



**Eastern Synod**  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

# Our Ministry Story 2016

**THE EASTERN SYNOD** is an expression of the church that links the ELCIC, ministry areas and congregations. The Synod exists to enable us to do things together that we are not able to achieve on our own.

This is the story of how we plan to fulfill that purpose in 2016. The gifts of money that you and your congregation contribute through your benevolence offerings will be invested in ministries that carry out our mission priorities. The more generous the giving, the more we can accomplish—together.

## CAPABLE LEADERS: \$962,000 (36%)

The largest share of the budget will be invested in developing leaders who will provide vision and energy to meet the challenges of ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With your help, we will:

- ◆ **CONTRIBUTE** to Waterloo Lutheran Seminary's theological formation of lay and ordained leaders with monthly grants
- ◆ **SUSTAIN** outdoor ministry and leadership development for children, youth and adults at our church camps in Nova Scotia and Ontario
- ◆ **CREATE** opportunities for youth and young adults to grow in faith and action, at national and synodical youth gatherings
- ◆ **NURTURE AND GUIDE** candidates through the process leading to ordained and diaconal ministry
- ◆ **PROVIDE** continuing education programs for lay and clergy leaders through the Dubrick Summer Institute for Ministry

## EFFECTIVE MISSION PARTNERSHIPS: \$619,000 (23%)

As a synod we know we can't do everything by ourselves; we need **PARTNERSHIPS** with other organizations to maximize our effectiveness. Our major partner is our national church, the ELCIC, which coordinates global mission, ecumenical efforts and ministry rosters. When we provide a substantial grant to the national church, the ELCIC's partners become our own, including:

In addition, we will maintain formal relationships with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, for mutual learning and assistance.

- ◆ Canadian Lutheran World Relief
- ◆ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- ◆ Anglican Church of Canada
- ◆ Kairos: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives
- ◆ and other ecumenical partners



## VIBRANT LOCAL MINISTRIES: \$760,000 (29%)

Most local ministry is carried out by congregations, organized into ministry areas. Bishop Pryse, along with his assistants, area deans and ministry directors, will continue to devote the largest proportion of their time to supporting congregational ministry. With your support, in 2016 they will:

- ◆ **NURTURE** newer congregations and emerging faith communities (such as thirdspace community in Waterloo)
- ◆ **HELP** congregations find pastors well matched to the needs of their specific situation
- ◆ **ENCOURAGE** local community outreach through new program grants for creative mission projects

- ◆ **LEAD** discussions with congregations interested in collaborating in new forms of ministry
- ◆ **MEDIATE** when congregations are in conflict or crisis
- ◆ **TRAIN** members of Area Ministry Teams
- ◆ **PROVIDE** workshops and practical resource materials for congregational leaders

Local ministry includes creative ways to link congregations with students on post-secondary campuses in Halifax, Montreal, two sites in Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, Guelph, Waterloo, and London.

## FOCUSED FRAMEWORK: \$324,000 (12%)

All ministry requires infrastructure to be effective. We will continue to provide a framework that enables effective ministry while focusing resources where they do the most good. With your help, in 2016 we will:

- ◆ **COMMUNICATE** via the synod website, social media, videos and the Eastern Synod Lutheran and the Leaders' Edition newsletters

- ◆ **MANAGE** the affairs of the synod through Synod Assembly, Synod Council, standing committees and task forces
- ◆ **CONTINUE** to provide good service from the Synod office

**With God's help and your generous offerings in 2016, we can continue to be a church *In Mission for Others*.**

**Total Eastern Synod Budget: \$2,665,000**



To see detailed financial information, visit [easternsynod.org](http://easternsynod.org), click on the orange "Treasurers/Financial Info" button on the home page and scroll to the "Eastern Synod Budget and Audited Financial Statements" section.