



Equipping for the gospel -
MONTANA SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2022



ELCA Churchwide Report

by the Rev. Dr. Carmelo Santos
Office of the Presiding Bishop



TDJEIR Team



Theological Discernment

Racial Justice

Gender Justice and Women's Empowerment

Ecumenical & Inter-Religious Relations

Theological Discernment

ELCA Social teaching

- ✓ Care of creation
- ✓ Abortion
- ✓ Health Care
- ✓ Genetics
- ✓ Civic engagement – in process



Racial Justice



Resources

- ✓ ELCA Declaration to American Indian and Alaska Native People
- ✓ <https://blogs.elca.org/elcaracialjustice/being-home/>



Gender Justice and Women's Empowerment



Resources

- ✓ A Study Guide on Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Call to Action
- ✓ <https://www.elca.org/justiceforwomen>



Ecumenical and inter- Religious Relations



Current Dialogues

- ✓ Lutheran - Catholic
- ✓ Lutheran – Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Resources

- ✓ A Guide for Ministry in Multireligious Settings (in process)
- ✓ A declaration to the Muslim Community
- ✓ An Updated Declaration to the Jewish Community



\$350,004

was shared with the churchwide organization to support our ministry together. In Christ's hands that was multiplied into **\$40,739,221** given by all 65 synods in mission support.

Thank you!

**MISSION
SUPPORT**

Mission Funds Distribution

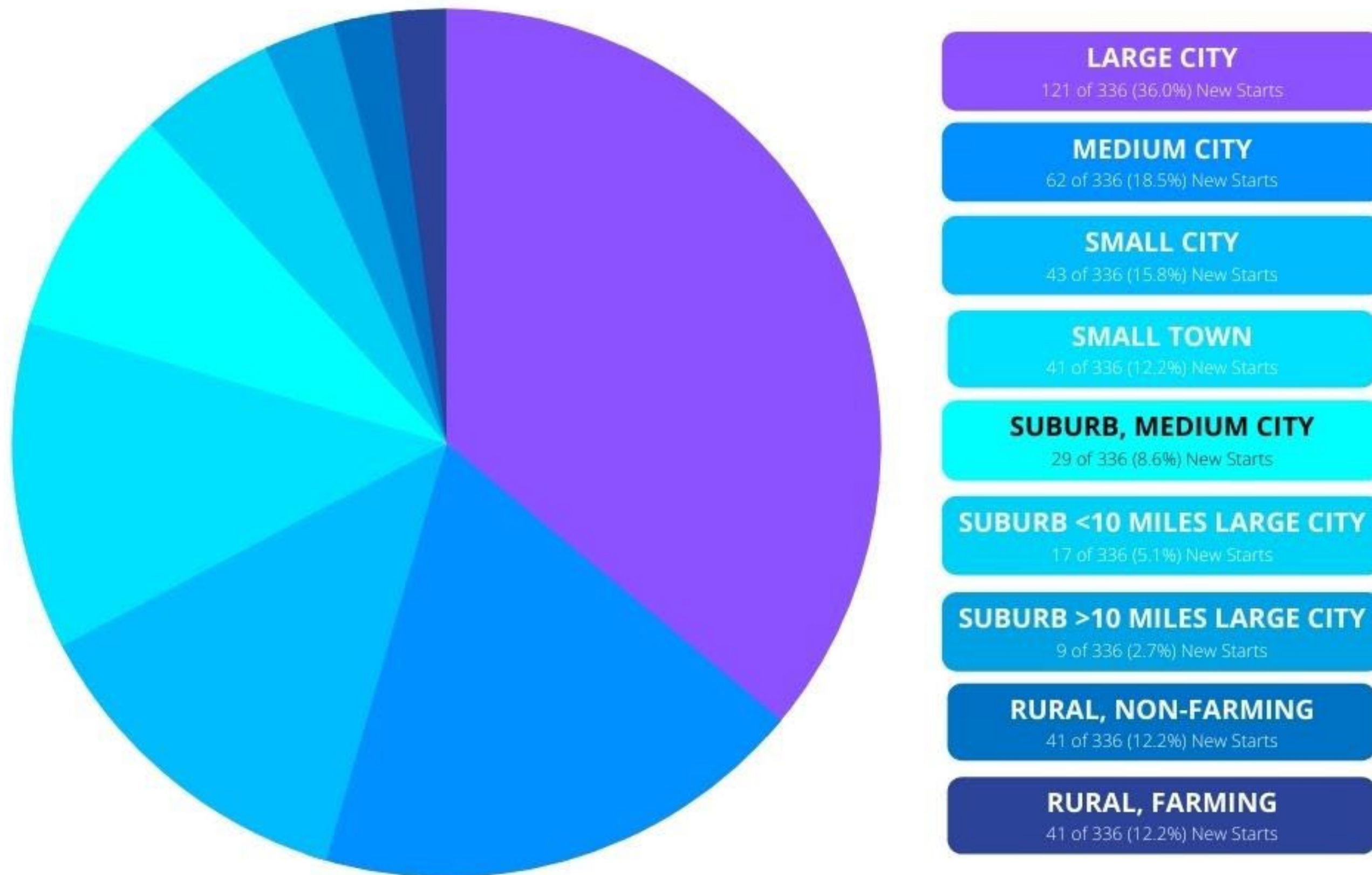
- ✓ **41%** to grow the ELCA (U.S. & Territories)
- ✓ **22%** to grow the Lutheran Church and Address Issues around the World
- ✓ **37%** to develop Current and Future Leaders in the ELCA.



Growing the ELCA

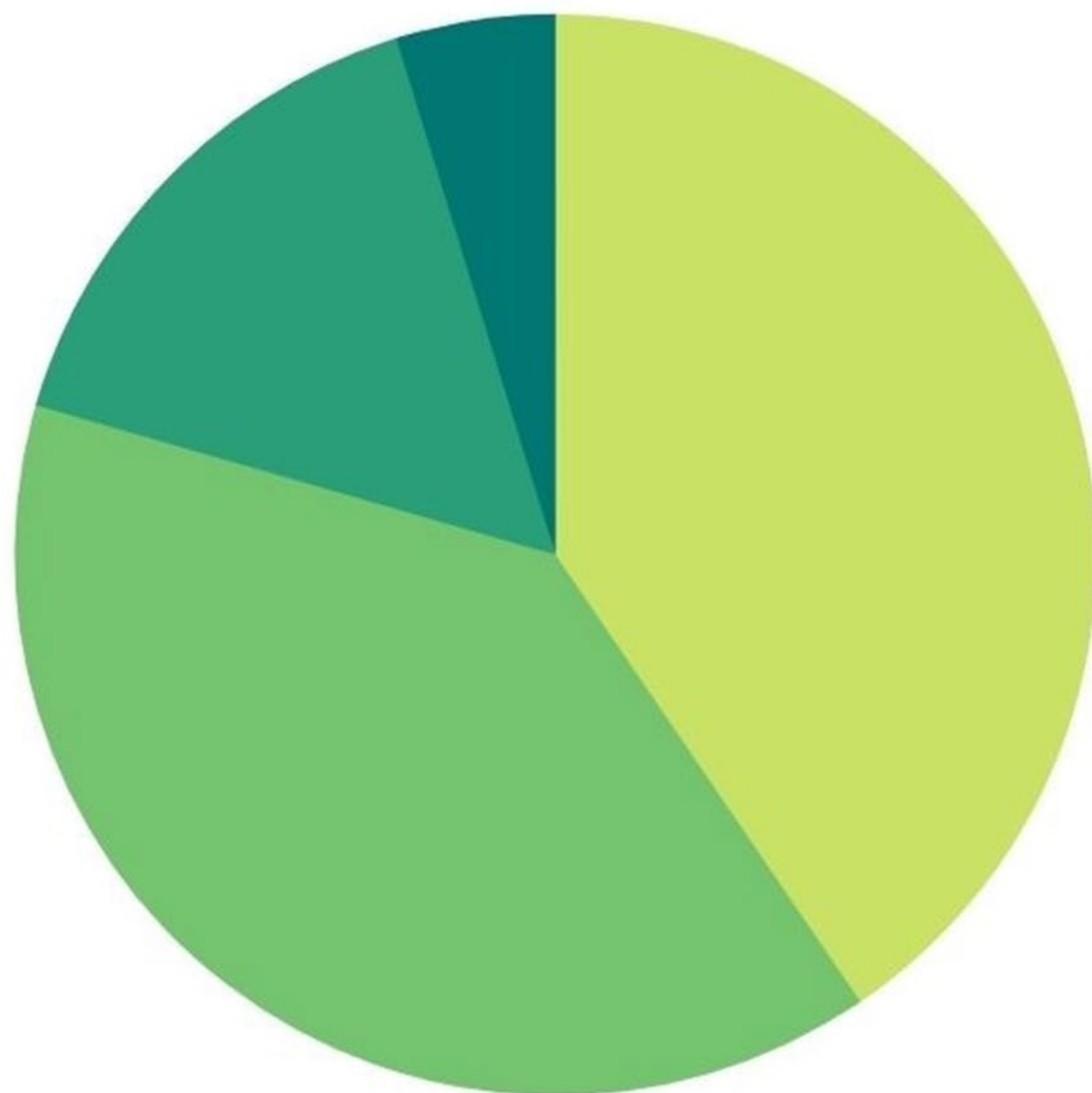


- ✓ **82 new starts total begun during pandemic so far.**
- ✓ **528 new ministries have been organized as congregations since the birth of the ELCA in 1988.**
- ✓ **380 new starts are active now.**
- ✓ **1500+ leaders register and participate in Congregational Development Trainings online each year.**
- ✓ **The ELCA has committed to providing a Director for Evangelical Mission in each synod for the purpose of helping congregations reach new, young, diverse people.**



NEW STARTS BY GEOGRAPHIC SETTING

DATA CURRENT AS OF 2/15/2022



WORKING CLASS

Average Income \$16,000 - \$30,000
136 of 336 (40.5%) New Starts

MIDDLE CLASS

Average Income \$35,000 - \$75,000
131 of 336 (39.0%) New Starts

BELOW POVERTY LINE

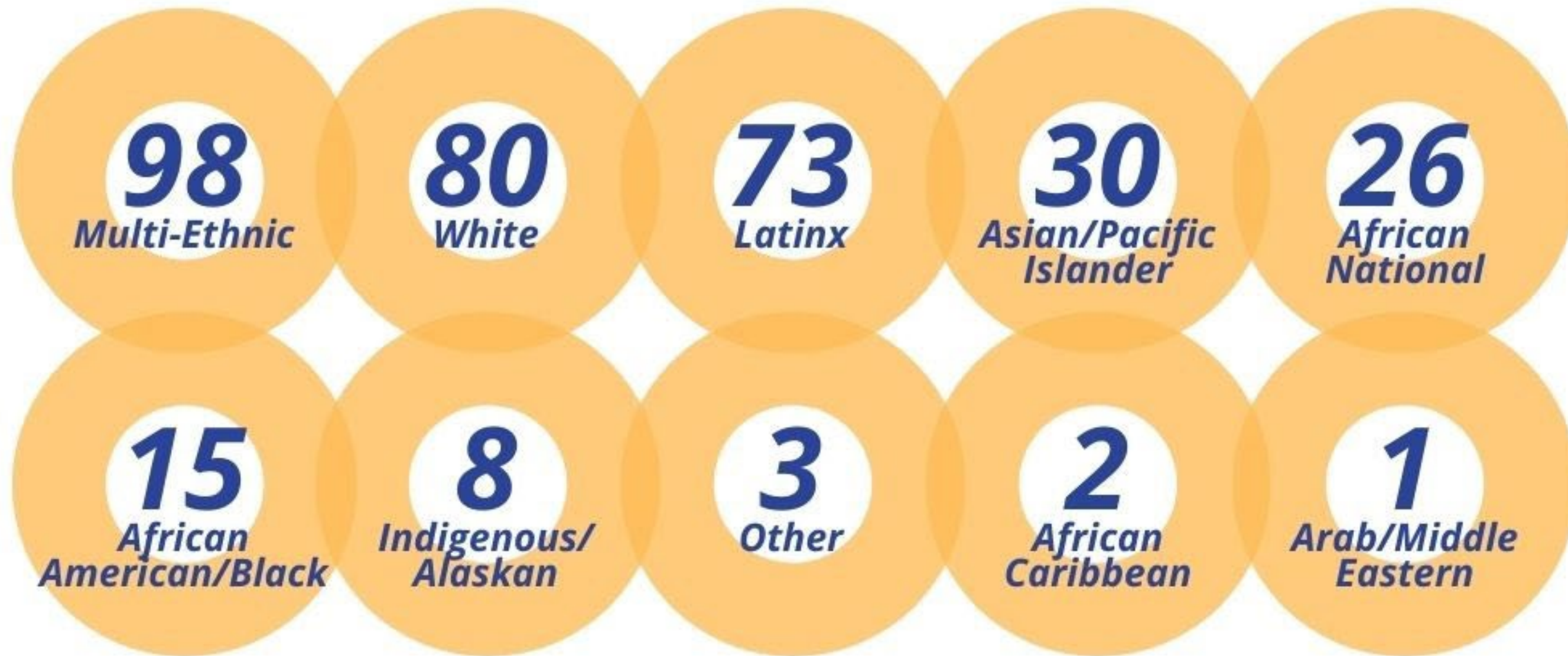
53 of 336 (15.8%) New Starts

UPPER MIDDLE CLASS

Average Income \$100,000+
16 of 336 (4.8%) New Starts

NEW STARTS BY ECONOMIC GROUP

DATA CURRENT AS OF 2/15/2022



NEW STARTS BY ETHNICITY

DATA CURRENT AS OF 2/15/2022



New Starts & Strategic Ministries in your synod



New Starts from pre-pandemic, 2019 or earlier

- ✓ Confluence Collective Missoula
- ✓ Freedom In Christ Prison Ministry Deer Lodge

Strategic Ministries: ELCA congregations doing creative ministry, especially involving BIPOC leaders, also includes ministries on the margins

- ✓ Our Saviour Lutheran Church Rocky Boy Reservation
- ✓ Spirit of Life, Fort Peck Reservation [no longer active?]

Director for
Evangelical
Mission (DEM) –
Montana Synod

Thank you!



Pastor Peggy
Paugh Leuzinger





LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE



Buffalo, NY

Working with a long-time partner on addressing peace, reconciliation, and trauma counseling in Buffalo. They will work closely with a new-start mission called “Community of Good Neighbor.”

Uvalde, TX

Working with ecumenical partner to provide a pastoral presence

Support for chaplain services

Offer financial support for funeral services to families in need

COVID-19 Response Fund

Since the COVID-19 Response Fund was established last year, the organization has raised more than \$2.1 million in funding from generous ELCA members. Donations are still being accepted and are now being distributed through such churchwide ministries as ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response

Humanitarian Response in Eastern Europe

Lutheran Disaster Response has so far contributed over \$8.9 million to Lutheran World Federation, the ACT Alliance / Hungarian Interchurch Aid, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary (ELCH) and RGDTS-Phiren Amenca to provide immediate and long-term relief assistance to Ukrainian refugees arriving in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania.

Implementing partners provide food, temporary shelter, cash assistance, hygiene kits, medical care and psychosocial / pastoral counseling to those that recently arrived, some of whom are African Nationals and people of Roma-descent.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER and LDR

Thank you for your gifts, Montana synod:

LDR	\$218,986
World Hunger	\$171,530
Total	\$390,516

FY2021 gifts to ELCA World Hunger and
Lutheran Disaster Response:

- ELCA World Hunger: \$22,924,057
- LDR: \$14,458,194





Hunger and Big Dream Grants

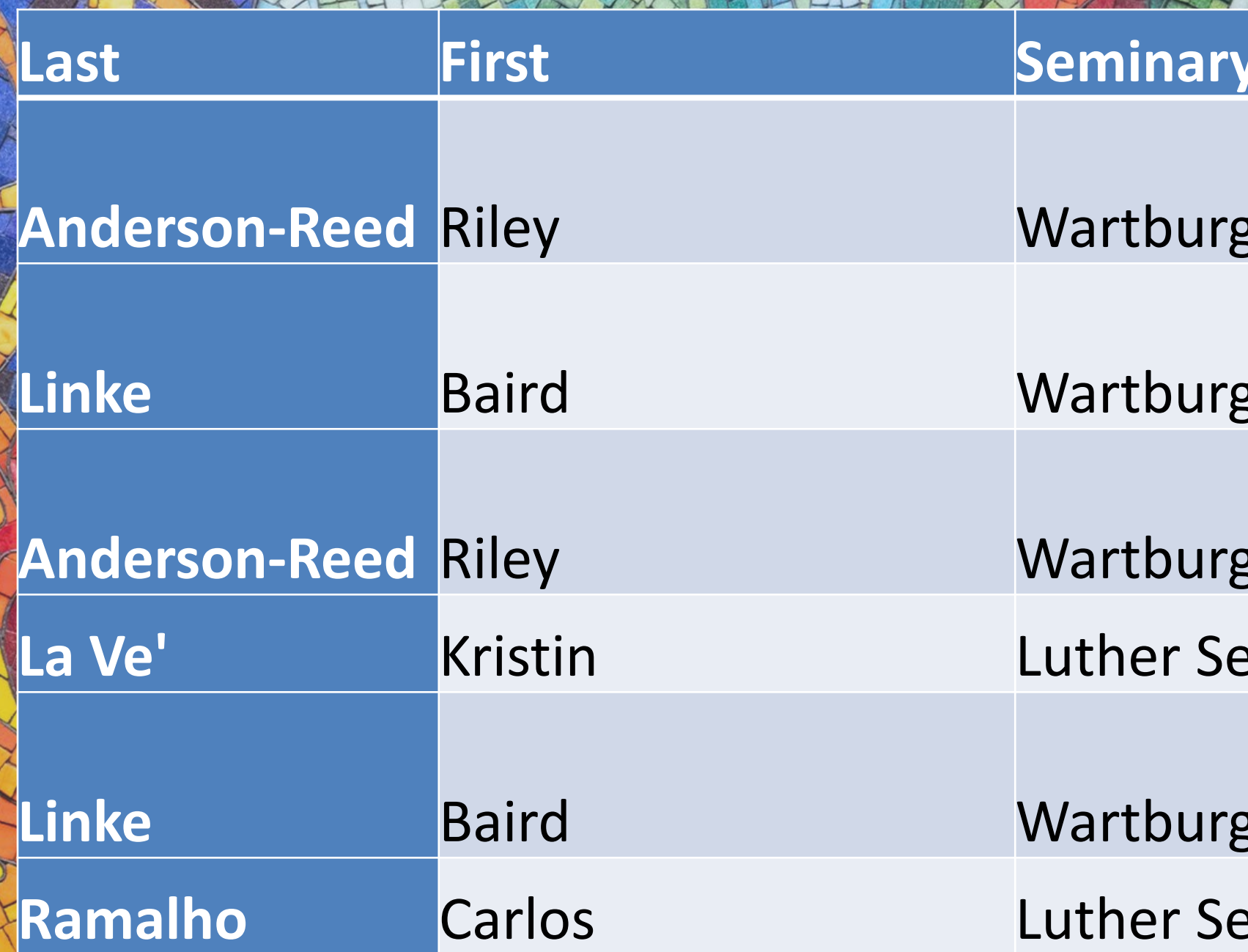


286 ELCA World Hunger grants were provided internationally to support the work of companion churches, organizations, and ecumenical partners in 66 countries with a total international expenditure of over \$14.5 million.

167 ELCA *Domestic Hunger Grants*, 4 *Big Dream Grants*, and 36 *Daily Bread Matching Grants* were awarded across 63 synods, with a total award amount of over \$1.25 million.

In 2022, Domestic Hunger and Big Dream Grant partners in your synod include:

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church

A colorful mosaic artwork is positioned on the left side of the page, partially behind the table. It features abstract shapes in shades of blue, yellow, orange, and red, with some circular motifs. The mosaic appears to be made of small tiles or stones.

Last	First	Seminary
Anderson-Reed	Riley	Wartburg Theological Seminary
Linke	Baird	Wartburg Theological Seminary
Anderson-Reed	Riley	Wartburg Theological Seminary
La Ve'	Kristin	Luther Seminary
Linke	Baird	Wartburg Theological Seminary
Ramalho	Carlos	Luther Seminary

FUND FOR
LEADERS

A special thanks goes to...

- Loni Taylor , service on Churchwide Council and Exec. Committee
- Marjorie Fiedler, CWA Reference & Counsel Committee
- Rev. Thomas P. Schlotterback, Portico Benefits Board of Directors
- Kyle A. Pasewark, Taskforce on Civics and Faith
- Mary Campbell, Program Director for AMMPARO





MISSIONARIES

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson serving in Tanzania

Gustavo Driau serving as Regional Representative for Bolivia

Pastor Bradn Buerkle serving in Russia

Pastor Kyle and Anna Svennungsen serving in Slovakia

Anne and Willie Langdji serving as Regional Representatives in Sierra Leone, Senegal, The Gambia, Central African Republic and Cameroon, and an institution in Ghana

Rev. Aaron J. Decker serving in Bolivia

Pastor Philip & Lou-Marie Knutson serving as Regional Representatives for South Africa

ELCA Foundation –
Regional Gift Planner
–

Beth Adams
beth.adams@elca.org





SYNOD BISHOP



The Rev. Dr. Laurie Jungling

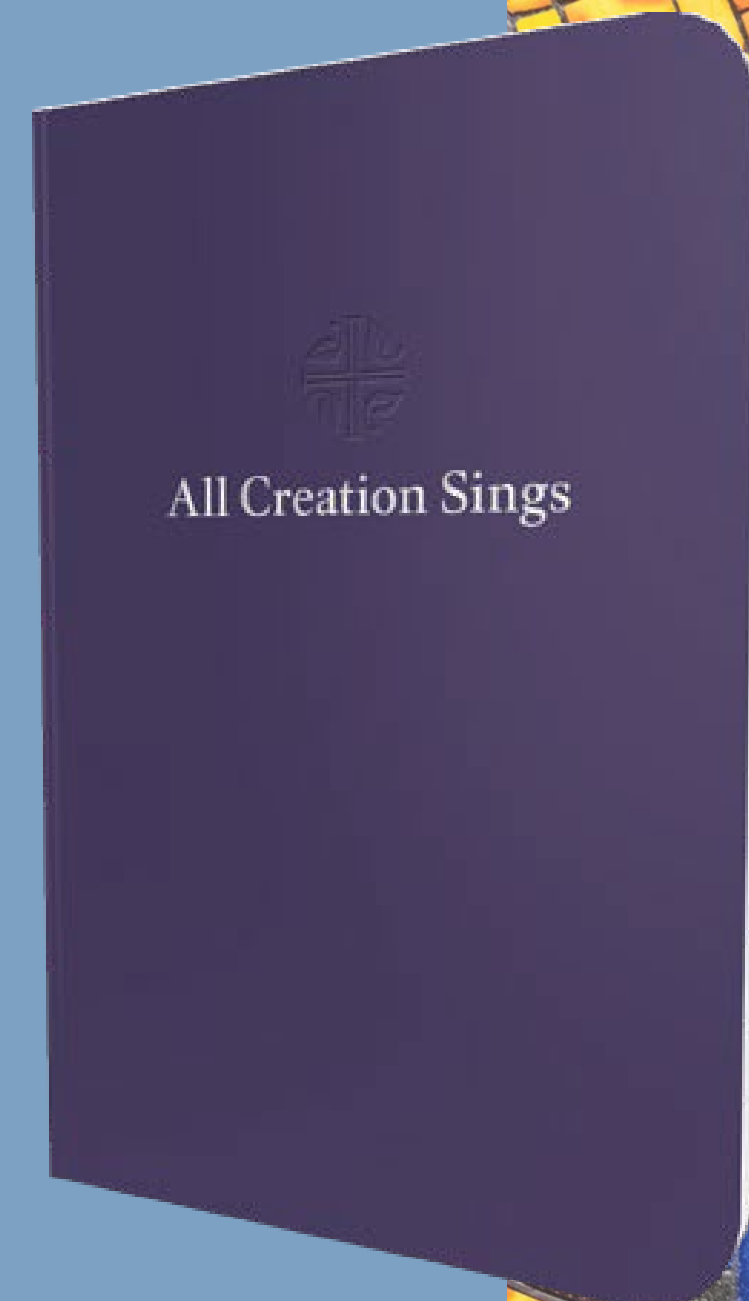
Chair of the Theological & Ethical
Concerns Committee CoB

All Creation Sings

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement

- Two liturgies of Holy Communion with new musical settings
- A Service of Word and Prayer designed especially for contemplative worship
- More than seventy-five new prayers and liturgical forms for diverse occasions and circumstances
- Approximately 200 hymns and songs, many of them newly created over the last fifteen years, supporting the church year and a wide range of topics

Hand in hand with *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, this invites us to expand our prayer and song, joining our voices with the praise, and sighs, of the whole creation God so marvelously made.



Embody The Word

2022 ELCA CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

August 8-12, 2022
Columbus, Ohio

[ELCA.org/CWA](https://elca.org/CWA)





ROSTERED MINISTERS GATHERING

Rekindle the Gift Within You

JULY 17-20, 2023
PHOENIX, AZ



[ELCA.org/RMG](https://elca.org/RMG)

2024 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

New Orleans

Gathering – July 16-20, 2024
MYLE & the tAble – July 13-16, 2024

[ELCA.org/YouthGathering](https://elca.org/YouthGathering)





THANK YOU!

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TEXT

TITLE