



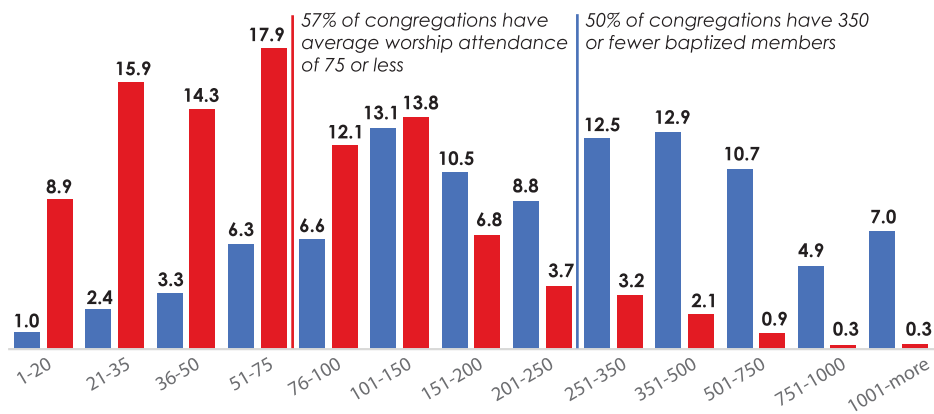
Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

WHAT'S YOUR SYNOD UP TO?

In **2018**, your synod invested in equipping gracious disciples

237 Congregations +2 Mission Starts

Percentage of Congregations by Size, Baptized Membership & Average Worship Attendance



Your synod staff worked on **47** transitions throughout the synod



10 rostered ministers transferred to another synod

15 rostered ministers welcomed into our synod



14 interims

5 people assigned to our synod

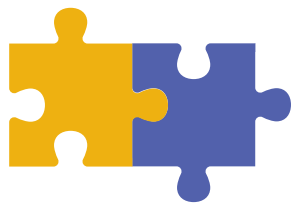
170 settled calls

17 people in candidacy

12 ordinations

58 trained lay preachers

242 people serving on 23 synod boards and committees



20 congregations went through extensive generosity training



More than

50 rostered ministers received ELCA coaching



\$7,600 given in wellness grants to **20** individuals & **3** events

\$21,234 given in endowment grants to **35** individuals

Investing in Mission Support and gifts to the Embrace God's Mission + Equip God's People Funding Initiative make all these events, grants, and opportunities happen.

About 2,955 people attended 20 synod events

TOP 3 Events:



- Equipping Congregations Day
- Synod Assembly
- Jr. High Youth Gathering

Ministerial Excellence Fund (MEF) Snapshot (2016-2018)

\$200,000 given to **82** rostered ministers to reduce educational debt

\$31,900 given to **53** rostered ministers to assist retirement savings

\$32,700 given to **34** rostered ministers to help with unexpected medical expenses

In addition to receiving funds, rostered ministers are receiving financial check-ups with Lutheran Social Service and/or Portico Benefit Services to guide them

Looking ahead -

In Jan. 2019, **\$100,000** will be given to **46** applicants to reduce educational debt