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Introduction

Asante sana! Thank you very much!

Thank you for joining Luther Hour Ministries (LHM) for an Online Mission Trip (OMT) January 27-30, 2014. We are blessed beyond our imagination to partner with children across the United States who will make a virtual journey with us to Kenya and witness firsthand how their mission dollars help LHM spread the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Online Mission Trips are “simulation” LHM International Volunteer Trips that take the student to the mission field via two main types of media: short prerecorded videos depicting life and LHM’s ministry in Kenya and videoconferencing, which makes it possible for live presentations from LHM International Headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri and the LHM—Kenya Ministry Center in Nairobi. The materials provided are designed to help provide a quality mission education experience for your students. Your Chapel offering goes to support LHM—Kenya as they Share His Story through Drama, Film and Bible Clubs.

Please review the materials in this packet, discuss them with your faculty, and adapt them to your unique setting.

- Project Guide
- International Ministries Partnership (IMP) Curriculum—Kenya
- Mission-focused chapel talks
- IMP milk carton banks
- OMT backpack tags
- Promotional materials

Register: beginning August 1, 2013 and ending January 10, 2014.

Program time: January 27-30, 2014 from 1:00-1:30 p.m. Central time

May God bless you, your faculty, your students and their families as you serve as agents for “Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church.”
Overview of Online Mission Trip to Kenya

An Online Mission Trip is a mission project designed for LCMS elementary and high schools and LCC schools that involves North American students in a hands-on mission experience without the need to leave the classroom.

Participating Organizations
- Lutheran Hour Ministries—St. Louis, Missouri
- Lutheran Hour Ministries—Kitchener, Ontario
- LHM—Kenya—Nairobi, Kenya
- LCMS Schools Department—St. Louis, Missouri
- Lutheran Education Association—Chicago, IL

PROJECT BENEFITS

Kenyan children
- Will continue to meet Jesus through LHM—Kenya’s Sharing His Story through Drama, Film and Bible Clubs
- Will receive ongoing Christian education through printed materials and Bible studies

United States and Canadian students
- Will see God’s world open wider, as they meet Christian family members through ministry in action
- Will have the opportunity to touch ministry through both words and deeds
- Will provide direct support for Sharing His Story through Drama, Film and Bible Clubs

LCMS and LCC Schools
- Will have an opportunity to enhance the teaching experience through various types of media
- Will have an opportunity to connect children to the mission field

EVENT DETAILS

Responsibilities of Participating Schools
- Enroll in the project online—www.lhm.org/onlinemissiontrips
- Enrollment begins August 1, 2013 and ends January 10, 2014
- Use supplemental materials to prepare students for the trip and enrich the mission experience
- Set aside 1:00–1:30 p.m. central time each day from Monday, January 27 through Thursday, January 30, 2014 for the Online Mission Trip to Kenya
- Set aside time on Friday, January 31, 2014 to conduct a local mission project
- Fund the mission trip through designated chapel offerings, PTL/PTA/PTO funds and gifts to help LHM—Kenya Share His Story through Drams, Film and Bible Clubs.

Responsibilities of LHM
- Provide Project Guide for participating schools
- Provide one half-hour mission trip segment each day from Monday, January 27 to Thursday, January 30, 2014 from 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. central time through videoconferencing, live sessions and ministry oriented videos
- Provide promotional materials to increase awareness
- Provide mission ideas for local project
- Provide fundraising ideas
- Send participating schools quarterly LHM—Kenya newsletter after Online Mission Trip
- Provide current ministry updates on LHM—Kenya blog
Overview of Online Mission Trip to Kenya (Continued)

Time Table
- August 1, 2013  
  Online Mission Trip Registration website opens
- August 2013-January 2014  
  Ship supplemental materials—organize local OMT project
- August 2013  
  Curriculum Website open
- January 2014  
  Use curriculum to prepare for Online Mission Trip
- January 10, 2014  
  Registration closes
- January 27-30, 2014 1:00-1:30  
  Conduct Online Mission Trip to Kenya
- May 2014  
  Designated chapel offerings sent to LHM

Online Mission Trip Week Overview
In an emulation of Lutheran Hour Ministries’ International Ministries Partnership (IMP)—International Volunteer Trip format, your students will experience an international short-term mission trip without leaving the classroom.

The mission project for Kenya is Sharing His Story through Drams, Film and Bible Clubs. There are many children in Kenya who need to hear the Gospel. The LHM—Kenya ministry center provides for both the physical and spiritual needs of the children in several communities. The center’s short dramas are designed around topics relevant to the adolescent age level. God’s Word is shared with the students to reinforce the drama’s theme. Films shown at Kenyan schools primarily depict Bible stories, God’s Word helps to reinforce the message and songs are sung. Bible clubs are conducted in cooperation with the school administration and focus on Bible stories with materials prepared by LHM—Kenya.

Day 1 Orientation
Learn about Kenya and the work of LHM—Kenya. Live presentation from Eric Gates, Regional Director, Africa and the Middle East.

Day 2 Ministry in Action—Nairobi, Kenya
Travel to Nairobi and Kibera to see ministry in action. Live presentation with LHM—Kenya director, John Maina.

Day 3 Life in Kenya
Live from Nairobi, John will take us to Nairobi National Park in central Nairobi and to the town of Kumpa where students will meet Tetu, a young Maasai boy.

Day 4 Ministry in Action
Learn about Springs of Life Lutheran Church and their ministry in the second largest slum in the world. Also see Kawangare Lutheran’s Bible Clubs.

Day 5 Local Mission Activity
Organize and implement a local mission activity in your community. May the mission experience to Kenya bless your local ministry efforts.

Note:
During the one half-hour trip there will be time for questions and answers with our “live” host, Eric Gates. We will try to answer as many questions as time allows through the chat component of the videoconferencing tool, and by answering live during the trip. After the trip, John will continue to answer questions through the LHM—Kenya blog nurulhm.blogspot.com. We pray that we will be able to answer everything with the number of schools on the chat, but please be aware that some questions will be answered as time permits.
DAY 5 LOCAL MISSION IDEAS

With your staff, PTL/PTA/PTO and families, brainstorm ideas for local outreach based on *Sharing His Story through Drama, Film and Bible Clubs*.

- Identify a local organization that serves children and their families. Meet with them and organize a drama, film, Bible Club or personal hygiene education event.

  Suggested places to partner with are:
  - Food pantry
  - Homeless shelter
  - Battered women’s shelter
  - Lutheran Social Services or Lutheran Family and Children’s Services
  - YMCA or YWCA after school program
  - Local church or school that works with low-income families

- Along with the students’ chapel offerings for Kenya, have the children collect toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, washcloths, comb or brush, pencils, erasers, crayons, or lined paper. Enclose one of each item along with a note identifying this as a gift. Also enclose a Bible story or Bible verse from your student. Please sign each students’ first names only, and include the student’s grade and the name of your school. Provide information on Easter services, ministry activities, VBS or other outreach events.

- On Day 5, plan a time for the students to pack the items in a 1-gallon zipper storage bag.

- Deliver the zipper storage bags to the locale you have identified for partnership, so they can distribute the bags to the children.
FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Special fundraisers and collections can be held to meet or exceed your goal for the LHM—Kenya *Sharing His Story through Drama, Film and Bible Clubs*.

Here are some ideas:

- LHM International Ministries Partnership Milk Carton Banks can be distributed to all of your students. You can order these free of charge. Contests and teaching lessons on the value of small contributions accomplishing great deeds can provide interest in and focus for the partnership.

- Collect a door offering at church. Dress students in traditional Kenyan clothing to greet parishioners. Display poster from LHM website with a short explanation of the project.

- A Kenyan celebration with Kenyan food, games and entertainment can be held. This may be a great project for the school’s parents’ organization to orchestrate. Challenge the PTL/PTA/PTO to match the funds collected through the chapel offerings.

- Community businesses and leaders can be approached to contribute to the offerings or help supply the items for the local mission project.

- Partner with your Sunday school and Bible classes to share or take a special offering and collect the items. After the trip, have the school children and teachers prepare a presentation about the mission trip for the Sunday school and Bible classes.

- Partner with home school families in the congregation or community. Invite them to participate.
THANK YOU LETTER

Please reproduce the following thank you letter for the students and distribute with the OMT backpack tags for participating in the Online Mission Trip. The backpack tags are free of charge and can be ordered online at the registration site.

Dear Student,

Thank you so much for participating in the Online Mission Trip to Kenya! We appreciate the opportunity to partner with you, your teacher, and your family in this unique mission event.

Please continue to pray for John and the staff of LHM—Kenya as they do God’s work in a variety of ways. Also pray for the children of Kenya and their families to open their hearts to receive the message of God’s love and salvation through Sharing His Love through Drama, Film and Bible Clubs.

Your participation means that LHM—Kenya and its ministry partners will continue to serve many throughout the country and proclaim Jesus as their Savior.

God bless you as He has blessed us through your ministry efforts. Asante! Thank you.

In His service,

Polly Gregali
Manager, LHM International Ministries Partnerships

Chris Myers
Specialist, LHM International Ministries Partnerships

Kay Shoemaker
Online Mission Trip Coordinator

Eric Gates
LHM Regional Director, Africa and the Middle East
SAMPLE LETTER TO PARENTS

The following letter can be used to inform parents about your school’s partnership with LHM—Kenya. This information letter can help boost involvement, raise overall awareness, and increase support for your mission focus with Kenya inviting parents to be involved.

Dear Parent,

________________Lutheran School is proud to partner with Lutheran Hour Ministries International Ministries Partnerships through the Online Mission Trip to Kenya. The international partnership is providing a “hands-on” mission experience without leaving the classroom. Through live videoconferencing segments from Saint Louis, Missouri and Nairobi, Kenya, plus pre-recorded ministry-in-action videos, children from across the United States and Canada will provide a Gospel witness in word and deed to our Kenyan brothers and sisters in Christ. As participants, we will:

• Learn about Kenya and the work of the LHM—Kenya Ministry center

• See ministry in action through the LHM-Kenya *Sharing His Story through Drama, Film and Bible Clubs*

• Learn about the culture and what life is like in the city for a child, Sarah, and how life is different for Tetu, a Maasai boy

• Raise awareness about those in need in our community and encourage one another in prayer and action

<Insert your local project info and details here>

Your participation means that LHM—Kenya and its ministry partners will continue to serve in communities and proclaim Jesus as their Savior. As we participate together, please pray that God would find ways to use it to bring many of our Kenyan friends and U.S. and Canadian neighbors into His kingdom.
Dear Friend,

Thank you for your participation in Lutheran Hour Ministries’ International Ministries Partnership Online Mission Trip program! International Ministries Partnerships offer congregations and individuals one of the best ways to become directly involved in reaching out with the Gospel worldwide and sharing the love of Jesus with people who need to know Him. The Online Mission Trips provide children the experience of an international short-term mission trip without leaving the classroom!

Lutheran Hour Ministries’ Online Mission Trip program offers you opportunities to highlight and promote meaningful ministry in your community. When a local newspaper or broadcast outlet carries the story of your mission trip, it will inspire and motivate your Christian neighbors, attract the attention of seekers, and provide opportunities to connect to your church and to Lutheran Hour Ministries’ various means of Gospel outreach.

Attached is a news release template you can use to get your story to your local media. Simply fill in the applicable information and send it to your local newspapers and radio/television stations. Addresses and telephone/fax numbers are typically published in your local Yellow Pages directory or on the Internet. Additional distribution options include placing the release on your Website, blog, or Facebook page.

Who are the right people to send your release to? Here are some suggestions:

**Newspapers**

- Editor (weekly newspapers only)
- City editor (daily newspapers only)
- Features editor (dailies and weeklies)
- Education editor (dailies only)
- Religion editor (dailies only)

**TV and Radio**

- Local TV stations: news assignment editor
- Local radio stations: news director

Please contact us at Lutheran Hour Ministries if we can be helpful to you in sharing your story with your community.
Local Lutheran School Takes Students on a Virtual Trip to Kenya

YourTown, STATE, Month/Date, 2014 - During a designated time, the Nth grade students of Your Lutheran Church, YourTown will learn about the African country of Kenya by participating in an “online mission trip” offered by St. Louis-based Lutheran Hour Ministries. The virtual trip will feature educational videos and special internet “live feeds” through which the students can meet and interact directly with ministry workers and children who live in Kenya.

The Your Lutheran students will find out about the economic and social challenges that the people in the country face and about the holistic outreach of LHM—Kenya, which is known locally as Nuru Lutheran Media Ministry. Then, during the month of MonthName, the students will earmark the offerings from their weekly chapel devotions to send to Lutheran Hour Ministries center in Kenya to support Sharing His Story through Drama, Film, and Bible Clubs.

“Our students are very excited to learn about Kenya and its people up-close as well as about the opportunity to help share the Good News of Jesus in Kenya,” said Mr. Norm Principal, principal at Your Lutheran School. “We believe that by partnering with Lutheran Hour Ministries in this way, we can help make a real difference for people who are struggling and are looking for a source of hope in their lives.”

Lutheran Hour Ministries established a ministry center in Nairobi, Kenya to share the Gospel across the country through radio broadcasts, Christ-centered outreach to children and youth, drama, music, and personal witnessing.

Lutheran Hour Ministries is named for its radio flagship, The Lutheran Hour, which first aired in 1930. Heard today over more than 1,350 North American stations, The Lutheran Hour is the world’s longest-running Gospel outreach program. Lutheran Hour Ministries is an organization boldly dedicated to Christian witness, providing devotional and men’s ministry resources; Spanish-language programming; congregational evangelism training; and direct outreach through a variety of other media. For more about Lutheran Hour Ministries, visit www.lhm.org. To learn more about Lutheran Hour ministries’ offices in more than 30 countries or about the International Ministry Partnerships program, visit www.lhm.org/partner.
Supplemental Materials

**IMP Curriculum**
As a partner, you will receive access to LHM’s online curriculum for Kenya. This site is password protected. We will email the OMT contact person the login information. You can download and reproduce materials to meet your local needs.

The curriculum has four lessons for preschool through Grade 9. The lessons focus on geography, history, culture and religion. Please plan and share this material to prepare the students for the Online Mission Trip.

Also available on the site is a PowerPoint presentation template that you can use to add your own information or illustrate the lessons for your class, along with graphic organizers and blackline masters to enhance classroom activities.

There are chapel talks that can be used. All of them have a mission emphasis.

**IMP Milk Carton Banks**
These banks in the shape of a milk carton can be distributed to students to help with your chapel offerings. The bank has a mission prayer in English, and that same prayer in Spanish, Thai and Latvian languages.

**OMT Backpack Tags**
OMT backpack tags were designed as a memento, with kids in mind. These durable tags have an identification card inside and a message on the outside about Online Mission Trips. The backpack tag is a great conversation piece for children to share their experiences and remember the children in Kenya.

**OMT and IMP Posters**
To help with awareness, please reproduce the Online Mission Trip and International Ministries Partnership—Kenya posters; place them in the classrooms, and on school bulletin boards, and share them with your Board of Education as well as with the PTL/PTA/PTO. You can print the sample letter to the parents on the backside of the poster.

**LHM—Kenya Quarterly Newsletter**
Each quarter we will email you a newsletter from LHM—Kenya that includes prayer needs and ministry updates. You can reproduce and share it with teachers, students and families according to your needs. Visit the LHM—Kenya blog to keep connected to ministry happenings at http://nurulhm.blogspot.com
Teacher Ideas For Curriculum Usage

Teachers across the United States have given their ideas for ways to adapt the Online Mission Trip curriculum for various age and grade levels. These may help you in your particular teaching situation.

I teach a multi-age classroom of 7, 8 & 9 year olds. I combined/mixed the preschool/kindergarten materials with the elementary materials to create lessons appropriate for my kids. I also integrated outside sources, such as videos from Discovery Education.

I used the curriculum as a mini-social studies lesson. I copied different portions of the materials sent to us to create a small booklet about the country. We read and responded in writing. We used the Smart Board to look at maps, colored a similar map in our booklet, and looked at lots of pictures of the country. This was a very helpful and exciting educational experience for my third and fourth graders.

We met as a whole school to participate in the daily online presentations and to have a prayer time for the ministry. Each teacher used the written materials with their students in whatever way was age appropriate.

We used the Online Mission Trip during National Lutheran Schools Week and explored the country as a whole at the same time. The students explored the economy, government, language, customs and much more to better understand the country. The students absolutely loved their adventure and loved learning how this country was learning about the Lord.
THANK YOU!

Thank you again for participating in the Online Mission Trip to Kenya. We really appreciate it. We pray that the trip blesses you, your teachers, your school and the work God has called you to do. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact:

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Asante! Thank you and God bless.