

# CLERGY DEBT RELIEF

WORDS OF THANKS FROM CLERGY OF THE NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD



IN 2019, NORMAN LAMBERG, IN CONVERSATION WITH BISHOP EMERITUS DALE SKOGMAN, MADE A SUBSTANTIAL GIFT TO MINISTRY IN THE NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD. A \$200,000 PORTION OF THAT GIFT WAS DESIGNATED FOR THE RELIEF OF DEBT INCURRED BY NGLS ROSTERED LEADERS AS THEY PURSUED THEIR FIRST THEOLOGICAL DEGREE. AN ANNUAL DISBURSEMENT OF THIS FUND PROVIDES FOR GRANTS FOR CLERGY TO REDUCE THEIR DEBT LOAD. EVERY YEAR, CLERGY ARE INVITED TO MAKE A REQUEST. FUNDS ARE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE LENDING INSTITUTION.



donate online



"Such a generous gift will allow me to continue to chip away at my student loan."

**Rev. John Ansell of United, L'Anse**

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"Thank you so much for your contribution. Over the last 4 years it has helped a ton in paying off an extra loan that I had to take out to finish seminary. It isn't just the monetary contribution but the fact that you all have been so thoughtful to support clergy in this way that means a lot."

**Rev. Christina Forsythe of Beaver American, Pound & Porterfield, Porterfield**

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"The shadow of student loans ever looms over the life of a called pastor. Lessening that gloom by *any* amount adds light back into my life of serving!"

**Rev. Brenda Greenwald of St. Stephen's, Stephenson & Gethsemane, Wallace**

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"Thank you very much for this gift. It seems like I have been making this student loan payment forever. I feel greatly blessed and appreciated to be included in this generous offer at this time."

**Rev. Lloyd Leo Luedeman of Grace, Pembine**

"Your generosity gives me extra peace of mind and comfort in knowing that this debt isn't solely on my shoulders, but I am cared for and nurtured by the church that will walk with me together on this repayment journey."

**Rev. Tommy Richter of Zion, Manistique**

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"This gracious gift is appreciated warmly, knowing that there is assistance out there to help relieve this financial burden. God provides, and through this gift, it allows me to continue focusing on the mission that has called me to this pastoral position in the first place. Thank you."

**Rev. Soren Schmidt of Holy Trinity, Chassell**

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"This wonderful gift is another step to secure financial future for my family!"

**Rev. David Tielbar of Zion, St. Ignace & Trinity, Brevort**

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"Thank you for partnering with me to pay back my seminary student loan debt. I just celebrated my 18th year in ordained ministry and my debt load is a constant economic hardship - especially as I am aware of my need to prepare for my 2 daughters' college and my retirement. It means a lot to me that the Northern Great Lakes Synod recognizes financial burden of seminary student loan debt *and* responds to the need. Thank you!"

**Rev. Kari Vadis of Trinity, Rhinelander**