Michigan District Annual Report

For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2022

In 2021, as we began to emerge from the pandemic, we found ourselves in the midst of a mental health crisis and a growing discord in our country and the world. In this context, the District poised itself to encourage struggling congregations, schools, and church workers, and found new ways to provide support to them in their Gospel Ministry. The following are just a few stories of hope in 2021:

Great Compassion and Great Commission

- Family of God and The Luke Clinic—two Innovative Missional Ministries of the Michigan District —continued to work together to fill the physical and spiritual gaps in the lives of expectant mothers and their infant children in Detroit.
- Flint Mission Network (FMN) was launched on October 31 to combat real systemic issues plaguing the city of Flint. The FMN includes the Mercy House for homeless moms and their children; The Luke Clinic, which expanded from Detroit to Flint to meet the needs of expectant mothers and infants; Franklin Avenue Mission, which serves the homeless; and York Avenue Mission, which has a food pantry and clothes closet.



- Rev. Dietrick Gladden was installed as the District's Missionary at Large at both Mount Calvary and Charity in Detroit. Gladden is focusing on establishing community connections and building relationships with residents, bringing the Gospel to them.
- Benton Harbor Lutheran Outreach on the West side of the state continues to offer a mobile/drive-by food truck that provides for 125-160 families each month. They also host a Soup Kitchen and have a PLARN sleeping mat ministry for the homeless.

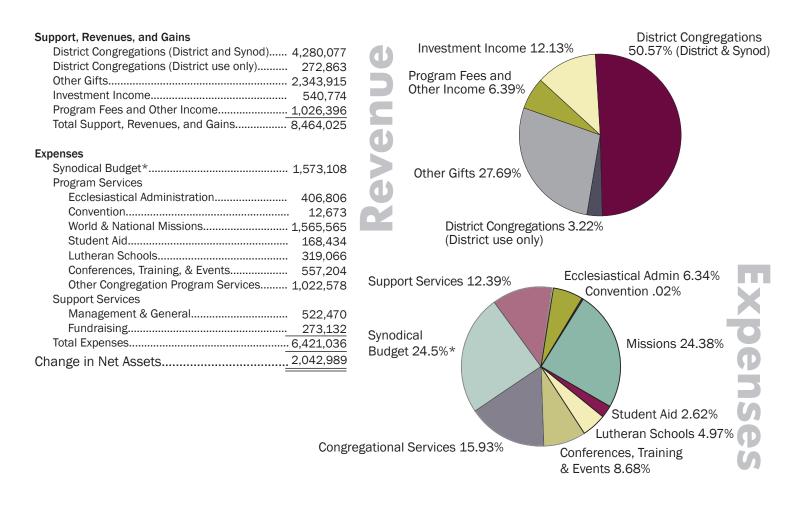
Healthy Workers and Healthy Congregations

- The Digital Footprint Initiative (*michigandistrict.org/dfi*) continued to address the challenges some congregations face when they do not have a web presence, an updated website, or skilled, willing, and trained volunteers.
- The Michigan District, LCMS Stewardship Committee put together the video curriculum, *God's Children are God's Disciples* (*michigandistrict.org/gcgd*), for parents and teachers to engage children in stewardship principles as they grow in their life as disciples of God.
- The District's Commission on Church Worker Care developed two mental health podcasts. It also continued to add to the list of qualified counselors in all regions of the District. This list is managed by Deaconess Christie Hansard, our Mental Health Case Manager.
- In October 2021, the Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio Districts, in partnership with the Lutheran Education Association, joined together for the 2021 Connections Conference at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne, Ind. Over 1,300 educators gathered for a time of fellowship, worship, and professional development.

Combatting the culture-induced bad news with the GOOD News of Jesus Christ and His love, 2021 was surely an opportunity for the District ministries, congregations, and schools to be People of Hope, vigorously making known the love of Christ by word and deed within our congregations, communities, and world.



For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2022



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, 2022, the Michigan District remitted \$1,573,108 to Corporate (national) Synod, which represents 35% of the District's unrestricted gifts from congregations. The 35

districts of the Synod contribute approximately \$12.9 million of undesignated revenue to Corporate Synod annually in support of national and international mission and ministry. The balance of the \$62.7 million 2021/22 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.

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