Did you know that ELCA members in more than 8,900 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately $1.7 billion in regular offerings annually to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide? When members give through their congregations, about 5.5% of that money is shared with the local synod, which then shares a portion with the national churchwide office. Thank you for your faithful support!

In FY2020, the North/West Lower MI Synod shared $653,582 directly in Mission Support for ELCA churchwide ministries. In the midst of such a challenging year, thank you for your continued commitment to respond to God’s call to love and serve as a neighbor, both locally and with the wider church. It is through your faith-filled and financial support that the following ministries are possible. We ARE church together - Thanks be to God!

YOUR MISSION SUPPORT HELPS FUND THE FOLLOWING CHURCHWIDE MINISTRIES:

- **Plant and support** hundreds of new congregations.
- **Enable congregations to renew** their ministries and **reach out** to their surrounding communities.
- **Develop and share** resources for faith, discipleship, prayer, stewardship and worship.
- **Work together** with our African-descent, American Indian, Alaska Native, Arab, Middle Eastern, Asian, Pacific Islander and Latino/Latina leaders and members.
- **Invest** in technology and communication.
- **Grow and sustain** financial resources.
- **Engage** in research and strategic planning.

Thank you for **$267,969** from the N/W Lower MI Synod for these ministries!
22% OF MISSION SUPPORT GROWS THE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND ADDRESSES ISSUES AROUND THE WORLD:

Thank you for $143,788 from the N/W Lower MI Synod for these ministries!

- As a member of the Lutheran World Federation, the ELCA is in communion with 147 other churches.
- ELCA synods relate directly to 65 companion churches through a total of 127 official relationships.
- The ELCA accompanies new Lutheran churches, expands ministries and trains leaders and evangelists.
- The ELCA sends missionaries — including Young Adults in Global Mission — who are the hands and feet of Jesus around the world.
- The ELCA addresses social issues and works for justice.

37% OF MISSION SUPPORT HELPS DEVELOP CURRENT AND FUTURE LEADERS IN THE ELCA:

Thank you for $241,825 from the N/W Lower MI Synod for these ministries!

- Prepare and implement a system for recruitment and assignment of rostered ministers.
- Identify and provide ministry resources and opportunities to lay leaders for networking.
- Offer events and leadership opportunities for youth and young adults.
- Support the work of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 ELCA colleges and universities.
- Provide coordination and support for churchwide ministries.
- Provide governance and leadership.
- Sustain ecumenical and interfaith relations.

Thank you for your ongoing support! For additional resources, go to ELCA.org/SOFIA.