



Michigan District Annual Report

For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

God's work never stops. In 2020, the District's mission to vigorously make known the love of Christ didn't halt due to the pandemic. When church doors had to be temporarily closed, worship went online. When people couldn't go to compassion ministries for their basic needs, the ministries went out to them. Flexibility and adaptation became the norm.

Healthy Congregations/Healthy Workers

During the pandemic, the District helped churches transition to online (recorded) and livestream worship by providing resources such as phone and Zoom consultations with our staff videographer; How-To videos and podcasts on how to livestream; and a listing of congregations offering online worship. We also created videos based on The Hymnal Project, adding lyrics to facilitate singing via livestream. These videos blessed many congregations not only in our District but in other states and even around the world. A website page with pandemic resources was created to

help congregations and schools navigate the social, educational, and legal environment during state lockdowns. Two congregations applied and received technology grants to purchase equipment for livestreaming services, and five others completed the process for a new website through the District's Digital Footprint Initiative (DFI).

When racial tensions erupted in an already difficult year, the District worked to find ways to address the situation. We produced a sermon series and a Bible study that were widely publicized through our communications avenues. All of the turmoil took a heavy toll on church workers, and the District sought to provide support by means of podcasts on mental health, as well as reminding workers of the availability of our Mental Health Case Manager.



Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier
President



Rev. Evan Gaertner and the team at Our Shepherd, Birmingham record a worship service during the pandemic.

Great Commission and Great Compassion

Although some ministries had to shift in delivery, people with physical and spiritual needs were still served! Gospel and tangible ministries included Elli's House, Detroit (street ministry), Franklin Avenue Mission, Flint (food), Family of God, Detroit (food/street ministry), St. Paul Community, Pontiac (food pantry, parish nurse assistance), Bethany, Detroit (food bank), and Gifts For All God's Children, Rochester Hills (tutoring via Zoom). When the dam broke near Midland, ministries and congregations such as Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT); Messiah, Midland; St. John's, Midland; Peace, Saginaw; Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Twp.; and Trinity, Utica mobilized to help flood victims. In May of 2020, the District also installed Megan Schultz, Family Life Minister at Large to Detroit to help local congregations strengthen their family ministries.

God's ministry doesn't stop, just as His grace towards us doesn't end. Thanks be to God!

Rev. David P. E. Maier

Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier

President, Michigan District, LCMS



Bethany, Detroit hosts a food bank twice a month.

Summary of Financial Activities

For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2021

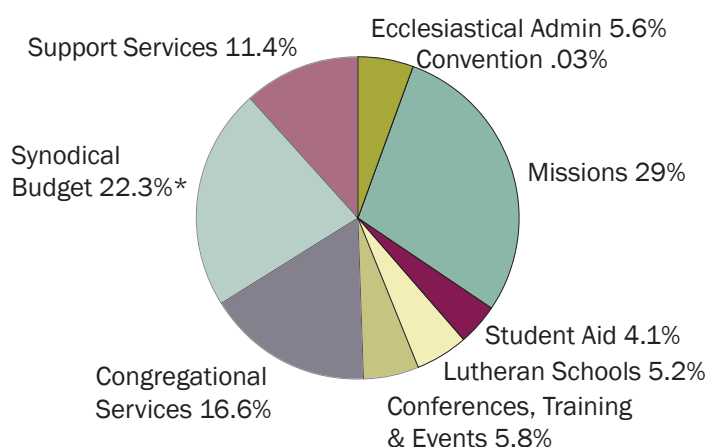
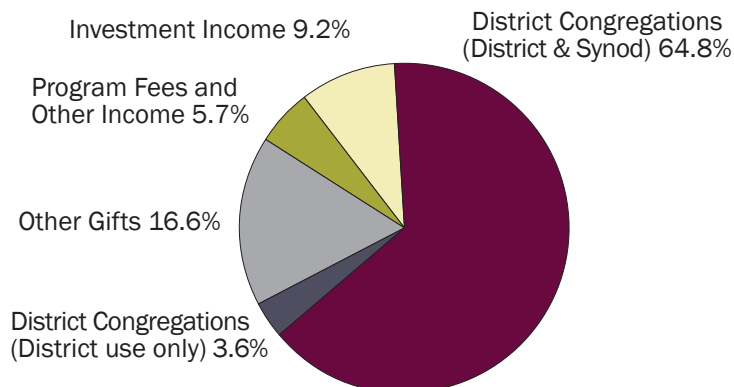
Support, Revenues, and Gains

District Congregations (District and Synod).....	4,588,737
District Congregations (District use only).....	257,845
Other Gifts.....	1,177,610
Investment Income.....	654,565
Program Fees and Other Income.....	404,906
Total Support, Revenues, and Gains.....	7,083,663

Expenses

Synodical Budget*.....	1,402,647
Program Services	
Ecclesiastical Administration.....	353,706
Convention.....	1,967
World & National Missions.....	1,825,240
Student Aid.....	255,232
Lutheran Schools.....	324,923
Conferences, Training, & Events.....	365,086
Other Congregation Program Services.....	1,041,646
Support Services	
Management & General.....	459,179
Fundraising.....	256,052
Total Expenses.....	6,285,678
Change in Net Assets.....	797,985

Revenue



Expenses

Information is taken from the audited financial statements of the Michigan District, LCMS. Copies of the audit report, which include all integral parts of the financial statements, are available from the District Office.

*The Michigan District sent 35% of its unrestricted cash receipts from congregations to national Synod during the fiscal year. The numbers on the financial statements reflect adjustments based on pledges from congregations and to the Synod as required by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

Support for National and International Ministries

For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2021, the Michigan District remitted \$1,507,647 to Corporate (national) Synod, which represents 35% of the District's unrestricted gifts from congregations. The 35 districts of the Synod contribute approximately \$12.4 million of undesignated revenue to Corporate Synod annually in support of national and international mission and ministry. The balance of the \$60 million 2020/21 budget of Corporate Synod was expected to come primarily from restricted gifts and sales of materials and services.

Additional information on Corporate Synod's budget and finances can be found at www.lcms.org/giving/transparency.

For More Information & Stories Visit

michigandistrict.org