

West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod, ELCA  
412 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 3  
Fairmont, WV 26554

## Mission Support Request for Calendar Year 2020

Brothers & Sisters,

Following the instruction of the 2018 Synod Assembly, the 2019 Synod Assembly focused upon the fiscal position of the synod. Nine workshops were offered on the synod budget, our keynote speaker explored the mission support patterns of our synod in comparison with the larger church, and most of the morning of the second day was occupied by a committee of the whole working on the budget proposal. In the end, the budgeted draw on unrestricted savings was eliminated and the remaining budget deficit falls to Synod Council to engage in cost cutting measures. This was accomplished by sizeable cuts to various budget lines and a further reduction to the proportional share level with the Churchwide Expression of the ELCA. If you have not talked to your Synod Assembly attendees, I recommend that you do so.

In the meantime, the Mission Support Request for Calendar Year 2020 is still before us. Synod Council, at its September 21 meeting adopted the following request for mission support in 2020.

- Congregations below a mission support remission level of 10.83% of unrestricted offering income are asked to increase to 10.83%.
- Congregations at or above 10.83% of unrestricted offering income are asked 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 2020. 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](mailto: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.

Congregational Mission Support Pledge for 2020

*Please complete and remit to the synod office by either mail or email following your annual congregational meeting. If your congregational meeting will not be held by 31 December 2019, please let the synod office know.*

Congregation ID: # \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

*A pledge can be made on the basis of "proportional share" (a percentage of unrestricted offering income, e.g., 12%) or on the basis of a nominal dollar amount (e.g., \$15,000). Please indicate which your congregation prefers to do and provide figures.*

Nominal amount:

Our congregation pledges to remit as mission support \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in 2020.

**OR**

Proportional Share:

Our congregation pledges to remit as mission support \_\_\_\_\_% of our unrestricted offering receipts. We estimate our unrestricted offering receipts for 2020 at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ with \$ \_\_\_\_\_ being remitted as mission support.

*It is helpful for synodical budgeting to know the anticipated frequency with which mission support remission will be remitted. Please indicate.*

We plan to make mission support remittances...

Monthly |  Quarterly |  Semi-annually |  Annually

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle one: Pastor | President | Veep | Treasurer | Secretary)

***Saved by grace, assembled in faith, we journey to make Christ known.***