

North/West Lower Michigan Synod – ELCA

2900 N. Waverly Rd.

Lansing, Michigan 48906

517-321-5066 www.mittensynod.org

Rev. Craig A. Satterlee Ph.D, Bishop

Rev. David E. Sprang, Asst. to the Bishop - Director for Evangelical Mission

Rev. Rosanne Anderson, Asst. to the Bishop



April 30, 2020

Dear Friends,

On the following pages you will find the North/West Lower Michigan Synod COVID-19 Response Grant Form. Please read through the grant description and see if it fits your situation. If you have specific questions, please call me. Submit it to Pastor David Sprang: davidsprang@mittensynod.org

Partners in Christ,

Rev. David E. Sprang

Rev. David E. Sprang

Assistant to the Bishop

Director for Evangelical Mission

davidsprang@mittensynod.org or revdsprang@gmail.com 517-331-8497

COVID-19 RESPONSE Grant Application

4/26/2020

The ELCA and The North/West Lower Michigan Synod have partnered together to provide grants to congregations who: 1) care for the people and communities who are most at-risk from the impacts of COVID-19, and 2) are vulnerable and at-risk because of the care they provide for their communities.

These grants are intended to assist congregations that are shouldering the burden of the increased demand for food, personal needs, assistance with utilities, and emotional burdens of people impacted by the pandemic. A high priority is given to congregations that serve communities of color, communities with high health risks, and high poverty rates. A high priority is also given to congregations that have a demonstrated record of listening to and caring for the needs of their community. In addition, weight will be given to congregations that are demonstrating solidarity with those who are staying home and demonstrating adherence to the Governor's guidelines.

These grants are not intended to provide operating funds for struggling congregations unless the congregation is struggling due to the overwhelming response to the needs of the community.

The funding for these grants come from: 1) The Synod Disaster Fund – given by donations from individuals and synod assembly offerings, 2) From a partnership grant or a series of grants from The ELCA COVID-19 Response Fund.

The ELCA COVID-19 Response Fund grants to synods will be released in phases as funds are received. Grants requests from the synod fund will be reviewed as they are received, and notice of receipt of the grant application will be made. The grants will be review by Pastor Sprang and Bishop Satterlee and recommended to the New and Renewing Mission Table in the same manner as Outreach Grants. Notice will be sent as to a grant being “approved” or “returned”. Grant awards will be sent as funding becomes available.

The funds available will not be in the tens of thousands of dollars. The speculation is that synods will receive about \$5-10,000. We understand that the needs of congregations will be much greater, so we also encourage congregations to apply for the PPP and other grant programs too. There is a helpful document on the webpage for directions on how to do that.

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/CARES_Act_summary_033020v2.pdf

Please fill out the following application and return to Pastor David Sprang by email davidsprang@mittensynod.org.

Congregation Name

Address

City/Zip

Primary Contact Person

Pastor

Email

Phone Number

Date Submitted

- 1) Briefly tell about the congregation's community engagement before COVID-19.
- 2) How has the congregations engagement with the community changed /increased since COVID-19?
- 3) What financial impact has COVID-19 had on the congregation?
- 4) What financial impact has caring for the community had on the congregation since the COVID-19 shutdown?
- 5) What are the highest needs of people in your community now?