

May 2021- G.O. article

**Multiplying International Friendship Centers in Partnership with Minnesota South Congregations (POBLO)** is the Mission Grant focus for the month of May. This grant to POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach) is \$12,000. By POBLO's request and with the help of your mites, this grant will be paid in full following the May quarterly BOD meeting. Trinity Lutheran Church in Faribault will be partnering with POBLO to establish an International Friendship Center for cross-cultural outreach so that their ethnic neighbors can know Jesus Christ.

Through this Mission Grant, POBLO will provide the following in order to help Trinity – Faribault develop their own International Friendship Center Ministry:

- Conduct a field study to better understand the ethnic community in Faribault.
- Train volunteers for cross-cultural outreach and how to run the programs and classes.
- Plan and launch classes and programs of the International Friendship Center.
- Provide further coaching/training once the International Friendship Center has started.

POBLO provides training to volunteers on the manner to meet and greet, ways to befriend in offering their hospitality, and to serve their ethnic neighbors in practical and culturally relevant ways through various classes offered at the International Friendship Centers. These free classes include English Language, Computer Literacy, Citizenship, Sewing Instruction, Cooking, and others.

POBLO International Ministries is based out of Clinton Twp., Michigan. They have already established International Friendship Centers in partnership with LCMS churches in Rochester, Bloomington, Burnsville, Prior Lake and Columbia Heights.

Carol Hubert  
Vice President of Gospel Outreach