



The Parable of the Mustard Seed

³¹ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." Matthew 13:31-32

This scripture was the focus one Sunday morning this summer. As my pastor shared about a tree being a symbol for the kingdom of God, I got to thinking about Lutheran Men in Mission's logo for the Presidents Legacy Circle.

As a tree's roots go deeper, the tree grows in strength and space. The branches provide so many ways for the tree to be useful—perhaps as a resting spot or a home for birds, squirrels, and other animals. Depending on the species, it will provide beauty with its blossoms and nourishment with its fruit. It may provide enjoyment with its fall colors. It may also provide resources even after its life ends in the form of lumber for shelter or paper with so many uses. However, regardless of what type of tree, they all start with a single seed, much like the mustard seed mentioned in the scripture above.

I see the branches in the logo representing LMM's ministries and where men find rest and nourishment. The subtle blue image of a cross serves as a reminder of the living water of Jesus Christ to provide the strength and spirit to all connected in whatever way to these ministries.

Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM) provides a variety of resources and events to help men be who God intends them to be; bold, daring followers of Jesus Christ. Just as a tree starts with a seed, so do your prayers and financial gifts help LMM. The flower in the left side of the tree is a reminder that when you include a legacy gift to LMM in your estate plan, you plant the seeds for LMM's long-term growth and stability.

Thank you for helping us seed spiritual growth for all men, now and into the future.

Lon Buss
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