

West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod, ELCA
% St. Paul Lutheran Church
309 Baldwin Street
Morgantown, WV 26505

Mission Support Request for Calendar Year 2021

Brothers & Sisters,

Acting upon recommendation of the Synod Finance Committee,

That the Synod Council asks congregations who are not yet giving 9.39% of their total congregational giving to the Synod to increase their giving to this level; while asking congregations who are at, or exceeding, this level to not decrease their nominal contribution,

Synod Council on 26 August 2020, in special meeting, adopted the 2021 Mission Support Formula. The Synod Finance Committee, in its report, explained its rationale:

This is the number, and the wording, the Finance Committee agreed to after reviewing different methods of projecting future total congregational giving. This is a decrease from our request last year, but not because total congregational giving is going up, but because our spending is projected to go down.

For comparison sake, the 2020 Mission Support Formula asked

- congregations below a mission support remission level of 10.83% to increase to 10.83% of unrestricted offering income and
- congregations at or above 10.83% to maintain mission support remission at their current level.

We recognize the challenges that are faced by congregations across the synod. We'd like to hear, though, the specifics of your congregation's challenges.

Once your congregational meeting adopts its budget, please complete the Mission Support Pledge Form for Calendar Year 2021. You may do this by completing the downloadable form and mailing it in to the synod office, or you may use the online form on the synod website.

If you would like a consultation prior to your congregational meeting, please contact me at Bishop@WV-WMD.org or 304-680-5388.

Blessing upon your continued work on the frontlines of ministry. May the Gospel have free course.

In Christ's Service,

The Rt. Rev. Matthew Lynn Riegel, S.T.M.