





**CHRIST  
THROUGH US**

SYNOD CONVENTION 2025

# Synod Convention 2025

Rev. Matthew Brown  
Chairman, WELS Home Missions

Rev. Mark Gabb  
Administrator, WELS Home Missions

## WELS HOME MISSIONS



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# Home Missions' purpose

We are . . . Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.  
—2 Corinthians 5:20

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.  
—1 Corinthians 3:6,7

**To plant new missions in the United States and North America to spread the gospel.**





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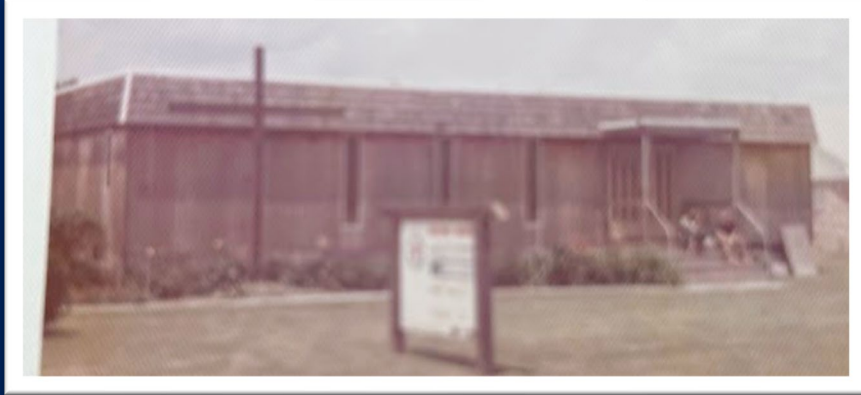
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# The seed is planted . . .



Abiding Word, Houston, Texas: 1972

# The seed is planted . . . God grows it.



**1972:**

- Several core families
- Subsidized
- A home mission
- First-generation WELS members



**2025:**

- 500+ members
- Strongly supporting WELS
- Daughtering new home missions
- Multiple generations serving as core group members in home missions

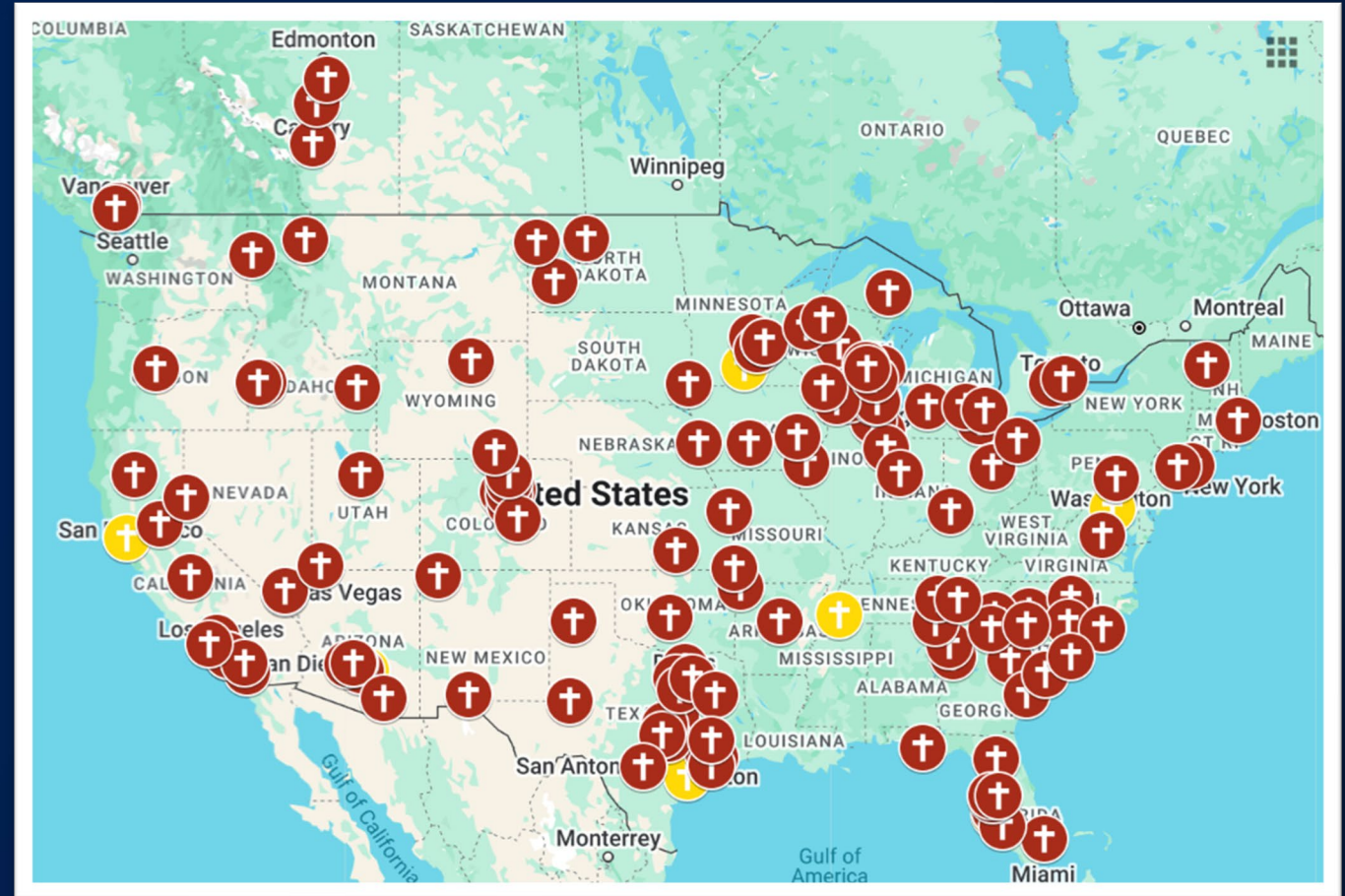


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To plant new missions  
in the United States  
and North America to  
spread the gospel.

# Home Missions' purpose



Current home mission churches: 144



The seed continues to bear fruit.



# 100 MISSIONS IN 10 YEARS

WELS HOME MISSIONS 2023-2033

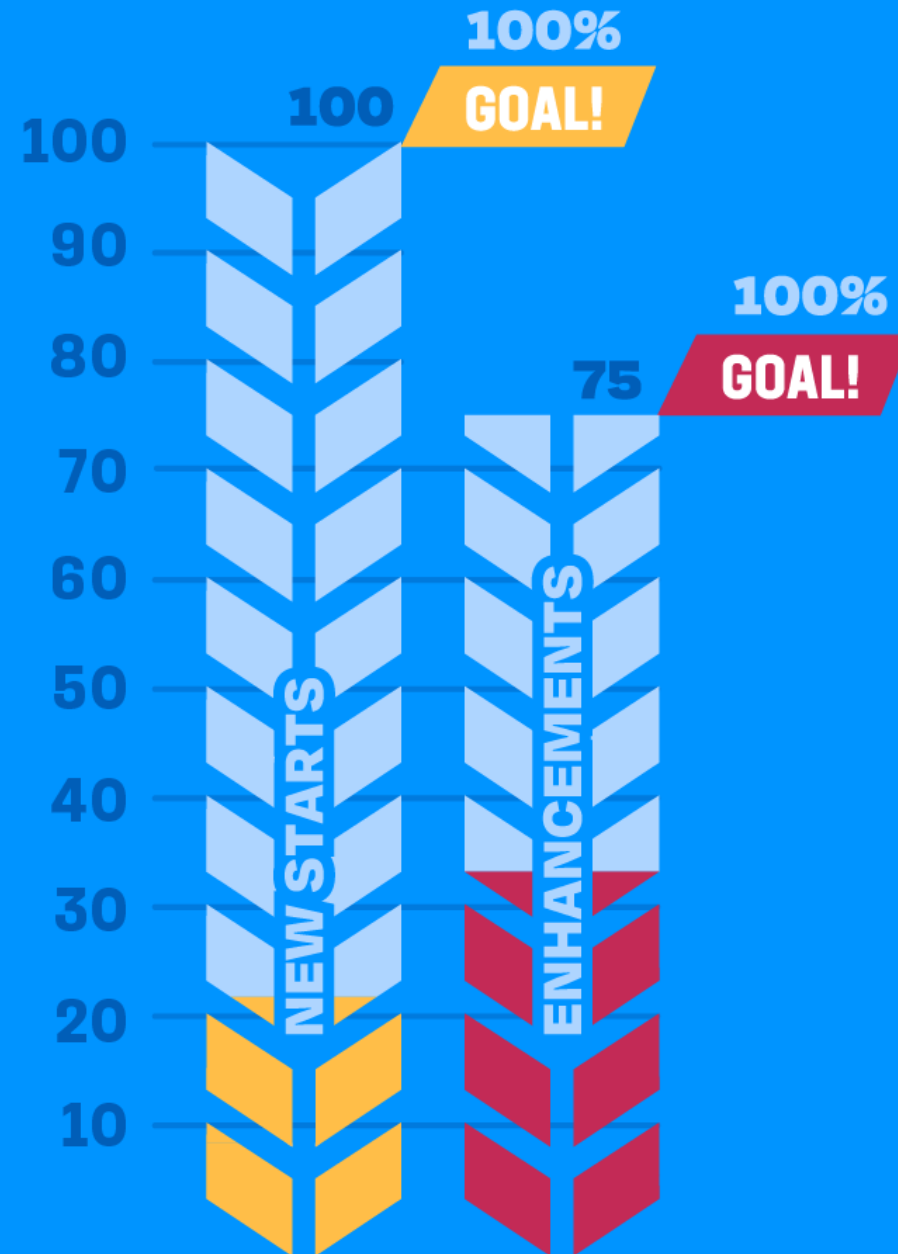
GOAL = 100 new starts +  
75 enhancements

21 new  
mission starts  
since 2023

21%

24 mission  
enhancements  
since 2023

32%

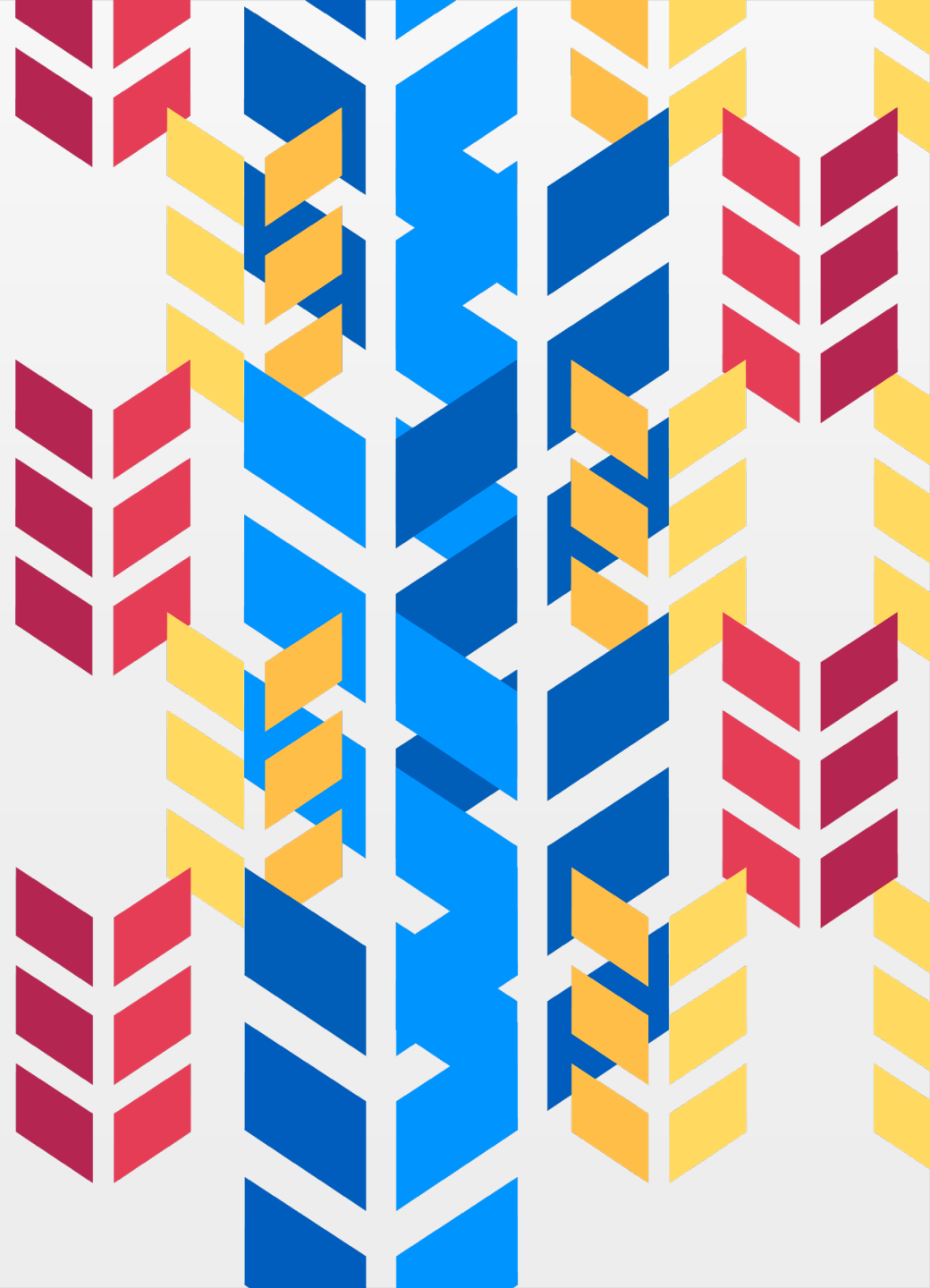




# 2025 New Starts:

- Arlington, Tenn.
- Erie, Colo.
- Jarrell, Texas
- San Tan Valley, Ariz.
- Madison, Wis.

Read more at [wels100in10.net](https://wels100in10.net).







New Start—Arlington, Tenn.









New Start—Jarrell, Texas





**HERITAGE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

New Start—San Tan Valley, Ariz.







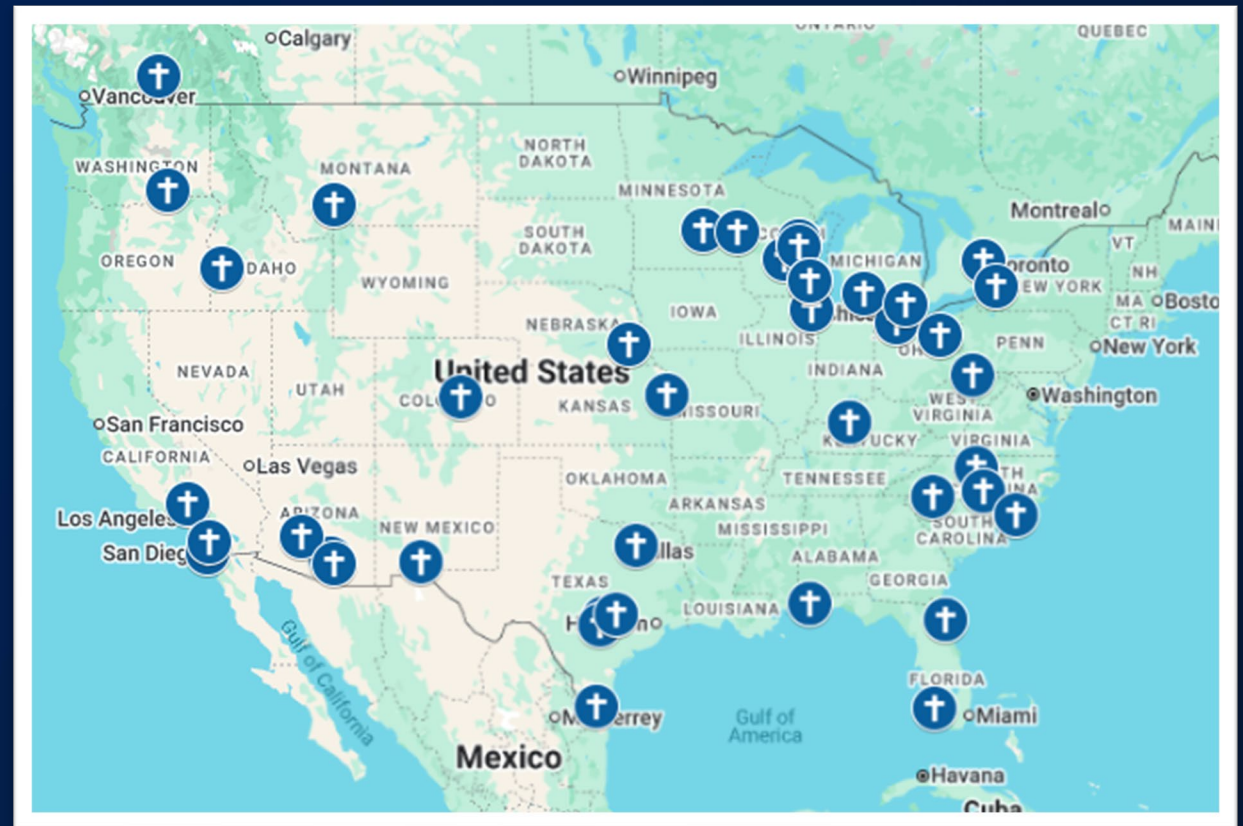
New Start—Madison, Wis.





# Our pipeline

- Naples, Fla.
- Pinehurst, N.C.
- Wilmington, N.C.
- Tri-Cities, Wash.
- Olathe, Kan.
- Altoona, Wis.





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# Our pipeline

## Fall 2025

- Naples, Fla.
- Pinehurst, N.C.
- Wilmington, N.C.
- Tri-Cities, Wash.
- Olathe, Kan.
- Altoona, Wis.

## Beyond 2025

Marana, Ariz.

North York, Ont.

Colorado Springs,  
Colo.

Bozeman, Mont.

Hastings, Mich.

Morgantown, W. Va.

Buffalo, N.Y.

Greensboro, N.C.

Spartanburg, S.C.

Treasure Valley,  
Idaho

St. Augustine, Fla.

Daphne, Ala.

Kyle/Buda, Texas

New Braunfels, Texas



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# Home Missions & WELS' long-range plan



**“Broaden WELS’ reach by planting congregations strategically in underserved areas.”**





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# Home Missions & WELS' long-range plan

## Challenges:

MANPOWER &  
MONEY





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# Home Missions & WELS' long-range plan

## Challenges:

### MANPOWER

Vacancies

May: 20

Today: 12







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# Home Missions & WELS' long-range plan

## Challenges:

### MONEY

Cost of 10 missions over  
12+ years: **\$15M**

Special gifts in FY25: **\$7M**







# Home Missions & WELS' long-range plan

**STEWARD** faithfully the  
resources he gives us.





**Immeasurably  
more than *all*  
we ask or imagine**

*Ephesians 3:20*



# FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!



**@welsmissions**