

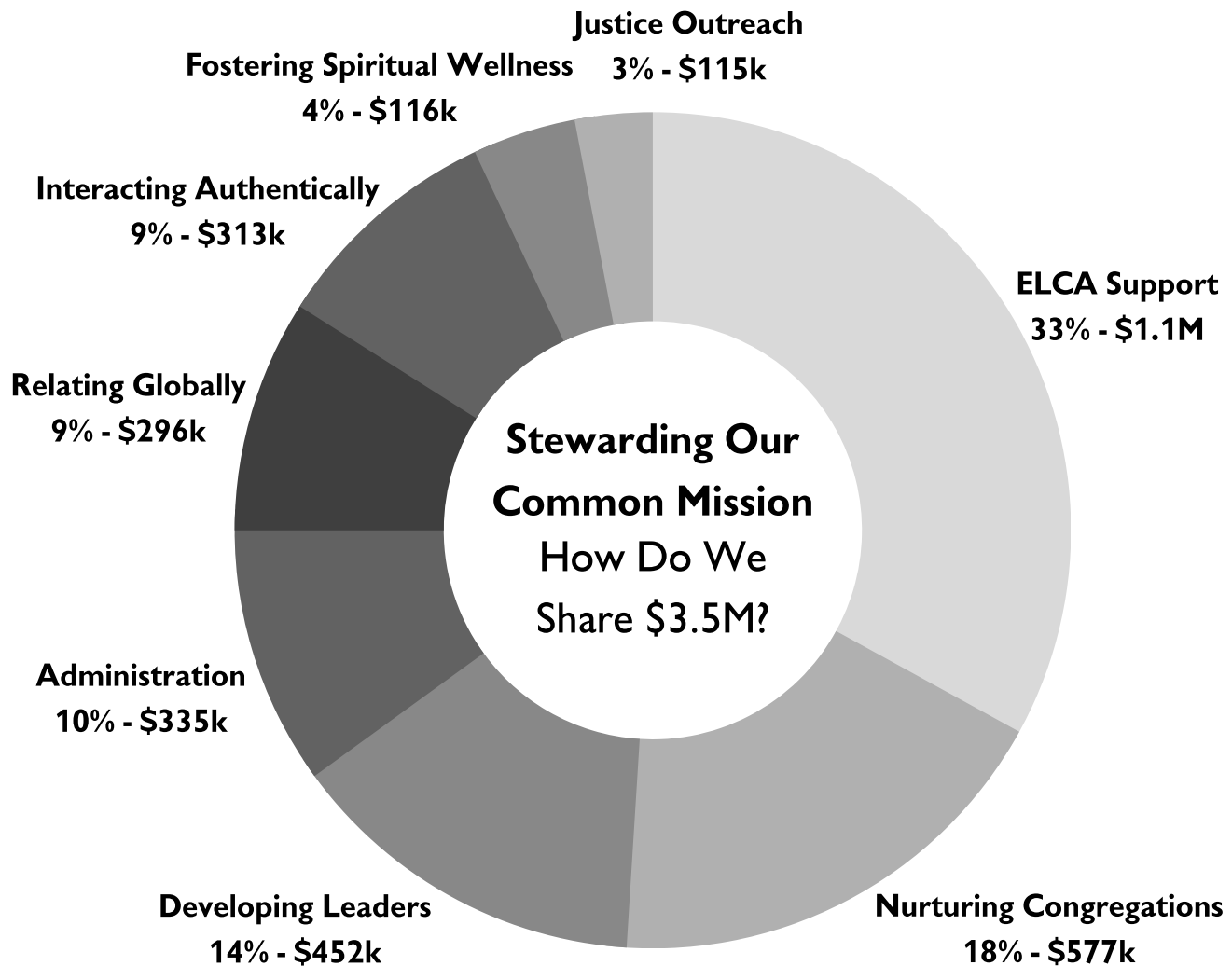


# LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD

THIS IS CHRIST'S CHURCH. THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU HERE.

## 2022 Mission Snapshot

*The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.*  
- Ephesians 1:23 (The Message)



**2022 LSS Grants Awarded to Congregations  
& Ministries in the Synod = \$171K**



## DEVELOPING LEADERS

We are committed to equipping leaders who understand, practice, and live the Gospel. Our called leadership includes 414 Rostered Ministers, of which 220 are retired. Additionally, ministry with children, youth and their families has long been a priority in our synod.

- We make comprehensive stewardship coaching available through trained coaches and programs like Building a Culture of Generosity.
- We provide resources, events, and consult with congregations as they accompany young people who are growing into disciples of Christ in today's world.
- We prepare and accompany leaders of all ages in their discernment of church vocations, including pastor and deacon candidacy, first call and mobility processes.



## FOSTERING SPIRITUAL WELLNESS

We are committed to encouraging individuals and congregations to discover deeper connections with Jesus Christ, to find renewed inspiration and purpose in the Cross, and to become faithful disciples of Christ by:

- Offering spiritual wellness programs, like Soul Care, Soul Feast and other spiritual practices via online and in-person workshops and retreats.
- Curate wellness, medical benefit, and financial resources that support the overall health of our leaders.
- Offer trauma and resilience workshops that address the current realities of our leaders.

## INTERACTING AUTHENTICALLY

We seek to align our actions with our Christian values. Practicing what we preach, in other words. We promote Gospel-centered hospitality and encourage loving, Christian relationships by:

- Providing quarterly mandatory Racial Justice and RIC/LGBTQIA+ Affirming training for congregation teams and rostered leaders.
- Offering Mental Health First Aid and Disability Ministry training.



## CARING FOR CONGREGATIONS

We help churches more fully participate in the mission of Christ's church and connect more deeply with the communities and individuals they serve. As part of Region 8, we are one of the largest of the 65 synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America organized into 13 conferences, and have 227 congregations and worshiping communities.

- We walk with congregations in their call process for new rostered ministers.
- Programs like Hybrid Church, R3, and Congregation Vitality Training provide new models for congregation life together and help us nurture deeper connections with God, one another, and the world.

## GROWING JUSTICE OUTREACH

Living out our commitment to care for all people regardless of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, cultural differences, or socio-economic status, we seek justice for all by:

- Elevating the issue of homelessness at local, regional and national levels.
- Training our synod's decision-making administrative body in the areas of Racial Justice, LGBTQIA+, Immigration, and Disability Accompaniment, including Synod Staff, Synod Council, Candidacy Committee, Conference Deans, Seminarians, youth and young adult leaders, camp and social service agency staff.
- Creating systems of intentional support and community for LGBTQIA+ youth and young adults.



## BUILDING GLOBAL RELATIONSHIPS

As one of the top World Hunger financial supporters in the ELCA, we work zealously to address poverty, hunger and food insecurity, fight disease, strengthen communities and spread the word of the Gospel around the world.

- We partner with the Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and Tree4Hope in Guatemala.
- We support Lutheran World Relief and sponsor international missionaries.