

Supporting Those Who Serve

Now More Than Ever

Portico Benefit Services is a holistic benefits ministry serving those who serve — from rostered ministers and their families to staff at social ministry organizations. We strive to help our members grow their overall well-being.

We could not have predicted this pandemic. But the virtual benefits we've introduced before and after its arrival, the benefit adjustments we've made since, our successful navigation of volatile financial markets, and the consistency of our customer service have made a powerful difference.

During this pandemic, ELCA benefits are helping to lower stress levels, create safer access to health care, and increase financial flexibility — all to strengthen the resilience of those who serve and, by extension, the resilience of this church.



The Rev. Jeff Thiemann
President & CEO

Building Resilience in 2020

26%

More Calls to Our Financial Planners

During last year's market volatility and our introduction of target date funds.

559

Took a Penalty-Free Distribution

Thanks to quick modification of our retirement plan rules for 2020.

49

Sought Student Loan Help

Through no-cost counseling via our partner, LSS of Minnesota Financial Counseling.

3,230

Medical Visits Via Text

Through 98point6, our new virtual 24/7 primary health care service — with \$0 copay.

98%

Satisfaction With New Mental Health Option

Our self-directed online program, Learn to Live.

10%

Of Members Streamed a Course

On topics like resilience, mindfulness, and beating burnout via Being, our new wellness video platform.

90%

Very Satisfied

With our Customer Care service — delivered by Portico employees working remotely.

22

Target Date Funds Introduced

To help members maintain an age-appropriate asset mix over time — and better weather volatility.

3.1%

Annuity Payment Increase

Received, in these difficult times, by ELCA annuitants during 2021.

So You Can Embrace Every Day

PORTICO®
Benefit Services | A Ministry of the ELCA

We are a church that takes care of each other. Portico Benefit Services is proud to continue a 200+ year Lutheran legacy of caring for those who serve, from pastors and their families to staff at social ministry organizations. As the ELCA's benefit ministry, seeing the diverse needs of our national church community drives us to innovate: to control health care costs and increase total well-being, to help plan members retire with confidence, to advocate on behalf of church organizations, and to serve more people well.

At Portico, we're inspired daily by those who commit to a life of service, and we're grateful to walk alongside our plan members — providing benefits designed to help you embrace every day.



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President & CEO

Church Benefits Making a Difference

65%

Members Preparing for the Future*

by making their own pretax retirement contributions during 2019 in addition to the contributions from their sponsoring organization.

10,648

Pounds Lost*

by ELCA-Primary health plan members since 2018, when we added a chronic condition management program by Omada® to help reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes and heart disease.

1,728

New Members Welcomed

to Portico's benefit plans in 2019 when we added three ELCA social ministry organizations.

3

Pro-Church Bills

enacted into federal law in 2019 thanks to Portico working alongside other denominations to advocate for legislation favorable to church benefit plans.

605

Members Made the Leap

into retirement in 2019. Over 80% of ELCA retirees report feeling financially prepared for this next chapter of their lives. Well done!

65%

Members Being Proactive

with their health by using ELCA-Primary preventive services in 2019.

70%

Members With Diabetes See Improvement

in their ability to manage their condition due to participation in our Livongo® Diabetes Management program.

1,297

Additional Students

attending schools in low-income Midwestern communities thanks in part to a social purpose fund investment.

96%

Users Satisfied*

or very satisfied with their experience on Portico's member and employer websites.