

New Ideas

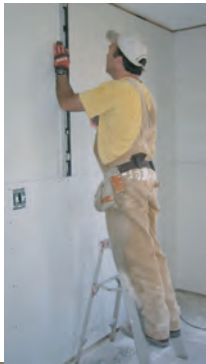
Many new initiatives are being developed to promote and support mission trips including:

U-ServE|Spring Break - a “University **Servant Event**” trip for New England college students during spring break.

District-Wide Mission Trip - an opportunity for individuals from varied congregations to team up for a group short term mission trip coordinated by the NED.

Mission Mentoring - a program linking experienced congregations with others planning mission trips for the first time.

Prayer Share|New England - a network of mission-minded individuals and churches interested in praying for short term mission teams and the people they serve.



“The trips really opened my eyes and made me see how necessary service is.”

Samantha T.

Kenya Mission

Since 2006 the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK) has been an Official Mission of the New England District. Members of the NED Kenya Committee have been evaluating the needs of the ELCK while developing strategies that will encompass medical, educational, financial and pastoral support resources – many within the framework of short term mission trips. For more information on the **Kenya Mission**, please contact:

Beverly Durfee, NED Kenya Committee Chair
email: NEDKenya@ned-lcms.org

More Info

For more information on short term mission trips or to assist in developing a new initiative, contact:

Jon Rossman, Short Term Mission Coordinator
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I hope to share my experiences as I act as a resource to support your ministry while seeking to **educate**, **motivate**, and **activate** the NED for greater involvement in short term missions. The newly updated NED website is coming out soon with a new “**MISSIONS**” page which will have ministry links, downloadable planning guides, information on the Kenya Mission – and more!

 **New England District**
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
www.ned-lcms.org

Short Term Mission Trips



 **New England District**

Meeting a Need

How do we plan our first short term mission trip?

What opportunities are there in the District and Synod for mission trips?

How do we expand our current mission trip ministry and where should we serve next?

What are other NED congregations doing?

Recognizing the need for a **short term mission trip resource** within the New England District, a resolution was passed at the 2009 NED Convention establishing “the position of District Coordinator to advocate and facilitate Short-Term Mission Trip planning.”



My name is **Jon Rossman** and I've been appointed Short Term Mission Coordinator by the NED Mission Board. As a member of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church (Acton, MA) for 25 years, I have planned and participated in domestic and international trips including serving the people of Haiti, Appalachia, inner-city Boston, the Gulf Coast, and Mexico. I've seen how short term mission trips change people's lives. The teen who experiences extreme poverty for the first time, the adult leader who reshapes the priorities of his life,

the impoverished family that now has a home – these trips have long term impacts.

Opportunities

A recent survey of the NED indicates that **20%** of congregations have participated in a short term mission trip since 2006. This includes trips to **23** countries from Canada and Cambodia to Mexico and Togo. Domestic teams traveled to **12** states from Alaska to West Virginia and Maine with noteworthy emphasis on post-Katrina rebuilding along the Gulf Coast.



Trips ranged from medical clinics and pastoral training to home repairs and children's VBS programs.

“[This mission trip] jump started my walk with God.”

Liz S.

Our goal, as outlined in the **NED Blueprint for Missions**, is to have **50%** of the NED participating in short term mission trips by 2013. Opportunities abound for greater involvement.

By **networking** individuals with common interests and activities, we can pool resources -- and enthusiasm -- for more **effective outreach** and **greater service**. As a **resource person**, I can provide information on what other NED congregations are doing, where they're going, where they've been on

past trips, and what Lutheran or other Christian partner organizations worked best for reaching their short term mission goals.

Get Involved

God uses short term mission trips to change lives – for the senders, the servers, and those being served. Mission trips are not only opportunities to serve “the least of these”, they deepen one's faith, develop **humble servant hearts**, inspire participants to love God's people and share His care for others through us. They foster new and deeper relationships among group members while enhancing an appreciation for God's daily gifts to us.

“[Mission trips] were the times when I grew the most spiritually.”

Kendall S.



These experiences bring home renewed dedication to our Savior and refreshed enthusiasm for sharing the Gospel within the local community.

If you have never planned or participated in a mission trip, we can help get you started. A **“Short Term Mission Planning Guide”** is being developed that will include everything from planning timelines and pre-trip Bible studies to fundraising ideas and group covenants.