



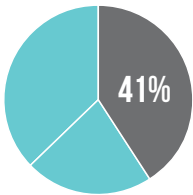
# Mission Support: A DEEP DIVE



## Montana Synod Edition FY2021 Thank You

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 5.3% 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 FY2021, the Montana Synod shared **\$350,004** directly in Mission Support for ELCA churchwide ministries. In the midst of such challenging times, 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!

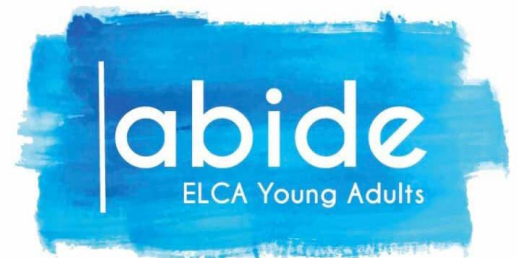
### YOUR MISSION SUPPORT HELPS FUND THE FOLLOWING CHURCHWIDE MINISTRIES:



#### 41% OF MISSION SUPPORT GROWS THE ELCA IN THE UNITED STATES:

Thank you for **\$143,502** from the Montana Synod for these 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.



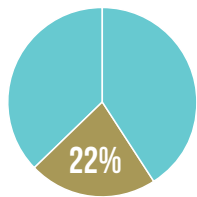
"SPACE TO ABIDE"



"INSPIRING GENEROSITY"



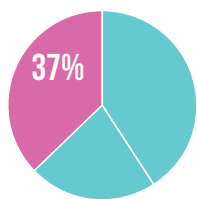
# MISSION SUPPORT: A DEEP DIVE



## 22% OF MISSION SUPPORT GROWS THE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND ADDRESSES ISSUES AROUND THE WORLD:

Thank you for **\$77,001** from the Montana 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** 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 **\$129,501** from the Montana 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](https://www.elca.org/SOFIA).