



**South-Central Synod of Wisconsin  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

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Dear Siblings in Christ,

We are church together. In fact, our South-Central Synod of Wisconsin is church together expressed as 138 unique communities who gather more than 17,800 people together for worship. We are church together as we live and work amid 1.26 million neighbors in 13 counties. We are church together as we connect with 64 other synods that make up the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are church together as the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, and enlightens us for the sake of ministry and mission in our neighborhood and throughout our world.

As the church together we have much to celebrate. Today, I celebrate and give thanks for you and for your congregation. You have been called for this time and for this place. You make a difference. Your ministries and the gifts you share make a difference. The love of Jesus that you share out into the world makes a difference.

I also give thanks for the ongoing generosity you share with the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin. Because we are church together, we are partners in making those gifts extend our outreach across county, state and country lines. Because we are church together, we respond to feed the hunger, shelter the homeless and address needs that occur near and far. We are a church together that acts to serve a world in need. We can do this because of your congregation's faith and financial generosity.

I would also ask you to prayerfully consider the generosity you are able to extend this year. Your gifts make a difference. They impact real people near to home and far from home. Your gifts help share the love of Jesus Christ as we are church together. As you prayerfully consider your gift, we have included several pieces of information:

- A Statement of Intent, providing information about our work together and a form in which you can indicate to us the level of support your congregation plans to share with the work of the wider church.
- A Remittance Form. It helps us if you make copies, fill out and send in each time you send a check of support. It helps us track not only your core mission support, but also identify specific causes you support as well.
- Finally, good financial stewardship includes attending to the careful handling of financial matters, so we look for a Certification of Audit of Financial Records to be returned, assuring you and us alike that the monies people give in their offerings are being handled properly.

It is an honor to be church together with you. May the God of peace and love be with you,

*Joy Mortensen-Wiebe*

Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe

*Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV) - Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever.*