

## "How Much Is Enough?"

That's a bold question to open an annual report to all of those congregations whose generous mission support is an essential reason that planned giving ministry recognized its **40th anniversary** in the South Dakota Synod this year. We celebrated all of those who have been a part of Lutheran Planned Generosity and its predecessor organizations at the 2023 Synod Assembly, and issued a challenge to identify **40 gift plans to honor 40 years of generosity**. It's not too late for you to be a part of the celebration--just contact us and let us know that you have made a gift in your will or through a beneficiary designation, or would like to do so. For all of those who are a part of this history and continue to generously support ministry in the Synod and around the world, **thank you!** You are making a difference!



Back to that opening question. Relax and breathe a sigh of relief. We're not going to give you rules or scripture verses to calculate the expected size of your gifts. Rather, it's an invitation to each of us to better understand **"How much is enough FOR ME?"** In a world that tells us we should constantly strive for a bigger bank account, a larger home, a newer car, a longer vacation and the next promotion, it's easy to get lost and overwhelmed in the striving and never know when we've reached the point that we have enough. Because God entrusts us as stewards and caretakers, not owners, of all that we have, maybe an understanding of what that number is would be helpful for each of us. **What if** God continues to place more resources under our management to allow us to **simplify our lives by supporting ministry and serving our neighbors** instead of adding another zero to the balance sheet?

If you've never thought about your "enough" and how God might be calling you to make a difference through generosity, **we're inviting you to the conversation**. LPGSD is here to help you think about how your life can make a difference for your loved ones, your church, your community and all of those in need around the world.

It might be a gift in your will, or as a beneficiary designation from your IRA or investment account or life insurance policy. Or maybe using a tool that creates tax savings and income for you today AND a gift to ministry later.

In addition to this work with individuals and families, LPGSD also walks alongside congregations hoping to create or revitalize their own legacy through an **endowment fund**, offering members the opportunity to share in the ministry and outreach of their Christian family. Did you know that **more than \$650,000** was distributed to ministry from South Dakota endowment funds held at the ELCA Foundation in 2023? Your personal legacy plan might even include a family endowment or a gift to establish an endowment at your own congregation.

**How much is your ENOUGH?** If you discover that God is calling you to generosity beyond that number, LPGSD would be honored to explore the options and help you design a plan that takes advantage of the right tools to benefit your family and support God's work.

Contact Kathy McHenry at **605.274.5030** or **kmchenry@sdsynod.org**.  
Visit our website at **www.lpgsd.org** or find us on Facebook.

*your life can make a difference*