



Report of 2022 Synodical Offerings

This report provides a pre-audit summary of offerings for various church-wide causes that were remitted to the synod office by congregations and individuals throughout 2022. In next month's report, "The Synod's 2022 Financial Story", I will provide a more comprehensive financial picture of the past year, including operating fund details (e.g. income, expenditures on synodical ministries and the resulting surplus/deficit), as well as other financial highlights.

Total offerings of approximately \$1.6 million that were remitted to the Synod for all causes remained virtually unchanged from the amount that was received in 2021. There were, however, increases and decreases for some specific designated causes.

On behalf of the Eastern Synod Council, **"Thank You"** to you, the members and friends of the 173 congregations that comprise our synod, for your generous gifts over the past year. Through this partnership, you fund a variety of vibrant and vital ministries within the Eastern Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, thus extending the reach of your congregation's mission across Canada and the world. Once again, in 2022 it was clearly evident that as a synod, we have so much for which to be grateful!

Benevolence Offerings

General Benevolence offerings represent the primary source of funding for the synod's operating budget. In 2022 these offerings decreased by almost \$70,000, representing a 5% decline compared to 2021. Although benevolence offerings have declined by almost 14% during the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020, this is understandable given the financial challenges that a number of our congregations are currently facing. We are grateful that the decline hasn't been steeper. Thank you for your generosity!

Canadian Lutheran World Relief Offerings

Offerings to Canadian Lutheran World Relief offering consist of gifts to general/undesignated CLWR and donations to CWLR special appeals/projects.

Although giving to CLWR’s general/undesignated fund decreased by \$15,000 (9%) in 2022 compared to 2021, this decrease was more than offset by an overwhelming increase to designated causes. In total, \$155,000 was donated to special appeals, more than triple the amount for the previous year, primarily attributable to a most generous \$135,000 response to the Ukraine Appeal.

Offerings to Other Eastern Synod and ELCIC Ministries

2022 remittances to other designated ministries were generally lower as compared to the previous year (refer to “Summary of Total Offerings Received” section below for details).

Summary of Total Offerings Received

Given to various designated causes was as follows:

	2021	2022	% Change
Regular Benevolence	\$1,303,252	\$1,234,019	-5%
CLWR Undesignated	\$165,648	\$150,281	-9%
CLWR Special Appeals	\$47,010	\$155,214	230%
CLWR - Total	\$212,658	\$305,495	44%
ELCIC Global Mission	\$12,536	\$6,052	-52%
ELCIC Other	\$470	\$3,417	627%
Outdoor Ministry	\$4,643	\$9,626	107%
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$2,295	\$500	-78%
Martin Luther Univ College	\$18,600	\$8,565	-54%
Other Misc Designated Gifts	\$47,248	\$31,653	-33%
TOTAL	\$1,601,702	\$1,599,327	0%

A detailed listing, [2022 Congregational Remittance Report](#) showing amounts that were remitted by each congregation to each of these causes is posted on the synod web site. Should you notice any discrepancies between this report and your congregational records, please contact Terra Fegan (Email: tfegan@elcic.ca Phone: 519.743.1461; Toll Free: 1.877.373.5242, Ext 217).

May God continue to bless the all of the church-wide ministries that are made possible through our offerings to these most worthy causes!

Keith Myra

Eastern Synod Treasurer