



The Cross-stitch Corner

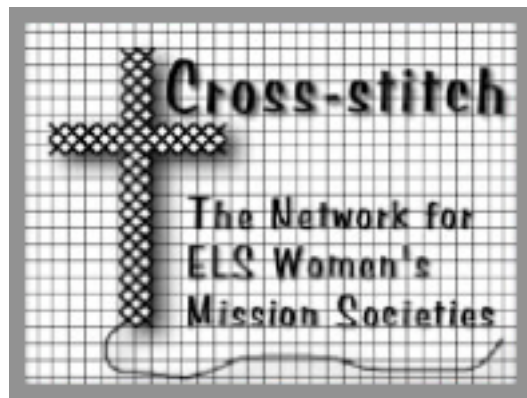
Wishing you a Blessed Easter

He is risen indeed!

14.2

As Cross-stitch starts out trying to establish a database of contact women in our synod, I have heard this question more than once. So this issue will try to address:

“What is Cross-stitch?”

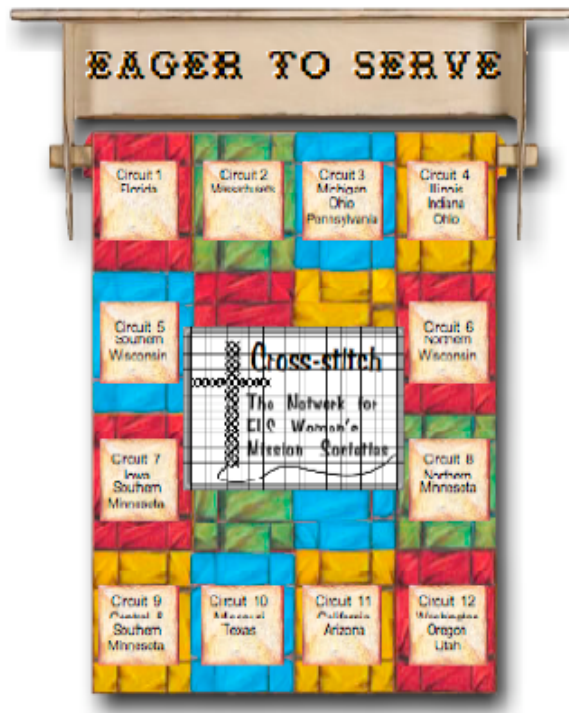


Cross-stitch was organized in 1998 with the “goal” of “stitching together” a network that would:

1. Communicate ideas and information among mission societies and congregations.
2. Coordinate projects for the greatest impact.
3. Provide materials for year-round mission emphasis.
4. Provide resource for various mission meetings.

The hope was that members of our synod, whether they be members of Women’s Mission Rallies, Ladies’ Aids, youth groups, Sunday and Christian Day schools,

congregations together or individual members could work together instead of on their own separate projects. In this way substantial projects could be undertaken. One of the first was actually constructing an entire church in Zapalla, Peru. The cost was \$5,000 and that was a lot of money for one church or group to gather. It was just a beginning, because as we gathered suggestions from the missionaries on the mission fields of projects that would benefit their people and that could NOT be covered by the synod’s mission budget, so wonderful things happened. The list of complete projects since 1998 is extensive. (Available upon request.)



Women's Mission Societies (WMS) meet at Rallies among ELA Circuits around the country. Every congregation in the circuit is invited to participate. In 2013 the rallies were held at: Saginaw, MI, Ulen, MN, Tacoma, WA, Thornton, IA, Oregon, WI, Luverne,

MN, Lakeland, FL, and Lake Havasu, AZ. All together, hundreds of ELA women (and men) met to learn more about the Synod's mission program, pray for it, pool their support for missions, and enjoy one another's fellowship.

Cross-stitch is the network, which unites these WMS rallies into one single, effective, synod-wide program. It receives the donations from the congregations and rallies and distributes the support to various special, non-budget mission projects. In recent years, Cross-stitch has paid for projects like these:

- evangelism/outreach projects for ELA Home Mission congregations
- construction of thatch-roof churches/schools in the Amazon rainforest
- clothing and school supplies for 300 orphans in India
- college scholarships for women in Peru
- support for the English-as-Foreign-Language program in Chile
- food for students at Amazon Lutheran High School
- medical relief in Ukraine and India
- support for Gift of Life medical/dental clinics and pro-life counseling in Ukraine
- college scholarships for Indian orphans

The necessities for life that Cross-stitch helps offer are for "eternal life" in heaven. Some day, as we stand around the throne in glory, we will see those people from "the ends of the earth" that through your thoughtfulness, generosity, and prayers were able to hear the saving Gospel. God could have sent angels from heaven to do this work, but He didn't. God uses us to carry out His work here on earth. With our/your prayers and with our/your bounties we CAN do what God commands.

Thank you for your support of Cross-stitch:
your opportunity to make a difference in missions.

Send contributions to :

Cross-stitch
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