



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Your Mission Support helps fund the following ELCA Churchwide ministries

25% of Mission Support grows the ELCA in the United States:

- 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.

18% of Mission Support grows the Lutheran Church around the world:

- As a member of the Lutheran World Federation, the ELCA is in communion with 145 other churches.
- ELCA synods relate directly to 85 companion churches in other countries.
- The ELCA accompanies new Lutheran churches, expands ministries and trains leaders and evangelists.
- The ELCA sends 230 missionaries to more than 48 countries including more than 84 Young Adults in Global Mission in 11 country programs.

16% of Mission Support provides coordination and support for churchwide ministries:

- Maintain constituent database, including 1.1 million records of rostered and lay leaders, members, donors and congregations.
- Preserve and maintain archives and historic records of the ELCA and its predecessor bodies.
- Provide office space, equipment and human resources for staff and operations.
- Equip congregations and synods with resources to assist in risk management and legal matters.
- Process 150,000 gifts to ELCA ministries.

15% of Mission Support develops and support current and future leaders in the ELCA

- Support the work of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 colleges and universities.
- Recruit, prepare and implement a system for the assignment of 9,900 rostered ministers.
- Offer events and leadership opportunities for youth and young adults.
- Identify, connect and provide ministry resources and opportunities for networking for lay leaders.

8% of Mission Support invests in technology and communications

- Design and maintain communications tools to strengthen our Lutheran identity and grow awareness of our church and its mission and ministries.
- Connect members with one another through new technology and systems.

5% of Mission Support provides governance and leadership

- Organize lay and clergy leaders from across the church to serve on the governance boards and committees that provide guidance and oversight for ELCA ministries.
- Coordinate meetings and support for 65 synodical bishops.

5% of Mission Support grows and sustains financial resources

- Develop and promote efforts related to stewardship education, financial literacy, mission interpretation and growth in giving to all church ministries.

4% of Mission Support addresses social issues and work for justice

- Engage in churchwide study and deliberation to create social statements and resources that address social, political, environmental and other public issues.
- Equip members and leaders to advocate with lawmakers in order to support policies that promote justice and peace.
- Support social ministry organizations, such as Lutheran Services in America, to impact the lives of 1 in 50 Americans.
- *Your designated gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response provide additional funds annually to address hunger, poverty and suffering around the world.*

2% of Mission Support engages in research and strategic planning

- Research and analyze trends that impact the ELCA and develop innovative strategies to improve mission and ministry in the 21st century.

2% of Mission Support sustains ecumenical and interfaith relationships

- Facilitate dialogue and common action among communities of other faiths, including the development of resources and communications for ELCA congregations.
- Seek unity in faith and life with all Lutherans and six full communion partners.

Thank You for your ongoing support!

For additional resources go to: [ELCA.org/SOFIA](https://www.elca.org/SOFIA)