



BOLD & BOUNDLESS

Love

Dear Members of The Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod and Friends,

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “The Christian is called upon not to be like a thermometer conforming to the temperature of [their] society, but [they] must be like a thermostat serving to transform the temperature of [their] society.” Today, I invite you to join me in becoming that thermostat—to set a new liberating, transformative, temperature in our synod for the sake of a fractured world in need of bold and boundless love.

A Lasting Inheritance

Starting in January 2025, we are seeking to fund two critical initiatives that will shape our synod for generations to come. This is not just a financial goal; it’s a commitment to bold, unapologetic action in response to the Gospel’s demands for justice.

Why Your Support Matters

Gospel-Driven Justice: Your contribution directly responds to Jesus’ invitation to make justice core to our curriculum of faith.

Transformational Change: We aim to create a church where every voice is valued, every story is honored, and every child of God participates in setting a new “temperature” aligned with Christ’s imperative.

Lasting Impact: Your gift will create a lasting inheritance that ensures the faithful continuation, growth, and strengthening of mission and ministry here, in The Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod.

How Your Donation Will Be Used

Your financial gift will be split equally between two crucial funds:



LOCAL MINISTRY FUND
Growing the Kin-dom of God in Metro D.C.

- Transformational Leadership Support
- Race, Gender, and Climate Justice Ministries
- Cultural Competency for Life and Ministry
- Funding for sabbath mini-grants, stewardship grants, coaching grants, and grants that support new and creative initiatives for growth, vitality, and evangelism



RACIAL EQUITY FUND

- Accompanying Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) rostered leaders by supporting equitable compensation and benefits
- Provide essential continuing education, training, and professional enrichment
- Co-create culturally competent sacred spaces that are welcoming of all of God’s people
- Funding worship and musical resources that will reflect cultural diversity

How to Give

While more information will be shared in the coming months, gifts can be made today to help shape a more just and equitable church for generations to come. Will you join me in responding to the Spirit's bold and audacious invitation?

- **Online:** Visit the “give” page on our website at <https://metrocelca.org/give/> to make a secure donation through Thith.ly. Choose “Bishop’s Appeal” from the dropdown menu.
- **Check:** Make checks payable to “Metropolitan Washington DC Synod - ELCA” with “Bishop’s Appeal” in the memo line mailed to:

Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod
4005 Wisconsin Ave NW
P.O. Box 39105
Washington, D.C. 20016-9997

Every contribution, regardless of size, brings us closer to our goal. Together, we can co-create the groundwork for a church that truly embodies the gospel of Jesus Christ; one that insists upon life abundant for all...with God's help and in Jesus' name.

En Cristo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leila M. Ortiz', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Rev. Leila M. Ortiz, Bishop
The Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod of the ELCA