

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES SUNDAY

IS FEB. 5, 2012

Partner with us in celebrating **Lutheran Hour Ministries Sunday 2012** on Feb. 5 or another Sunday of your choosing. To make holding **LHM Sunday** easy, we've supplied you with the following items:

- This Planning Checklist
- DVD with a short promotional video
- Display Poster
- Bulletin Inserts
- Sample Children's sermon
- Individual Offering Envelopes
- Congregational Treasurer's Envelope

FUNDRAISING IDEAS FOR LHM SUNDAY

To maximize your congregation's giving efforts, you may want to consider doing collections for more than one Sunday or not just during the service on **LHM Sunday**.

Here are some other ways to help increase your congregation's donations to help support Lutheran Hour Ministries:

- Designate a few Sundays to have offering collections for Lutheran Hour Ministries, and either have it start with **LHM Sunday**, or have that be the final Sunday for the collection.
- Set up a display in the back of the church promoting a program or two of LHM and have an offering box set out with it for members to drop their envelopes or money into for a few weeks.
- Utilize the Children's message to talk to the children in Sunday school and do a special offering with the children. The children save loose change, payments for special errands, gifts from relatives, etc.
- Focus on a particular LHM program such as International Ministries and have the children bring in loose change to help fund the spreading of the Good News to children in other countries who have never heard of Jesus.
- Talk to the various groups or organizations within your congregation for a donation from their group:
 - Men's Club
 - Ladies Aid Society
 - LWML
 - Youth Group
 - Bible Study Groups
- Host a Pot Luck luncheon after church, and show the **LHM Sunday** Promo DVD, give a presentation and do a collection after eating.
- If showing the Promo DVD during the service is not an option, hold a special Bible study hour to show the LHM Promo DVD and then use the Sermon outlines provided online as the Bible Study.

If you have comments or suggestions about **LHM Sunday**, please call **1-800-876-9880** or send an e-mail to ambassador@lhm.org.

Need more information or want to find more promotional items for **LHM Sunday**? Visit www.lhm.org/lhmsunday!

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES Sunday 2012

LHM SUNDAY PLANNING CHECKLIST

Review the contents of this packet, including this tips sheet to get ideas on hosting a successful **LHM Sunday**.

- Meet with your LHM Ambassador (if your church has one) to set a date and plan the event. If Feb. 5 does not work for your congregation, select another date that works for your church calendar.
- Determine the best time for someone impacted or connected to LHM ministry efforts (maybe an LHM Ambassador) to present the DVD and/or downloadable Talking Points to the congregation. If your congregation does not have an LHM Ambassador, enlist a volunteer to give the presentation or consider giving it yourself.
- Pass the tips sheet along to the **LHM Sunday** spokesperson you have appointed to make a presentation.
- Help locate a DVD player for the spokesperson's use.
- Consider using the children's sermon and order of service that are available online.
- Consider having an information table about Lutheran Hour Ministries in the narthex.
- Include **LHM Sunday** bulletin announcements in your church newsletter and bulletin and on your website, and hang the **LHM Sunday** posters on the church bulletin board.
- Introduce the **LHM Sunday** spokesperson to the congregation before his/her presentation.
- Have the **LHM Sunday** spokesperson or admin staff organize having the bulletin inserts and giving envelopes insert into your bulletin or handed out prior to the service.
- Encourage your congregation members to make a check out to Lutheran Hour Ministries and then place it in the offering envelope for your church to send to Lutheran Hour Ministries. If your church elects to take a door collection and write a single check to Lutheran Hour Ministries, please mail it back to LHM (along with the offering envelopes from individual donors) in the congregational treasurer's envelope so that your church's gift is properly credited.
- Visit www.lhm.org/lhmsunday to find other promotional materials.

TALKING POINTS FOR YOUR CHURCH

*(Show the **LHM Sunday** video before this presentation if possible)*

Welcome to **Lutheran Hour Ministries Sunday**. It's my pleasure to share with you today how God is using Lutheran Hour Ministries to make a difference in the lives of people all over the world!

We have all seen numerous examples recently of a seismic shift throughout North America from a Christ-following to a post-Christian culture. More than ever, God is calling His believers to the work of reaching out to those who don't yet know Him. That is why Lutheran Hour Ministries, from the time of its first radio broadcast of **The Lutheran Hour** in 1930, has been on the forefront of sharing the Good News of Jesus to a lost and hurting world. And it's also why Lutheran Hour Ministries wants to join congregations across North America in reaching the unchurched in their communities.

Lutheran Hour Ministries partners with congregations like ours to help put our faith into action. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, Lutheran Hour Ministries shares the Gospel message about 1 million times a week in the United States. Around the globe through LHM's more than 30 international ministry centers, about 350,000 people whose lives were changed by the Holy Spirit responded last year to the ministry's culturally relevant outreach efforts, ranging from locally-produced radio and TV broadcasts to **Bible Correspondence Courses** and from performing arts ministry to digital outreach and more. Of these 350,000 individuals, more than 54,000 were referred to a local congregation for spiritual growth and nurturing.

These numbers illustrate how Lutheran Hour Ministries is reaching the world with the saving Gospel. So you may be asking ... *how can we work side-by-side in mission to reach lost souls?*

Lutheran Hour Ministries can help our congregation enhance and energize our witness and outreach with resources such as:

- **MISSION U**, a workshop and webinar-based witness-training system;
- **Regional Outreach Conferences**, or **ROCs**, which offer local outreach training held at various locations throughout the country and led by well-known specialists in their ministry fields;
- **International Ministry Partnerships**, a program providing in-depth collaboration with LHM's overseas outreach efforts including short-term mission trips;
- **Five14**, outreach-focused events for teens;
- **Men's NetWork**, a program designed to help men re-connect with the life of the church;
- **Operation Barnabas**, a program to reach out to members of the U.S. Armed Forces;
- **Spanish-language resources, children's resources** and more.

Please pray for God's continued blessing on the mission and work of Lutheran Hour Ministries as it reaches out into a world that needs to know Jesus. Please also prayerfully consider giving a gift to Lutheran Hour Ministries in one of the offering envelopes that are available today. Lutheran Hour Ministries receives no direct support from the budget of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod [or Lutheran Church—Canada] and relies on generous gifts from supporters like you. Every gift you give today will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000 through a special grant opportunity provided by generous supporters of the ministry.

As you can see, now more than ever, our culture needs rescue...restoration...and renewal. And God is calling us as faithful Christians to the task of sharing the Good News of Jesus—His cross, His resurrection, His eternal promise—with those who don't know Him.

Won't you join Lutheran Hour Ministries in responding to the call?

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS TO PROMOTE **LHM SUNDAY**

*Publish these announcements in your church's Sunday bulletin or newsletter, or on the church bulletin board or web site, to build enthusiasm for **LHM Sunday**. The text can also be accessed and copied at www.lhm.org/LHMSunday.*

Prior to the Event: Lutheran Hour Ministries Sunday

Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) is an organization that works every day to reach out with the Gospel on the frontiers of our unchurched culture—and throughout the world. LHM partners with congregations like ours to equip Christ-followers for everyday witness. On Feb. 5 [or the date of your event], join us for **LHM Sunday** to learn ways that LHM can provide resources and training to support our congregation's outreach efforts. For information about LHM, visit www.lhm.org/lhmsunday.

Day of the Event: Lutheran Hour Ministries Sunday

Lutheran Hour Ministries is an outreach organization whose mission is to take the Gospel to the frontiers of our unchurched culture and to support congregations like ours in our efforts to share the message of Jesus with others. Join today in celebrating this vital ministry! To learn more about LHM, visit www.lhm.org/lhmsunday.

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind ..."

– ROMANS 12:2