

SOUTH WISCONSIN

DISTRICT

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD



This Is *Y*our Time

To be distinctly Lutheran
To plant new congregations and schools
To honor *y*our Christ-centered vocations
To embrace *y*our communities

Your South Wisconsin District is one of 35 districts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) serving more than 80,000 baptized members in South Wisconsin. Elected, called, or appointed, we serve *you* as advisors and resources in support of *your* efforts to live out *your* calling to proclaim the Gospel within *your* congregation and into *your* community.

The **Office of the President** guides *your* pastor as he supervises the doctrine, life, and official administration of the ordained and commissioned ministers of the District.

The **Office of Mission & Mercy** supports *your* ministry in *your* outreach efforts, as the Holy Spirit equips *you* to be the hands and feet of Jesus, bringing a message of hope in the midst of hopelessness, help in times of helplessness, and life in the face of death.

The **Office of Education** nurtures the faith of *your* children by assisting *you* to operate schools through staffing resources, accreditation, state and federal advocacy, consultation, and professional growth opportunities.

The **Business Office** and **LCEF**, with access to other ministry partners, are *your* resources for day-to-day operational guidance.

Confessing Christ for the Next Generation

The South Wisconsin District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is a not-for-profit corporation and is an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Your Gifts at Work...

as of Oct. 31, 2023

For Christ and for His world, SWD **magnifies** partnerships, **multiplies** ministries, and **maximizes** resources.

Congregation Support

\$1.3 M

Through the first three quarters of our fiscal year, our congregations have shared freely of more than \$1,325,000 of their precious resources and will likely surpass their own goal of \$1,792,000.

(The current average unrestricted congregation support is \$19.78 per communicant member.)

Shared with Synod

25%

One-quarter of all unrestricted congregation support (which then becomes fourteen percent of our total budgeted expense) is shared directly with Synod in addition to our continued support of the LCMS Office of International Mission's work in the Dominican Republic.

Dominican Republic

\$35,000

The District has a long history of supporting international mission work in the Dominican Republic and across Latin America through direct funding and the resourcing of human capital as we encourage and attempt to subsidize travel as part of an education, construction, or other mission team visits.

servenow.lcms.org

Micro School Initiative

\$450,000

The South Wisconsin District Board of Directors committed significant financial resources to a micro school mission concept named *Lutheran Neighborhood Schools* (LNS). **Mr. Robert Lunak** was called to begin work on the initiative and took the helm as Superintendent of LNS in July.

myLNS.org

Kops Park Neighborhood

1 of 3

Each Lutheran Neighborhood School will have fewer than 50 students and focus on a liberal arts education built on a foundation of Lutheran doctrine, curiosity, and service. With an ambitious goal of launching three schools in three years, the first host site at **Beautiful Savior** (Milwaukee) opened in fall.

Matching Gift

\$25,000

With intentionally small enrollment targets, the budgetary margins are very tight for *Lutheran Neighborhood Schools*; so every penny outside of regular operational income truly matters. Through a partnership with **LCEF**, we had the opportunity to leverage a matching grant to solicit gifts to help support this initiative.

202

Congregations

52

Elementary Schools

23

Preschools & ECCs

8

High Schools

Church Planter

1

In spring, the newly ordained **Rev. Joshua Benish** was called by the South Wisconsin District to plant a church in Green County where the District has no footprint and no planting mother congregations. The plant is already worshipping and welcoming guests. When they officially charter, they will be known as Peace Valley Lutheran.

Micro-Grants

24

Building on the success from last year during which we awarded \$106,953, we continued the micro-grant application process, inviting congregations and schools to request funds for unique ministry opportunities. So far this year, more than \$41,000 has been awarded; and more funds are available!

swd.lcms.org/grants

High School

+1

After years of planning, **Trinity Lutheran Classical High School** (West Allis) opened this Fall. We were blessed to have the **Lutheran High School Association of Greater Milwaukee** officially open this school under the leadership of Headmaster **Rev. Brandon Koble**. This is the only Lutheran classical high school in our District.

Rural Convocation

32

Pastors serving in settings of 5,000 people or fewer gathered for a *Rural and Small-Town Ministry Convocation*. Facilitated by DOXOLOGY, the participants looked at the challenges and opportunities in their unique ministry setting. A follow-up session to include lay leaders is being planned for January 2024.

Partnership Grants

\$964,505

We budgeted to support more than twenty Mission Partners to help raise up and bolster strategic ministries, including grants for international mission, campus ministry, specialized ministry (*deaf, community outreach, prison, ex-offender*), urban ministry, ethnic ministry (*Hispanic, Hmong, French African*), and church and school planting.

Student Aid

\$105,021

Through various gifts and bequests and a sizeable grant from **LWML-SWD**, by the end of the calendar year, we will have contributed toward the education of 54 future church workers at our Concordia Universities in Wisconsin, Chicago, Nebraska, St. Paul, and Irvine, as well as the seminaries in Ft. Wayne and St. Louis.

Campus Ministry

6

Our campus ministry partnerships are growing and increasing their efforts throughout the state.

- **Trinity** (Milwaukee)
- **Faith** (La Crosse)
- **Calvary Chapel** (Madison)
- **Apostles** (Platteville)
- **Luther Memorial** (Shorewood)

swd.lcms.org/campus

Self-Discovery

16

Congregations are signing up to participate in the *WHY Discovery Process*, a district-facilitated reflection on how God has worked in the past to give direction for ministry today. So far, four have completed the process.

- **St. Andrew** (West Bend)
- **Pilgrim** (Wauwatosa)
- **Our Redeemer** (Sheboygan)
- **Grace** (Omro)

Events

@8100

In addition to our regular board and committee meetings, we host various events at the District Office including pre-seminary student interviews, meetings of our Mission Partners, Urban Pastors, LERT Volunteers, orientations for new teachers and pastors, training sessions for circuit visitors, and even a Pastor Appreciation lunch.

\$1.94 M

Total unrestricted
gifts from
congregations

Your Gifts at Work FY22

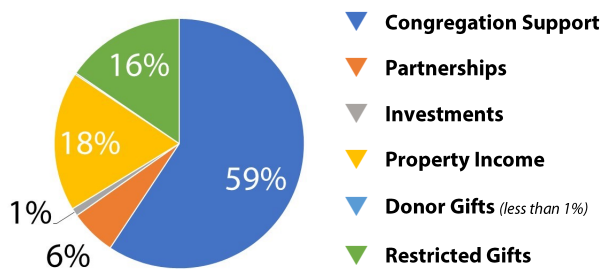
\$27.29

Average unrestricted
congregation sup-
port (per communi-
cant member)

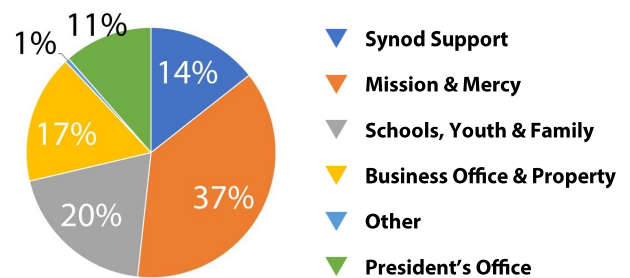
Unrestricted Gifts Shared with Synod
\$485,614

SWD Mission Partner Grants
\$832,450

2023 Budgeted Income



2023 Budgeted Expenses



SOUTH WISCONSIN
— D I S T R I C T —

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

8100 W Capitol Drive | Milwaukee, WI 53222

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



SUPPORT
SWD
TODAY!

swd.lcms.org/donate