



Lutheran Men in Mission

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Leadership staff

Mr. Douglas H. Haugen, *executive director*
Mr. Kevin Burke, *discipling consultant*

Statement of purpose

The vision of Lutheran Men in Mission is “for every man to become a bold, daring follower of Jesus Christ.” Its mission: “By God’s grace, to help congregations build life-changing ministries with men; to strengthen men’s faith in relationships for witness and service; to equip followers of Jesus Christ through events, resources and leadership development.” The governing description of this ministry appears in ELCA continuing resolution 16.12.A16.b.

Report of work for 2013-2016

Lutheran Men in Mission added program staff for the first time in its history. The discipling consultant’s primary role is to develop and train a network of local men’s ministry leaders. This is a key part of the organization’s plan to grow.

The organization continued to improve communication with men throughout the church, expanding its ministry and upgrading its website to provide information on activities, ministries, events and resources. Lutheran Men in Mission has also developed Facebook and Constant Contact networks and is now using a variety of electronic meeting resources with its network.

Lutheran Men in Mission is the driving force behind the “A-Team.” These 25 men’s ministry leaders represent three Lutheran bodies and four other denominations. The team’s vision is to be a “one stop shop” for men seeking individual guidance and for leaders attempting to build an evangelical, grace-oriented men’s ministry. Its major work includes gathering information about all the effective ministries that meet the group’s criteria and creating new ministries. The first initiative is “Project XII,” with the projecttwelve.net website offering resources for individuals, group leaders and organizational leaders.

Events

Lutheran Men in Mission continued to sponsor “One Year to Live” retreats in an expanding number of synods. In the safest of atmospheres, more than 1,000 men have examined how they got to where they are in their lives and what God wants to do with and through them for the rest of their lives.

The organization also continued to develop, deploy and lead “Building Men for Christ” workshops nationwide. This training is about what attracts and engages men of all ages in congregational ministry and is geared toward rostered and lay leaders.

Targeting men in the West, Lutheran Men in Mission worked with a congregation and produced “High, Wide and Deep: A Youth Event for Men of All Ages.” It has become a model for similar events throughout the country.

The triennial Lutheran Men in Mission Assembly and Lutheran Men’s Gathering: Guys, Guts and God’s Glory were held July 17-20, 2014, at the Loews Vanderbilt Hotel in Nashville, Tenn.

Resources

Lutheran Men in Mission continued to assess and recommend ministry resources for use by ELCA congregations and their men. It also produced 7,500 more copies of the Master Builders Bible for Men, bringing the total to 62,000 in print. This volume contains 20,000 study questions for small groups and a 32-page section for men’s ministry leaders.

The organization is always seeking to find and fill holes in men’s ministry. One example is the ManTalk Cards, with five levels of questions on each playing card. Men use these to start discussions while playing card games and as icebreakers and discussion starters at everything from breakfasts to retreats.

Major directions for 2016-2019

In the next triennium, Lutheran Men in Mission will:

- continue to develop and work its three-year plan to increase its donor base and become an even more robust ministry;
- expand “One Year to Live” into 10 new synods;
- lead “Building Men for Christ” in 10 new synods;
- anticipate that the 2016 Lutheran Men in Mission Assembly and Bold Conference will bring renewed strength and vigor to its ministry;
- continue to develop a position for men’s ministry leaders (men’s ministry specialists) who will be used in congregations, synods and other entities. Lutheran Men in Mission will develop and coordinate the training required for this position; and
- work with other denominations to bring top-level men’s ministries to all interested individuals and groups.

Mr. Douglas H. Haugen, *executive director*