

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Financial statements
December 31, 2019



Independent auditor's report

To the Bishop and Directors of the
Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the **Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada** [the "Synod"], which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2019, and the statement of operations, statement of fund balances and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Synod as at December 31, 2019 and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Synod in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of management for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Synod's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Synod or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.



As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Synod's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Synod's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Synod to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Waterloo, Canada
May 21, 2020

Ernst & Young LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants



Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
 Incorporated by Act of Parliament

Statement of financial position

As at December 31

	Operating fund \$	Special purpose fund \$	2019 Total \$	2018 Total \$
	<i>[note 2]</i>			
Assets				
Current				
Cash	1,112,030	(216,605)	895,425	711,414
Miscellaneous receivables and prepaid expenses	405,311	7,028	412,339	387,375
Due from Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada ["ELFEC"] <i>[note 8]</i>	—	738,203	738,203	300,253
Current portion of loans receivable <i>[note 4]</i>	—	237,500	237,500	255,200
ELFEC Managed Fund <i>[note 3]</i>	—	—	—	237,260
Total current assets	1,517,341	766,126	2,283,467	1,891,502
Long-term portion of loans receivable <i>[note 4]</i>	—	—	—	237,500
Capital assets, net <i>[note 5]</i>	—	759,659	759,659	701,830
	1,517,341	1,525,785	3,043,126	2,830,832
Liabilities and fund balances				
Current				
Accounts payable	191,797	—	191,797	195,268
Due to ELFEC <i>[note 8]</i>	—	604,034	604,034	34,465
Total current liabilities	191,797	604,034	795,831	229,733
Post-retirement benefits obligation <i>[note 6]</i>	1,075,146	—	1,075,146	1,046,993
Total liabilities	1,266,943	604,034	1,870,977	1,276,726
Fund balances				
Invested in capital assets	—	759,659	759,659	701,830
Externally restricted	—	156,850	156,850	24,504
Internally restricted	—	5,242	5,242	286,859
Operating fund	250,398	—	250,398	540,913
Total fund balances	250,398	921,751	1,172,149	1,554,106
	1,517,341	1,525,785	3,043,126	2,830,832

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the Board:

Director

Director

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Statement of operations

Year ended December 31

	Operating fund \$	Special purpose fund \$	2019 Total \$	2018 Total \$
Revenue				
Total offerings of member congregations <i>[schedule 1]</i>	1,430,418	291,150	1,721,568	1,711,467
Program support from other sources	269,734	—	269,734	196,661
Support for ministries and administrative <i>[note 8[a]]</i>	116,349	—	116,349	202,376
Donations, bequests and other receipts <i>[note 11]</i>	197,747	449,859	647,606	1,836,994
Grants from ELFEC <i>[note 8[b]]</i>	190,000	738,203	928,203	943,003
Allocated interest and other investment income	13,020	24,725	37,745	10,884
	2,217,268	1,503,937	3,721,205	4,901,385
Expenses				
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada	398,700	—	398,700	394,800
Martin Luther University College	316,000	—	316,000	316,000
Synodical programmatic committees	337,793	294,145	631,938	669,241
Other ministries and administration	967,944	135,327	1,103,271	1,290,550
Disbursements for special purpose fund projects <i>[note 8[c]]</i>	379,648	801,201	1,180,849	1,689,214
Disbursements of special purpose congregational offerings <i>[note 11]</i>	—	291,150	291,150	318,152
Post-retirement benefits <i>[note 6]</i>	37,000	—	37,000	35,900
Lutheran Campus Ministry Local Council	10,559	—	10,559	6,663
Amortization of capital assets <i>[note 5]</i>	—	69,195	69,195	59,868
	2,447,644	1,591,018	4,038,662	4,780,388
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	(230,376)	(87,081)	(317,457)	120,997

See accompanying notes

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Statement of fund balances

Year ended December 31

	Operating fund \$	Internally restricted fund \$	Externally restricted fund \$	2019 Total \$	2018 Total \$
Fund balances, beginning of year	540,913	988,689	24,504	1,554,106	1,404,309
Reallocation of unrestricted funds <i>[note 7]</i>	4,361	(4,361)	—	—	—
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	(230,376)	(219,427)	132,346	(317,457)	120,997
Adjustment to post-employment benefits <i>[note 6]</i>	(64,500)	—	—	(64,500)	28,800
Fund balances, end of year	250,398	764,901	156,850	1,172,149	1,554,106

See accompanying notes

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Statement of cash flows

Year ended December 31

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Operating activities		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	(317,457)	120,997
Add (deduct) items not involving current payment of cash		
Amortization of capital assets	69,195	59,868
Accretion of implicit interest on loans receivable <i>[note 4]</i>	(7,300)	(7,050)
Post-retirement benefits expense <i>[note 6]</i>	37,000	35,900
Gain on disposal of capital assets <i>[note 5]</i>	—	(725,605)
Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations <i>[note 10]</i>	103,184	(349,391)
Post-retirement benefits plan funding <i>[note 6]</i>	(73,347)	(68,249)
Cash used in operating activities	(188,725)	(933,530)
Investing activities		
Purchase of capital assets <i>[note 5]</i>	(127,024)	(47,362)
Proceeds from disposal of capital assets	—	843,584
Decrease in investments	237,260	328,412
Decrease (increase) in loans receivable	262,500	(250,000)
Cash provided by investing activities	372,736	874,634
Net increase (decrease) in cash during the year	184,011	(58,896)
Cash, beginning of year	711,414	770,310
Cash, end of year	895,425	711,414

See accompanying notes

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

1. Purpose of the Synod

The purpose of the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada [the "Synod"] is to facilitate and advance the mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime provinces. The Synod is a registered charity under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) and is exempt from income taxes.

2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Part III of the *CPA Canada Handbook – Accounting*, "Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Corporations," which sets out generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations in Canada and includes the significant accounting policies described hereafter.

Fund accounting

The accounts of the Synod are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting, a procedure by which resources for various purposes are classified in accordance with activities or objectives as specified by donors or limitations imposed by the Synod Council. For financial reporting purposes, the Synod has combined funds with similar characteristics into two major fund groups as follows:

[i] Operating

This fund accounts for amounts received, amounts expended and funds available to be spent on the general operations and administration of the Synod.

[ii] Special purpose

This fund accounts for donations, grants, bequests and other income received, and amounts expended and amounts available to be spent for certain restricted purposes as dictated by the donor or appropriated by the Synod. In some cases, only the income from these funds may be expended and the principal amount must be permanently endowed.

Revenue and expense recognition

The Synod follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions. Donations and grants are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate restricted fund. Contributions for endowment are recognized as revenue of the externally restricted fund.

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization of capital assets is provided on a straight-line basis over the following periods:

Office furniture and equipment	3–5 years
Office building	25 years
Vehicles	3–4 years
Delton Glebe Counselling Centre property	25 years
Lutherlyn assets	10–25 years
Camp Mush-a-Mush assets	10–25 years

Financial instruments

The Synod initially records a financial instrument at its fair value, except for a related party transaction, which is recorded at the carrying amount. Subsequently, the Synod measures all financial assets, which include cash, miscellaneous receivables and amounts due from ELFEC, and all financial liabilities at amortized cost. Loans receivable are subsequently carried at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method and the interest rate implied in the fair value determination.

As at each balance sheet date, the Synod assesses whether there are any indications that a financial asset measured at amortized cost may be impaired. If there is an indication of impairment, the Synod determines if a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows from the asset. If there is a significant adverse change, then the Synod reduces the carrying amount of the asset to the highest of the following:

- the present value of the cash flows expected to be generated by holding the asset, discounted using a current market rate of interest appropriate to the asset;
- the amount that could be realized by selling the asset as at the balance sheet dates; and
- the amount the Synod expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral held to secure repayment of the asset, net of all costs necessary to exercise those rights.

A previously recognized impairment loss is reversed to the extent that the improvement can be related to an event occurring after the impairment was recognized.

It is management's opinion that the Synod is not exposed to significant interest rate risk or currency risk arising from its financial instruments.

The Synod is subject to credit risk with respect to its miscellaneous receivables, loans receivable and amounts due from ELFEC. The maximum credit risk is the fair value of these receivables.

Post-retirement benefits

The Synod provides extended health care benefits to certain retired pastors, diaconal ministers, clergy and their spouses after retirement.

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

The post-retirement benefit obligation is actuarially determined using the projected benefit method prorated on services. This method involves the use of the market interest rate at the measurement date on high-quality debt instruments at the discount rate and management's best estimates regarding assumptions about retirement age, termination rates, mortality rates and expected health care costs.

3. Investments

The ELFEC Managed Fund was established in 2016 to hold funds to be used towards the Synod's commitment to Martin Luther University College's ["Luther"] [previously known as Waterloo Lutheran Seminary] capital fundraising campaign [note 9]. During 2019, \$250,000 was withdrawn by the Synod to fund a capital campaign contribution. The fund was then closed as its original purpose had been fulfilled. The fund is recorded at market value of nil [2018 – \$237,260].

4. Loans receivable

Loans receivable consist of the following:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Loan receivable from non-interest-bearing loans	—	250,000
Loan receivable from interest-bearing loan	237,500	250,000
Less reduction in carrying value to recognize interest implied in the face value	—	7,300
Net carrying value	237,500	492,700
Less current portion	237,500	255,200
	—	237,500

During 2018, a loan of \$250,000 was advanced to AONATION at an interest rate of 4.99%. Interest is paid monthly. Repayment of \$12,500 of principal was received as due in November 2019 with the remaining balance due in October 2020. The loan is secured by a second mortgage against the related property.

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

5. Capital assets

[a] Capital assets consist of the following:

	2019		
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
	\$	\$	\$
Office furniture and equipment	67,926	40,650	27,276
Office building	729,744	501,590	228,154
Vehicles	29,019	13,059	15,960
Delton Glebe Counselling Centre property	217,621	32,850	184,771
Lutherlyn assets	288,270	131,690	156,580
Camp Mush-a-Mush assets	236,639	89,721	146,918
	1,569,219	809,560	759,659

	2018		
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
	\$	\$	\$
Office furniture and equipment	59,730	35,506	24,224
Office building	676,673	472,755	203,918
Vehicles	29,019	4,353	24,666
Delton Glebe Counselling Centre property	217,621	27,732	189,889
Lutherlyn assets	256,695	122,240	134,455
Camp Mush-a-Mush assets	202,457	77,779	124,678
	1,442,195	740,365	701,830

[b] The change in the net book value of capital assets is due to the following:

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	701,830	832,315
Purchase of capital assets	127,024	47,362
Sale of Edgewood property	—	(117,979)
Amortization of capital assets	(69,195)	(59,868)
Balance, end of year	759,659	701,830

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

The Synod currently owns the following properties: Bear Lake, Ontario; Toronto, Ontario [Christ]; Elliot Lake, Ontario [Faith] and cemeteries in Shantz Station, Ontario [previously owned by Trinity] and Riverside Heights, Ontario [previously owned by St. John's]. These properties were all acquired in previous years for a nominal amount.

During 2013, the Synod repurposed the Lutheran Campus Ministry property to house the Delton Glebe Counselling Centre. Included in the Delton Glebe Counselling Centre assets is land carried at \$94,116 [2018 – \$94,116], which is not subject to amortization.

Subsequent to the 2019 year-end, the Synod sold the cemetery of Trinity Shantz Station.

Included in the Lutherlyn assets is land carried at \$48,549 [2018 – \$48,549], which is not subject to amortization.

Included in the Camp Mush-a-Mush assets is land carried at \$76,680 [2018 – \$76,680], which is not subject to amortization.

The Delton Glebe Counselling Centre property, Lutherlyn assets, and Camp Mush-a-Mush assets are held for leasing purposes.

6. Post-retirement benefits

The Synod provides extended health care benefits to certain retired pastors, diaconal ministers, clergy and their spouses after retirement if the retirees attain the age of 65 prior to January 1, 2013 and meet certain eligibility requirements.

The Synod retained the services of Morneau Shepell Ltd., a third-party firm, to perform a valuation of post-employment benefits as at January 1, 2017. The Synod measures its accrued benefit obligation for accounting purposes as at December 31 of each year. The Synod does not have any assets specifically designated to cover the accrued benefit obligation.

Information about the Synod's post-retirement benefits plan as at December 31 is as follows:

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Accrued benefit obligation, beginning of year	1,046,993	1,108,142
Interest cost	37,000	35,900
Actuarial revaluation	64,500	(28,800)
Benefits paid	(73,347)	(68,249)
Accrued benefit obligation, end of year	1,075,146	1,046,993

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

The significant actuarial assumptions adopted in measuring the Synod's post-retirement benefits obligation and benefits cost are as follows:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Discount rate	3.00%	3.70%
Health care cost trend rate	6.00%	6.00%
Ultimate health care cost trend rate	4.00%	4.00%
Ultimate trend rate reached in year	2026	2026

7. Interfund transfer

In 2019, internally restricted funds of \$4,361 [2018 – \$64,821] were reclassified to unrestricted. This change is reflected on the statement of fund balances. The change in 2019 represents investment income earned by a temporary fund managed by ELFEC. The change in 2018 was due to the return of unused funds from Edgewood Camp and Conference Centre that the Synod granted to Edgewood from its unrestricted funds in previous years, internally restricting these funds for redevelopment purposes. The income generated from the unrestricted fund is used to support Synod operations.

8. Related party transactions

The Synod is related to the ELFEC, a foundation whose directors are elected by the Synod Council and ELFEC directors. The ELFEC is a registered charity that supports and furthers the life, work and mission of the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, its congregations and affiliated institutions, and other faith-based organizations with similar purposes by encouraging generous giving, prudently investing assets entrusted to it and granting money to Lutheran charities that respond creatively and effectively to God's call to ministry.

The following is a summary of transactions during the year:

- [a] The Synod provides use of its facilities and administrative services to the ELFEC, for which it receives a fee of \$13,300 [2018 – \$13,300] annually under the terms of the office facilities agreement. This amount is included in support for ministries and administrative revenue on the statement of operations.
- [b] The Synod receives grants from the ELFEC as approved by the Board of Directors. Total grants to the Synod for the year were \$928,203 [2018 – \$943,003].
- [c] During the year, the Synod transferred to the ELFEC \$379,648 from the operating fund [2018 – \$94,132] and \$247,586 from the special purpose fund [2018 – \$887,214] of the funds received from donors, which were designated for investment purposes and are included in disbursements for special purpose fund projects on the statement of operations.

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

Amounts due from/to ELFEC are as follows:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Due from ELFEC	738,203	300,253
Due to ELFEC	<u>(604,034)</u>	<u>(34,465)</u>

9. Controlled entities

The Synod controls Lutheran Homes Kitchener-Waterloo ["LHKW"] and Luther.

The purpose of LHKW is to provide and operate non-profit residential accommodation and facilities incidental thereto, exclusively for persons of low/modest income, senior citizens of low/modest income, and disabled persons of low/modest income. LHKW is a registered charity, incorporated under the laws of Ontario and exempt from income taxes under section 149 of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada). The Synod Bishop appoints one individual to LHKW's Board of Directors and the Directors and Synod Council appoint the remaining directors.

Luther is an institution of the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, federated with Wilfrid Laurier University. The purpose of Luther is to provide for the scholarly study of the Christian faith, especially in its Lutheran understanding, and for the education of persons in and for Christian ministry, especially in the Lutheran Church and the Canadian context. Luther is a registered charity under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) and exempt from income taxes. The Synod Council appoints members to Luther's Board of Governors according to the terms determined by Luther. Luther's property, both real and personal, is held by the Board of Governors in trust for and under the guidance of the Synod.

None of the controlled entities have been consolidated in these financial statements. The restrictions on the resources of the controlled entities are represented by the identification of separate funds in those entities [capital funds, internally and externally restricted funds, and trust and endowment funds]. Summarized information from the most recent audited financial statements of these non-consolidated entities is as follows:

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

	2019	
	LHKW	Luther
	\$	\$
Financial position		
Total assets	32,750,638	20,243,393
Total liabilities	24,187,181	5,136,709
Total net assets	8,563,457	15,106,684
Results of operations		
Total revenue	14,630,096	3,786,498
Total expenses	13,774,963	3,460,272
Investment income	—	684,931
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	855,133	1,011,157
Cash flows		
Cash provided by operating activities	1,559,131	1,127,392
Cash used in investing activities	(1,244,873)	(1,289,922)
Cash provided by financing activities	603,544	28,701
Net increase (decrease) in cash during the year	917,802	(133,829)
	2018	
	LHKW	Luther
	\$	\$
Financial position		
Total assets	31,744,690	18,351,959
Total liabilities	24,042,524	4,387,759
Total net assets	7,702,166	13,964,200
Results of operations		
Total revenue	15,397,586	3,601,170
Total expenses	14,389,277	2,732,144
Investment income	—	265,105
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	1,008,309	1,134,131
Cash flows		
Cash provided by operating activities	1,627,553	851,069
Cash used in investing activities	(189,303)	(4,969,562)
Cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(1,218,537)	4,484,542
Net increase in cash during the year	219,713	366,049

Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Notes to financial statements

December 31, 2019

The financial statements for Luther are prepared as at April 30, 2019. In the eight-month period ended December 31, 2019, there have been no events or transactions out of the ordinary that would significantly impact the Synod's financial position or results of operations.

During 2016, the Synod committed \$1,000,000 to Luther's capital fundraising campaign for major renovations and upgrading of its existing facility with payments of \$250,000 to be made in each of 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020. The 2017, 2018 and 2019 payments were made on schedule. The payment in 2020, to be made from the unrestricted fund, was contingent on Luther repaying the \$250,000 interest-free loan to the Synod, which it did during 2019.

10. Statement of cash flows

The net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations consists of the following:

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Decrease (increase) in miscellaneous receivables, prepaid expenses and accrued interest	(24,964)	59,989
Net change in amounts due from/to ELFEC	131,618	(386,730)
Decrease in accounts payable	(3,471)	(22,650)
	103,183	(349,391)

11. Non-recurring receipts

In 2019, the Synod received significant non-recurring donations from estates totalling \$175,000 for the special purpose fund and \$195,397 for the operating fund. These receipts are recorded in donations, bequests and other receipts on the statement of operations.

In 2018, the Synod received significant non-recurring donations from estates totalling \$763,892 for the operating fund and \$924,868 [gross proceeds] from the sale of properties, which are recorded in donations, bequests and other receipts on the statement of operations in the special purpose fund.

12. Subsequent event

Subsequent to year-end, the outbreak of the Coronavirus disease ("COVID-19") has resulted in governments worldwide enacting emergency measures to combat the spread of the virus. These measures, which include the implementation of travel bans, self-imposed quarantine periods and social distancing, have caused material disruption to businesses globally resulting in an economic slowdown. The duration and impact of the COVID-19 outbreak is unknown at this time, nor is the efficacy of the government and central bank monetary and fiscal interventions designed to stabilize economic conditions. As a result, it is not possible to reliably estimate the length and severity of these developments nor the impact on the financial position and financial results of the Synod in future periods.

Schedule of offerings

Year ended December 31

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Offerings for Synod programs		
Regular benevolence	1,430,418	1,393,315
Offerings for special purposes		
Canadian Lutheran World Relief	236,471	244,372
Lutheran Campus Ministry	4,585	1,553
Martin Luther University College	19,790	27,654
Synod camps	10,720	9,947
Praise appeal	2,775	3,263
Global missions	9,028	9,412
Reformation challenge	115	16,418
Other	7,666	5,533
Total offerings for special purposes	291,150	318,152
Total offerings of member congregations	1,721,568	1,711,467

This schedule excludes offerings in the amount of \$36,485 [2018 – \$57,620] that were remitted for designated synodical ministries that are already included in donations, bequests and other receipts in the statement of operations.