

Our Church

Organized in 1973, Our Savior Lutheran Church is located off Yager Lane in Austin, Texas. We currently have a fully accredited school that offers Pre K through 5th Grades. We draw the majority of our members from neighborhoods outside the Austin city limits. Our membership consists of 589 baptized members and 433 communicant souls. We average around 250 members each Sunday.



Our Plan

For **Fan into Flame**, our congregation made the decision to budget \$50,000 for new church starts in India. LCMS World Mission wants to partner with the workers and congregations of the India Evangelical Lutheran Church (IELC) in their church-planting efforts by helping them purchase sites for chapels. For an average of \$10,000 per village, we can purchase a site that is on common property in the village and give them start-up funds for the construction. Our Savior Lutheran Church will provide new mission money to launch one start per year for the next 5 years.

This is the largest amount our congregation has given to a single mission field. It has transformed the way we approach outreach. We have weekly correspondence with the Director of World Mission-India about the starts that are planned. We are currently planning a mission trip to work with the IELC to build one of the sites.

Our Efforts

We recently received word that IELC will now be able to start looking for a piece of land to purchase for a mission site because of the money given by the good folks at Our Savior. Through **Fan into Flame**, at least 50 new sites will be bought for congregations. Once a chapel is built, many more from the village/community will come forward for baptism, since they believe the church is with them to stay. We hope to provide at least four more sites that will enable the people of India to reach the lost in large numbers.



January, 2007

Re: Fan into Flame

Dear Friends in Christ,

When I first heard about Ablaze and Fan into Flame, like many of you I was skeptical thinking it to be just another “program” from Synod like many in the past. But then I was approached by John Mitchener and former Texas District President and past Executive Director of Synod’s Board for Mission Services, Dr. Glenn O’Shoney about the possibility of Our Savior supporting the work being done in India through the Fan into Flame program of the Ablaze movement.

At that time, individual donors who committed to giving a minimum of \$50,000 to the Ablaze movement were allowed to designate where their dollars would go to support mission work. A decision was made to extend that same opportunity to Our Savior. Because we had already been talking about designating a certain percentage of our annual giving to mission work beyond our commitment to District and Synod, this became a great avenue for us to both support the Ablaze effort as well as fulfill our commitment to support a specific mission endeavor.

Recently we received word that our fellow servants in India will now be able to start looking for a piece of land to purchase for a mission site because of the money given by the good folks at OSL. When all is said and done, we hope to have provided enough financial resources to help start at least five new missions in India within the next four years or so. Our members are excited about this opportunity to partner with our brothers and sisters in Christ in India to help start these new congregations. God willing we’ll be able to do even more than that!

If you have not made a commitment or are unsure about making a commitment to support the Ablaze effort, I would encourage you to prayerfully do so. It’s not about the numbers, but about the hearts that can be touched as the people of God work together to share the good news about Jesus Christ to people all over the world, as well as in our own neighborhoods. Join the movement! Fan into Flame the gift that is in you. And may God bless you in all your endeavors.

In His Service,

Keith P. Gravesmill
Pastor