria around the world who cannot come to our schools to learn. Pastor Kevin Olson has been called by AFLC World Missions to develop a distance education program that can be used around the world. The goal of distance education is to teach men like Pastor Zakaria to be pastors and to disciple others to be pastors.