Northern Great Lakes Synod
Endowment Ministry Distribution 2025

Unrestricted Assets to determine distribution:
Average Market Value 2021-2025 is $486,325.36

$2,000 Website Development and Maintenance
This distribution will help support the additional financial burden on Mission Support dollars.

$2,000 Lifelong Faith Formation
We look forward to another year of engagement unhampered by geography or weather. Funds support teachers, the administrator, and underwrites any required expenses.

$3,000 Bay College Campus Ministry
All our Tri-County Conference congregations support this ecumenical ministry. A part-time campus pastor serves and receives very modest funding. This disbursement helps make a Christian presence on campus possible.

$3,000 Synod Council Retreat
As the Synod Council seeks to lead our Synod into the future, a time of reflection, discernment, visioning, and prayer is appropriate. This disbursement makes this important work possible.

$14,000 Leadership Support
This disbursement makes the following opportunities more affordable for congregations and leaders alike: Fall Theological Conference, Clergy Women's Retreat, Boundaries Education, and dedicated support for our Licensed Lay Ministers and Supervisors.

$2,000 Synod Youth Coordinator
To support our synod's efforts toward collaborative youth ministry.

$2,500 U.P. Wild Church – Mission Development
Begun in 2019, this ministry effort is in collaboration with the Episcopal Diocese and supported in part by a grant from the ELCA. Begun as a holy experiment in the Marquette County area, additional ministries now include five more communities.

$2,000 Justice Advocacy
This disbursement will provide financial support for our synod's efforts around Racial Equity, Cultural Competency, Welcome and Inclusion, Darkness to Light training, and building relationships with our Tribal neighbors.

$2,000 Endowment Ministry Project Expenses
This year will see a continuation of the Seed Sowers luncheon which celebrates people who have or who are interested in including an ELCA ministry in their estate plan or will.

$1,500 Future Tanzania Visits by the Bishop's Assistant.
It is anticipated that the Assistant to the Bishop will visit our Companion Synod in Tanzania in the next few years. Putting a portion of Endowment distributions aside for this purpose reduces the impact of future expense.

Total 2025 Distribution: $34,000
(7% distribution of assets)

Thank you for your gifts to the
Equipping the Saints Endowment Ministry of the NGLS!

Northern Great Lakes Synod
Endowment Ministry Distribution – Restricted 2025

Restricted Assets: $2,669,868 (December 31, 2025, balance)
ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust & Thrivent Charitable

$69,800 Seminarian Scholarships
Preparing the next generation of pastoral leaders is an important part of the Synod's work. Students from synod congregations benefit from our various endowments. Our Synod stands as one of the most generous Synod in the ELCA in the support of seminarians.

$7,775 Tanzania Scholarships
Restricted giving by donors has made it possible to support members of the Church in Tanzania pursue their learning at the Kisarawe Lutheran Junior Seminary and higher education at Tumaini University in Tanzania.

$16,250 Rural Ministry
Restricted giving by donors makes it possible to support our Synod work. Programs throughout our Synod benefit from this gift including seminary candidacy, outreach and leadership support.

$12,464 St. Mark's, Marquette Legacy Endowment Fund
Distributions from this fund, which was created following the closure of the congregation, supports the ministries of Fortune Lake Camp, ELCA Seminaries/Seminarians, Synod Restricted Mission Support, and Room at the Inn/Warming Center.

$14,868 Clergy Debt Relief Fund
This newest Endowment Fund was begun through the generous bequest of Norman Lamberg. Annual grants are made to rostered persons who have incurred debt while in seminary seeking their first theological degree.

$6,763 Bishop Thomas and Luanne Skrenes Fund for Ministry
Annual distributions from this Endowment Fund support the clergy of our Synod through debt retirement, as well as ministries with our Companion Synod, the Eastern & Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

2025 Total Distribution from Restricted Funds - $127,920

2025 Total Distribution: $161,920

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD