Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin
A Partnership of ELCA Ministries Serving Wisconsin
Rev. Larry G. Westfield
2909 Landmark Place Suite 202
Madison, WI 53713
Telephone: 262-224-9574
E-mail: larry.westfield@elca.org

2015 Report to the Greater Milwaukee Synod

Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin (LPGW) was created in 2001 to be of service to you. Individuals have the services of a planned giving councilor at no cost or obligation. Congregations have the print and human resources to create and carry out a planned giving program in the congregation as part of stewardship education ministry.

LPGW is supported by the ELCA Foundation. The ELCA Foundation serves as our private foundation providing gift vehicles and resources to all ELCA Synods, congregations, institutions and agencies. The ELCA Foundation is primarily funded by revenue generated as a result of money management. Our ELCA Foundation is private and captures no portion of anyone’s gift for its own operations. All gifts cultivated by the Regional Gift Planner and flowing through the ELCA Foundation goes to support the mission of the ELCA ministry the donor chooses.

In the past year LPGW has worked with 21 congregations helping them establish endowments, grow and invest endowments as well as provide education on the topic of planned gifts. A growing number of congregations are receiving legacy gifts that are transformational to ministry. It is encouraged that each congregation engage in planned giving education toward the goal of helping 100% of our ELCA members have an up-to-date estate plan in place before maturing to glory.

Congregations are the largest beneficiaries of legacy gifts. Money received by congregations through the distribution of estate assets has been steadily increasing. It is important that congregations offer education and the opportunity for individuals to pray and consider a legacy gift. The congregation is then responsible to use those legacy gifts entrusted to them to carry forward God’s work. It is encouraged that each congregation receiving a bequest make a 10% distribution to the synod endowment to expand the work of the whole church. Further, congregations are asked to make the synod endowment a beneficiary of a percentage of the Mission Endowment annual distribution.

Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin is prepared to assist you in becoming a good steward of all that God has entrusted to your care both during life and beyond. Call or email for more information.

Rev. Larry Westfield is the Regional Gift Planner of the ELCA Foundation and the director of LPGW. You may reach him by phone 262-224-9574, or by email larry.westfield@elca.org.