

Floor Committee #17: WELS Christian Aid and Relief

Subject: Report on WELS Christian Aid and Relief

Reference: *Book of Reports and Memorials*, pp. 58-60

Report No. 01

Christian Aid and Relief partners with WELS Home and World Missions to support humanitarian aid that delivers basic needs to people in our mission fields all around the world. These efforts are funded through special gifts of God's people in WELS and help to build trusting relationships that lead to opportunities to share the good news of our Savior.

With thanksgiving to God for his work through his people, the committee notes the following items:

- A Disaster Relief Task Force was formed in October 2021 and continues to research best practices for carrying out disaster relief. The task force is currently creating a disaster management system and training process to provide well-trained leaders and volunteers for safe and effective disaster relief deployments. The goal is to roll out this program to the entire synod by the end of 2026.
- In November 2022, Christian Aid and Relief launched **welsdisasterrelief.net** to better manage volunteer information, communicate with volunteers, and connect volunteers to opportunities to serve in Jesus' name.
- Christian Aid and Relief Commission members stand ready to preach and present on their work to WELS congregations and are currently scheduled for 17 presentations in 2023. Contact WELS Christian Aid and Relief to request a speaker.

We encourage all WELS congregations to publicize and promote the work of WELS Christian Aid and Relief and we encourage all members of our synod to support this ministry of compassion with their prayers, generous offerings, and volunteer support. We thank outgoing members Pastors Bruce Marggraf and Richard Warnecke for their faithful service on the WELS Christian Aid and Relief Commission and Pastor Robert Hein for his 12 years of service as chairman. We pray for God's blessings on Pastor Thomas Spiegelberg who began a four-year term of service as chairman on July 1, 2022.

Pastor Joel Seifert, chairman

Teacher Peter Lemke, secretary