

# LIFE OF A HOME MISSION CHURCH

No community is the same. No core group is the same. No soul is the same. But we know that all people have the same need for a savior from sin. Those differences mean that no home mission church starts the same way or follows the same path to maturity. However, we pray that all WELS home mission churches contribute in their own unique way to the ultimate outcome: pointing souls to Jesus through the proclamation of the gospel.



*“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us . . .”*  
Ephesians 3:20

**100 MISSIONS IN 10 YEARS**  
WELS HOME MISSIONS 2023-2033



Learn more about the **LIFE OF A HOME MISSION CHURCH** in our interactive timeline at [wels100in10.net](https://wels100in10.net).

START

1



## Pre-approval

A core group begins Bible study and initial outreach with support from their district mission board and mission counselor.



4



## Years 4-5: Looking forward

Expanding church membership begins exploration to buy land or purchase an existing facility for a permanent church home.



5



## Years 6-7: Putting down roots

A permanent facility is purchased and remodeled or built from scratch. Personal evangelism efforts continue, and the home mission is a solid community presence.



6



## Years 8-10: Church maturity

A growing membership and spiritual maturity and stewardship lead to higher local support for the church, freeing up Home Missions resources to plant other missions.

8

GOAL!

## Thriving WELS churches support new growth

Recent home mission churches support the planting of additional home missions through daughtering new churches, starting a second site, enhancing their ministry to reach a new demographic in their community, and/or supporting WELS home and world mission efforts through Congregation Mission Offerings and special gifts.



7

## Years 10+: WELS churches reach more souls

Healthy WELS churches with an outreach mindset grow Christ's kingdom and reach more souls locally and through expanded synod mission efforts at home and abroad.



3



## Years 2-3: Worship begins

Equipment is purchased for worship in a rented space. The mission ramps up outreach and looks to increase name awareness in the community.



2



## Year 1: Home mission approved

A home missionary is called/assigned and works with the core group to plan further community outreach. The group chooses a name for their church.

1 Pre-approval

3 Years 2-3: Worship begins

4 Years 4-5: Looking forward

6 Years 8-10: Church maturity

8

START

Years 1-2: Church planter coaching program

Years 4-6: WELS Church Extension Fund support

Pre-approval-Year 10: District mission board and mission counselor support

GOAL

2 Year 1: Home mission approved

5 Years 6-7: Putting down roots

7 Years 10+: WELS churches reach more souls