



Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin

A Partnership of ELCA Ministries Serving Wisconsin

The ELCA Foundation is Your Foundation

The ELCA Foundation is your private foundation that holds no portion of any legacy gift for its own operations. Funding for the ELCA Foundation is from mission share dollars and through fees charged for the management of endowment and other assets. The ELCA Foundation delivers services in Wisconsin through a consortium of ELCA institutions, agencies and this synod. That consortium is known as **Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin (LPGW)**. LPGW is led by: David Keller (CEO Luther Manor, Milwaukee) President; Inga Gerber (Bethel Homes and Services, Viroqua) Vice President; Kathryn Nichols (Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh, Oshkosh) Treasurer; and The Rev. Larry Westfield as the Regional Gift Planner.

In the year 2012, LPGW assisted individuals in contributing \$1.25 million dollars in irrevocable gifts to congregations, synods, institutions, agencies and churchwide ministries of the ELCA. Irrevocable gifts developed by LPGW since its inception in 2001 total more than \$12 million. Revocable gifts represent the largest portion of the work done through LPGW and is evidenced when people remember their church and its ministries with a bequest. 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.

LPGW encourages every congregation to establish a Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) as a plan to encourage good stewardship during life and at its close. LPGW is ready to assist in creating and growing the MEF with the education and assistance needed for people to make planned gifts for the benefit of God's work. Endowment assets invested with the Endowment Pooled Trust Fund of the ELCA help build the whole church. Every congregation with endowment assets is asked to pray and consider using this fund for its investment. The investment costs are an all-inclusive 1% per year and in the year 2012 the fund returned 15.6%. The professional team of managers at Portico and sub advisors service as advisors for the investment of Endowment Pooled Trust Fund assets. A growing number of congregations are using this investment tool and by doing so help provide the gift planning services available free of charge to each congregation through LPGW.

Please pray and consider leaving your own legacy of faith for those who follow after you through a bequest to congregations, synods, institutions and agencies of the ELCA as well as our churchwide ministries.

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

Rev. Larry Westfield

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