Did you know that ELCA members in more than 8,900 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately $1.7 billion in regular offerings annually to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide? When members give through their congregations, about 5.5% of that money is shared with the local synod, which then shares a portion with the national churchwide office. This unrestricted giving from congregations is called Mission Support. Mission Support gives the ELCA both the foundation and the fuel to do God’s work in the world locally, nationally and internationally. Thank you for your faithful support!

YOUR MISSION SUPPORT HELPS FUND THE FOLLOWING CHURCHWIDE MINISTRIES:

- **Plant and support** hundreds of new congregations.
- **Enable congregations** to **renew** their ministries and **reach out** to their surrounding communities.
- **Develop and share** resources for faith, discipleship, prayer, stewardship and worship.
- **Work together** with our African-descent, American Indian, Alaska Native, Arab, Middle Eastern, Asian, Pacific Islander and Latino/Latina leaders and members.
- **Invest** in technology and communication.
- **Grow and sustain** financial resources.
- **Engage** in research and strategic planning.
• As a member of the Lutheran World Federation, the ELCA is in communion with 147 other churches.

• ELCA synods relate directly to 65 companion churches through a total of 127 official relationships.

• The ELCA accompanies new Lutheran churches, expands ministries and trains leaders and evangelists.

• The ELCA sends missionaries — including Young Adults in Global Mission — who are the hands and feet of Jesus around the world.

• The ELCA addresses social issues and works for justice.

• Prepare and implement a system for recruitment and assignment of rostered ministers.

• Identify and provide ministry resources and opportunities to lay leaders for networking.

• Offer events and leadership opportunities for youth and young adults.

• Support the work of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 ELCA colleges and universities.

• Provide coordination and support for churchwide ministries.

• Provide governance and leadership.

• Sustain ecumenical and interfaith relations.

Thank you for your ongoing support! For additional resources, go to ELCA.org/SOFIA.