

WHERE YOUR CHURCHWIDE OFFERING GOES

As members of the ELCA, our faith in a loving, caring God frees us to be bold and courageous, open to the Holy Spirit's invitation to be active in the world. The sharing of our time, talents and financial resources are meaningful ways that we show Christ's love in our communities, our country and the world. Mission Support is the portion of offerings that congregations share with synods and the churchwide organization for God's mission beyond the congregations. These dollars are put to work on your behalf in the following ways:

32.8%

COORDINATION AND SUPPORT OF MINISTRIES

- Coordinating relationships and activities between synods and churchwide ministries
- Providing communication and technological support to ministries across the church
- Supporting mission through research of attitudes, practices and trends
- Planning and evaluating the work of the ELCA locally, nationally and globally
- Providing administrative and organizational services for God's work, including maintaining the list of more than 15,000 rostered leaders

31.3%

SUPPORTING CONGREGATIONS AND EVANGELICAL OUTREACH

- Proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ in communities across the country
- Starting dozens of new congregations and Synodically Authorized Worshiping Communities annually
- Renewing more than a hundred existing congregations, ministries, organizations, institutions and agencies each year
- Nurturing faith communities through word and sacrament to witness God's grace
- Recognizing and promoting the gift of diversity

17.6%

BRINGING FORTH AND SUPPORTING LEADERS

- Expanding youth and young adult ministries
- Preparing, recruiting and supporting church leaders
- Supporting educational and teaching networks
- Encouraging the ministry of the baptized in the church and world
- Supporting retired church leaders

6.7%

GLOBAL AND ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS

- Accompanying churches around the world, including sending over 200 missionaries
- Assisting global companions in building their capacity for mission and ministry in over 90 countries
- Developing and nurturing inter-Lutheran and full communion relationships
- Relating to other communities of faith

5.6%

STEWARDSHIP AND MISSION FUNDING

- Thanking, informing, teaching, inspiring and inviting people to be good stewards
- Interpreting the ELCA mission and budget
- Developing financial resources to fund God's work

3.9%

STEPPING FORWARD AS A CHURCH SERVING OTHERS

- Supporting the response to poverty, hunger, violence, disease and disasters
- Serving creation and humanity through study and deliberation on current issues
- Developing and supporting leaders who engage economic and social issues
- Serving in response to God's love through social ministry organizations

2.1%

GOVERNANCE

- Making decisions through governance procedures including the ELCA Church Council, ELCA Churchwide Assembly and Conference of Bishops

In 2012, Mission Support dollars for the above purposes totaled nearly \$50 million, not including over \$30 million of funds designated for ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Disaster Response, the ELCA Malaria Campaign and other ministries.

For more information and frequently asked questions visit www.ELCA.org/MissionSupport.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.