



Grand Canyon Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

March 4, 2021

Dear Faithful Stewards of the Grand Canyon Synod,

WE GOT SOME GOOD NEWS LAST WEEK. When Director of Finance Clint Wasser closed the books on our 2020-2021 fiscal year, he discovered congregational giving was 16% over promised gifts. This can only mean one thing—God does amazing things through you!

Faithful mission support from all of our congregations created this abundance. Thank you.

Because of you:

- We were able to launch Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Arizona (LAMA), which is fully engaged in issues of hunger and providing support to older adults in their community.
- We offered additional support to even more seminary students.
- We honored all our commitments to our shared missions and ministries: Lutheran Social Services of Nevada, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, four campus ministries, just to give a few examples.
- We continued to share half of our received mission support with the Churchwide Office of the ELCA, which assists our national and global ministries. (Fun fact: a part of our churchwide support comes back to our synod through the ministry of our Director of Evangelical Mission, Pastor Miguel Gomez-Acosta.)
- We went above and beyond in responding to a need of the Mexican Lutheran Church, our companion church. Last year, they requested help to repair the parsonage outside Mexico City. Damaged by multiple earthquakes, the pastor and his family were unable to live in the house. In partnership with the Northeast Ohio Synod and Churchwide, our synod contributed \$15,000 towards the repairs. Ministry can now continue in this location.

Because of you, all this and so much more was made manifest. Because of your faithfulness and generosity, new possibilities were created. Because of you, we are equipped to communicate Jesus and connect the people of the Grand Canyon Synod.

Thank you for your continued generosity in 2021-2022, so we can be church together, better together for the sake of the gospel.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Deborah K. Hutterer
Bishop

Rev. Miguel F. Gomez-Acosta
Director for Evangelical Mission