



Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin

A Partnership of ELCA Ministries Serving Wisconsin

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The ELCA Foundation is Your Foundation

The ELCA Foundation is your private foundation that exists to help all members of the church practice good stewardship of their assets. It is a pass through foundation cultivating gifts for ministry and providing a full range of gift planning services and gift vehicles. It is part of the newly formed Mission Advancement Unit of the ELCA. The Director of the ELCA Foundation is Annette Shoemaker who is actively working with the Mission Advancement Unit Executive, Christina Jackson-Skelton, to build our foundation to be a premier foundation among all charitable foundations in the country.

The way the ELCA Foundation delivers its services in Wisconsin is through a consortium of: congregations, ELCA institutions, agencies and Synods. That consortium is known as **Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin** (LPGW). LPGW is led by: Jeff Bluhm (CEO Lutherdale, Elkhorn, WI) President; Rev. Jim Bickel (Outreach for Hope, Greater Milwaukee Synod) Vice President; Cynthia Halverson (Lutheran Social Services) Treasurer; Timothy Knutson and Rev. Larry Westfield as the Regional Gift Planners.

Giving through accumulated, inherited and appreciated resources may be called “asset stewardship.” A Christian is called out of the water and word of baptism to respond generously to others. As the people of God, just as we are encouraged to give proportionately for the Lord’s work from our income annually, we are encouraged to give proportionately from our accumulated resources to make a lifetime gift through a will, trust or gift vehicle available through the ELCA Foundation.

It is a goal of LPGW that an increasing number of our ELCA members make decisions that include ministries of the ELCA in their estate distribution plan. The ultimate goal of this planned giving ministry to make planned giving part of the culture of the ELCA and considered part of individual stewardship.

Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin is prepared to assist in establishing endowments and work with endowment committees to grow congregational endowments.

It is a pleasure to serve as your ELCA Foundation representative and assist you and your congregation with Gift planning services.

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