

# South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

## Narrative Spending Plan 2017-2018

*Living as Church Together as we Care, Connect, and Equip*

Thank you for your continuing support of the ministry of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin of the ELCA. It is because of your mission support offerings that we are able to reach out with the gospel message in a wide variety of ways. The partnership between congregations, the Synod, and the Churchwide Organization empowers all of us be Christ's Church, together, for the sake of the world, in creative and life-giving ways. We are grateful for that partnership.

### 2017-2018 Proposed Spending Plan

**Total     \$1,475,000**

### How the Offerings Flow

52 cents of every dollar of mission support offerings received from congregations, is passed on to the Churchwide Organization, and much of this is used for reaching out beyond our local communities. Your offerings support ELCA World Hunger, Young Adults in Global Mission, and Lutheran Disaster Response, to name a few of the ministries that benefit from our partnership. These offerings also help to start new congregations throughout the United States, revitalize established congregations, train mission developers, and equip missionaries.

**Total             \$767,000**



2016 Young Adult in Global Mission, Hannah Smith, in Mexico with new friends.

6.2% of congregational mission support goes directly to the ELCA seminaries in our region, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, and Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

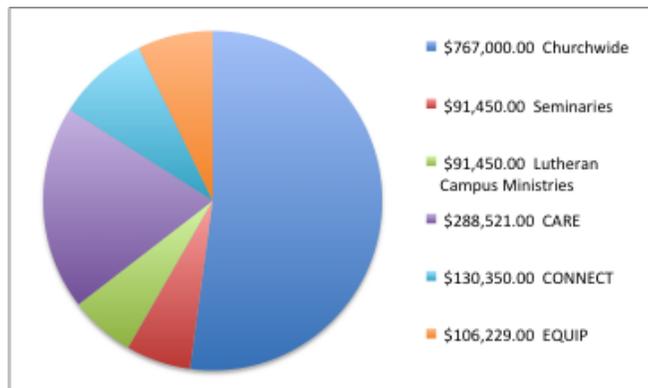
An additional 6.2% is shared between the three Campus Ministries in our Synod, UW Madison, UW Whitewater, and UW Platteville. Raising up future leaders for our church and inspiring younger generations as they grow in their lives of faith are priorities for our church as we move into the future and we are grateful for the ability to contribute as we are doing.

**Total             \$182,900**



LCM Pastor at UW-Madison, Rev. Emily Tveite, worshipped with Christ Lutheran Church in Stoughton, one of 34 partner congregations in our synod. "Without our partners, LCM wouldn't be here to care for and equip young people in Jesus' name."

**Our Synod Mission is to *Care for, Connect, and Equip our congregations to be the heart and hands of Jesus.* The 35.6% of congregational mission support offerings that stay in the Synod help us to do just that.**



## Care

An important calling as a family of faith is to care for one another, and this is what the majority of your mission support offering goes to within the Synod. One of the most visible ways we care for congregations and Rostered Ministers is as we walk together during times of transition, providing for interim ministry coverage and support with the call process. In addition to this important work, the synod staff makes being present in congregations on a regular basis a priority. We meet with leaders, attend and lead worship services, and celebrate significant events in the lives of congregations. We are committed to developing and deepening relationships of mutual trust and respect as we care for each other.

**Total** **\$288,521**

## Connect

As church together in partnership, we are able to do more, to spread the gospel message in more creative and powerful ways than any of us could do alone. For this reason we work to connect congregations throughout the Synod with each other, with our Churchwide ministries, and with our ecumenical partners. This part of the spending plan is focused on building these connections so ministries flourish as we work together for the sake of the gospel. An important part of our work in this area is carried out through our communications ministries. Please make sure that you are connected to this network of information and community.

We also lift up and support our connection with our ministry partners, such as Region 5, Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, LOPPW, Lutheran Planned Giving, and Wisconsin Council of Churches. We know that being the church together and connecting to one another, is a way we can more fully live out our shared life in the Body of Christ.

**Total** **\$130,350**

## Equip

Every year a number of events geared to equip leaders and congregations to grow in their faith formation and ministry are offered throughout the Synod. Events like Leadership Education and Development (LEAD), Confirmation Extravaganza, the Bishop's Convocation, Fall Stewardship Gatherings, and Moving Deeper in Mission Together (MDMT), provide opportunities to gather for worship, prayer, and education, encouragement and inspiration.

**Total** **\$106,229**



Deacon Einstein Gonzales and Rev. Erik Jelinek preside together at the bilingual, first anniversary service of Parroquia Santa Maria hosted by All Saints Lutheran Church in Fitchburg.

## Churchwide Financial Commitments to our Synod

A portion of the funds that we send to the Churchwide Organization return to our Synod in the form of grants. In addition to providing a grant to fund the Synod position of Director of Evangelical Mission, Churchwide also provides Partnership Grants. In 2017, two congregations in our Synod received Congregational Partnership grants, New Heights, Black Earth, and New Life, Madison. In addition we received a Synod Partnership Grant for the CONNECT Renewal Process. A grant from Churchwide also helped to start Comunidad de Todos los Santos in Watertown, a new Latino ministry in partnership with The Episcopal Church. These funds help us to grow our outreach and renewal ministries throughout the Synod.

**Total** **\$173,000**

**Again, we are so grateful for the partnerships God has called us into as we do this good gospel work together. May God continue to bless our shared ministry.**