

Floor Committee #9: World Missions and Joint Mission Council

Subject: Board for World Missions and Joint Mission Council reports

Reference: *Book of Reports and Memorials*, pp. 104-110

Report No. 01

God has certainly continued to bless the work of the Board for World Missions and the Joint Mission Council as the gospel continues to spread in 45 different countries around the world. We ask that God would bless the exploration efforts in the 19 prospective new mission fields. May God continue to find workers to carry out his Great Commission!

We celebrate the work of *Academia Cristo* in expanding our church fellowship in Bolivia, finding ways to use church planters to begin new churches in Central and South America, and effectively using social media to spread the gospel. We rejoice in the doors God has opened to expand ministry through the theological education center in Vietnam, the Apache Christian Training School, a new mission in London, and the Obadiah Lutheran Synod in Uganda. We urge our missionaries to continue in their faithful work as our worldwide fellowship approaches a point where it will surpass the size of our church body in North America!

The Pastoral Studies Institute continues to do important work in training men to spread the gospel in their own unique cultural settings. Twenty-four men are currently enrolled in the program. A new program, formed with the Urban Advisory Board, called the Joshua Urban Ministry Program, is training urban Black men for local urban Black ministry and has formed its first cohort.

We urge churches to consider participating in the WELS Mission Journeys program. This program allows members to experience gospel outreach firsthand and take these skills and experiences back home where they can use them to reach out to their own communities.

Pastor Paul Seager, chairman

Teacher Matt Linton, secretary