



# Upper Susquehanna Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

*United as Christ's Disciples, we Support one another; and Serve God in the World*

We Are Church Together 2020

Your invitation to make a statement of intent for Mission Support



Since the ELCA was formed in 1988, it has been one church body with three interdependent expressions — congregations, synods and the churchwide organization. We enable and support each other to grow in faith and to put our faith into action. We believe that together we achieve things on a scale that we could never do otherwise.

While the congregation is our home base, we are each connected to the work of the wider church as well. One connection is the portion of our regular offerings shared with our respective synods and our churchwide ministries as Mission Support. These dollars represent an investment in tools, resources and new ideas that help us share our living faith, spread the good news of Jesus Christ and make a difference in the lives of others. Whether starting new congregations or revitalizing older ones, sending missionaries to our companion synods or supporting the work of our seven seminaries and 26 colleges, Mission Support reflects our common commitment to one another. You can find stories about our work together in “Stories of Faith in Action” magazine or at [ELCA.org/SOFIA](http://ELCA.org/SOFIA).

As we grow in faith together, we respond more creatively and effectively to both ministry opportunities and urgent situations around the world. In this way we affirm our Lutheran identity and strengthen our witness to the gospel. Within the body of Christ, we are church together, active in more than 10,000 ministries around the world.

Thank you for your faithful commitment to our work together. Together we are making a difference!

## Your congregation's plan for Mission Support 2020

**As your congregation prepares a spending plan for 2020, please reflect on the following in making your decisions**

- In what ways do you see your congregation growing in faith and putting your faith into action?
- How are your actions connected to the efforts of the synod and churchwide organization in being church together?
- How do your Mission Support dollars grow as God continues to bless your congregation?
- In what ways have you responded creatively to both the ministry opportunities and urgent situations facing your congregation, community and beyond?
- As a church unified in Jesus Christ, how is your congregation ready to courageously explore with others the complexities, tensions and ambiguities of a changing world?

As you discuss your Mission Support commitment for the coming year, please consider how your offerings provide both the foundation and the fuel to do God's work in the world. Together we can have a greater impact in your community and beyond while exemplifying for others how such an interdependent relation can serve others and share God's abundance.

To learn more about how God is changing lives through the ELCA, visit [LivingLutheran.org](http://LivingLutheran.org).

\* Mission Support is the portion of regular offerings that your congregation shares for synodical and churchwide ministries for God's mission beyond the local congregation. For specific information about the ELCA churchwide budget, visit [ELCA.org/resources/financial](http://ELCA.org/resources/financial).

# Congregational Statement of Intent for 2020 Mission Support of Synod and Churchwide Ministries

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*As you discuss your mission support commitment, please consider what portion of your congregation's weekly offerings will be faithfully shared with synod and churchwide ministries. Growing this each year models and encourages a growth in household giving. The Upper Susquehanna Synod has committed to giving 46.2% of undesignated mission support receipts to support churchwide ministries in 2020.*

**Congregation Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Congregation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

*This is a  
revised form*

**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

As a sign of our partnership in the Gospel, we give a portion of congregational offerings as **Mission Support** for synod and churchwide ministries of the ELCA beyond our congregation. Our congregational commitment for 2020 is as follows (*please check the applicable circle, and indicate amount*):

This stated amount, as budgeted by our congregation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

A stated percentage of \_\_\_\_\_% of budget, projected to be: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Only what is designated, but based on prior years, estimated to be: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We plan to remit this offering (*check one*):       monthly       quarterly  
 annually in this month: \_\_\_\_\_

✓ Our 2020 Total Annual Expense Budget is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

✓ Our projected offerings for 2020 are: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please return this completed form **by JANUARY 15, 2020** to:

Upper Susquehanna Synod, ELCA  
P. O. Box 36  
Lewisburg, PA 17837-0036  
info@uss-elca.org

**Thank you for your partnership in Christ's mission and for your generous support!**