

2019 Mission Spending Plan Narrative

Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod

What does a synod do? The primary role of a synod is to foster the life and health of congregations by tending to leaders, especially when there is a pastoral transition. But synods do a great deal more. They steward mission support dollars to be used effectively to care for the good of the whole church including camps, college outreach, social ministries, ecumenical relations and the support for the ELCA in general. They provide resources to support church administrations; plan and present special worship opportunities; and serve as a clearing house for a wide range of resources.

In 2019, through your **generous support of \$1,799,460, we will:**



Prepare 32 New Leaders – \$322,308 (18%)

Including 3 Deacons, to serve here and all over the country with support of candidates and seminarians, First Call education, counseling, and guidance.

Support Congregations in Myriad Ways – \$620,430 (34%)

Guiding the call process, offering financial assistance for programs and administration, supporting racial equity efforts, organizing youth ministry events. More than a dozen congregations will be in pastoral transition in 2019 alone.



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**Mission Beyond
the Synod –
\$54,818 (3%)**



A METRO D.C. SYNOD INITIATIVE

- Staff Support for Building Puentes with Puerto Rico (a new ministry with those in need on the island)
- Ecumenical partners as advocates for justice in Washington D.C., Richmond, and Annapolis
- Gifts of Hope and Lutheran Gift Planners who help congregations encourage bequests
- Support formal relationships with Lutheran churches in Slovakia, Namibia and El Salvador

ELCA Partnership – \$649,186 (36%)



35% of income and 10% of all staff time (\$77,533) is shared with the ELCA.

This includes everything the national church does and supports in the US and around the world.

Synod Operations – \$152,718 (8%)

A percentage of our expenses goes to provide the space, equipment, and tools that allow our staff to support the overall work of the synod. This also includes the Synod Assembly.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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