

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Benevolence

"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

(Matthew 6:21)



GROTON AREA

Our Groton Family Crisis Fund ~ a two-fold mission

One Mission ~ Help to alleviate living costs of Groton households, offset heating costs, other utilities, rent and so on • Sponsor grocery vouchers (exclusive to groceries), monitored automobile fuel vouchers • Aid families experiencing medical, employment, family financial and other crises.

When individuals ask for a specific request for payment or aid, we explain that the gift comes with the intent of gifting back. Good intention, even a few dollars at a time, weighs in on future aid requested. Specific bill payments go directly to the institution owed.

USUALLY...a request is first researched, and at least two Groton clergy weigh in with approval • Conversations & processing are confidential • Groton pastors also collaborate with city finance office and law enforcement to disburse throughout the year.

Second Mission ~ More for people new to the area or passing through. Usually they first contact pastors or police, and then we pastors check in with our colleagues in the area and with law enforcement for further research and often a light background check. Common requests: fill a tank of gas • offset moving costs • a meal • a night or two of lodging.

Groton establishments help with meals and or lodging. Also, we have a standing relationship with hotels and aid agencies in Aberdeen for larger requests. We are close enough to Aberdeen that we can access their food pantry.

History ~ Fund stems back 25+ years. Primary agents are Groton clergy, city finance officer and our city law enforcement. Clergy in the area are thankful for the collaborative effort, mission conversation behind the scenes and the built in 'checks & balances.'

Funding ~ Groton ecumenical worship services or events, area churches, individual donations

Groton B.A.G.S. Program

Benny Anonymous Fund ~ Literally an invisible fund that offsets expenses in our school lunch program, specifically for children receiving reduced and free lunches and who desire seconds.

Groton Transit

Also, ties with Our Troops & Returning Veterans

ABERDEEN AREA / NORTHERN PLAINS CONFERENCE (NP = our region of our SD Synod)

Bethesda Home of Aberdeen ~ We are one of the founding, parent congregations.

- So we are delighted to donate a % of our monthly *actual income*
- Emmanuel members serve on the Bethesda Board,
- Pastor/worship leaders serve 5 or 6 Sundays a year for afternoon, weekly worship

Aberdeen Salvation Army ~ The Salvation Army is in itself a church, a denomination. On the front lines of economic justice, hunger relief and combating hunger, affordable housing, refuge and gifts of self esteem.

Safe Harbor ~ Another powerful mission in the United Way ministries in our area. Wide range of justice outreach and changing the lives of children of God of all ages.

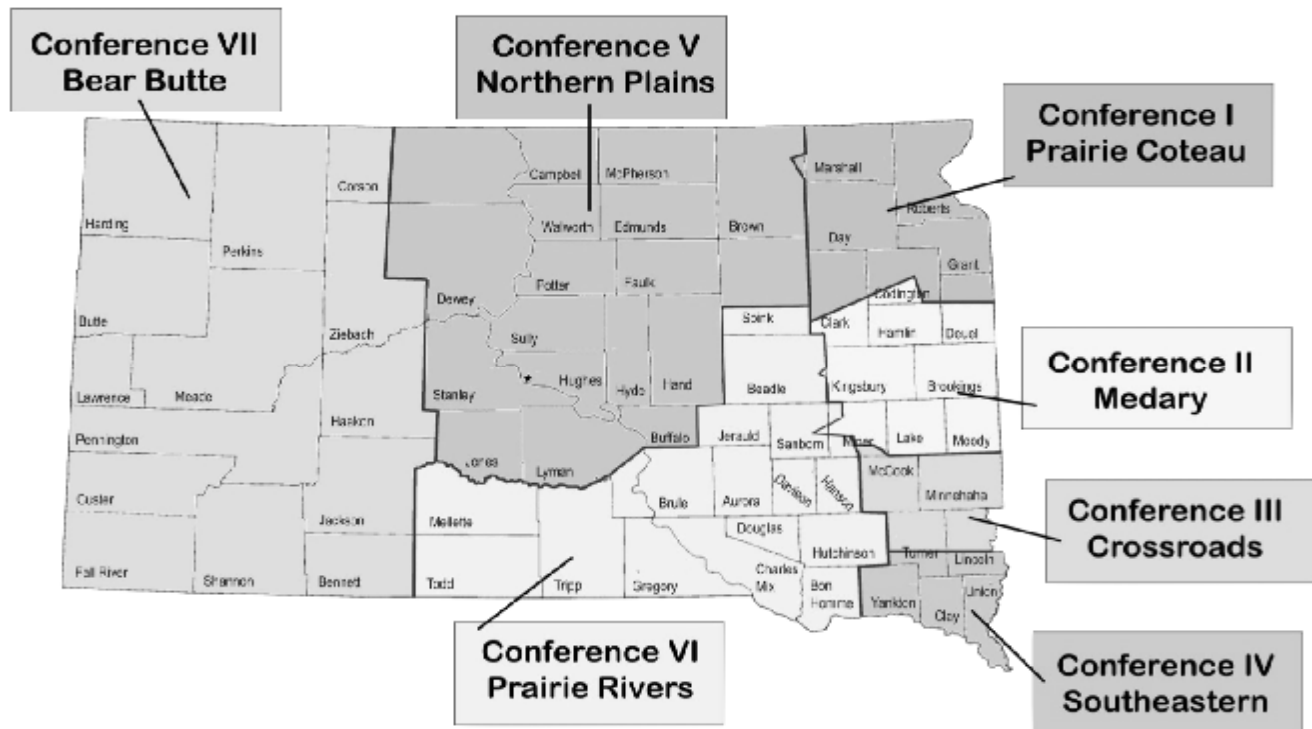
Kids Against Hunger ~ Feeding many with so little. KAH is a great multi-generation mission and has begun serving closer to home, too: Brown County/Aberdeen area and on our Native American Reservations.

OUR SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD

www.sdsynod.org/

Our Synod is all of SD, and also is 1 of 65 Synods of the ELCA

Within our Synod, we have 8 conferences. We are in the Northern Plains Conference.



Unless otherwise designated, we gift a % of our monthly, actual, UNDESIGNATED income forward to our Synod. The monies reach even farther in mission from there. Most of the funds work their way back into congregational missions, mission outreach and development!

Sister or Companion Synods ~

We have 2, in Cameroon & also in Nicaragua. At our SD Synod Assembly, we usually have a representative from one of our sister Evangelical Lutheran synods reminding us that we are a global Church. Our Synod, through visits, gifts and connections is able to encourage and enhance healthcare, education, you name it.

Cameroon

- ROOFS - sending funds and or workers to build roofs for community buildings which are gathering places, schools, as well as churches all in one
- "TRAIN UP A CHILD" - Sponsor a child's education for a year! The family or village matches the gift. This helps to ensure that girls and those who are not first born get an education. The key to life in Africa is EDUCATION.

Nicaragua

We have sent 'seed money'...which helped the nation replant after a natural disaster. Seeds and agricultural gifts are the best way to aid our brothers and sisters in Nicaragua.

Check out www.sdsynod.org/ and keep up on  out  &

South Dakota Synod PARTNER MINISTRIES

As the economy has changed, our 5 partner ministries have needed to become creative in their funding... Once fully or mainly reliant upon our SD Synod for funding, most PMs now appeal directly to both congregations AND individuals.



"Inspired by God's love, we care for, support and strengthen individuals, families and communities."

www.lsssd.org/

LSS serves nearly 45,000 South Dakotans each year by meeting basic needs, enhancing self-sufficiency, improving quality of life. LSS works to transform lives, one by one, and to strengthen individuals, families, & communities. Specific missions: adoption, child care services, foster care, mentoring, housing services, disaster response, consumer credit counseling service, residential programs for youth, refugee and immigration programs, rural life ministries, and counseling.

- Consider that in the entire USA, 1 in 50 people each and every day receives aid from a social service agency founded by Lutherans.
- Lisa Adler of Groton is our local rep
- Can give to state fund or to Aberdeen to stay local. Also can give 'in kind' gifts.

LUTHERANS OUTDOORS IN SD

<http://www.losd.org/>



Of the 5 camps, our youth tend to go to NeSoDak, Joy and some to Klein. We have Emmanuel camperships to attend NeSoDak! The Holler Fund is for ANYONE... reflecting the LOSD theme that All Are Welcome!

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY IN SD ~ LCM

NSU, SDSU, USD & Black Hills State ~ LCM is a vital ministry of PRESENCE. Our local CICS (Collegians in Christ Serve), which is the LCM on our NSU campus is funded primarily through the "dues" we as a congregation give to our Northern Plains Conference.

SD MULTICULTURAL MINISTRY ~

Our Native American ministries, as well as our growing ministry with our growing populations of African, Latin American and now Asian immigrants.

HEARTLAND EPHATHA ~

Ministry to and with the hearing impaired. Based in Sioux Falls. WELCA supports regularly.

Prison Congregations in America ~

- PCA is a national ministry
- We have chaplains at each SD location
- Another powerful ministry of presence and hope.
- Our WELCA supports regularly

Answer the Call ~

- Seminary & schooling scholarships for South Dakotans preparing for public, rostered ministry
- Part of our 100th Anniversary gifts went here.

ELCA



Our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America :
"God's Work. Our Hands."

ELCA Global Missions & Disaster Response
www.elca.org
ü out  & 

GLOBAL MISSIONS ~
www.elca.org/globalmission

- X ELCA World Hunger - working at grass roots level to alleviate hunger and related issues
- X ELCA Good Gifts
- X ELCA Malaria Project
"Nothin' But Net..."
- X And more!

ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE ~
www.elca.org/disaster

LDR = both domestic & international.
In SD, strong domestic ties with LSS.

- Our Church has funds available and ways to ask for funds to disburse funds quickly for front line aid.
- LDR often early on scene. Last to leave. All about funding & relationships...such as with these global partners:
 - our Companion Synods
 - Lutheran World Relief (LWR)
lwr.org/getinvolved
 - Lutheran World Federation (LWF)
 - World Council of Churches (WCC)

Global conversations, respect & partnerships are the major reasons our disaster and hunger aid can be at the front lines so quickly!