

How Mission Support is Used for Synod Ministries

As we get ready for the Northeastern Iowa Synod Assembly, it is the time of year again when people ask “What is a Synod? What does a Synod do? How does the Synod spend our Mission Support?”

This is too short a space to review all the synodical ministries or narrate the budget, but here is a summary of what I think readers will care about the most.

SHARING JESUS AND SUPPORTING CONGREGATIONS

- Use a strong social media presence to proclaim the Word, call the church to prayer, and lift up and encourage congregations’ witness.
- Consult with congregations who request assistance in renewal, stewardship, and evangelism.
- Accompany our worshipping community in Parkersburg.

PASSING ON THE FAITH FROM OUR GENERATION TO THE NEXT

- Provide help for parents to

- teach the faith to their children.
- Support youth workers and youth ministry.
- Offer Christian leadership training for high school students.
- Support campus ministry

ENSURING THERE ARE PASTORS AND DEACONS FOR OUR CONGREGATIONS

- Walk with candidates through the process of becoming pastors and deacons.
- Secure funding to support seminary education.
- Train and coach new pastors.
- Guide congregations through the call process.
- Provide continuing education opportunities for rostered ministers.
- Help rostered ministers to prepare to retire.

FEEDING OTHERS AND GIVING EVERYONE A FAIR CHANCE TO SUCCEED

- Domestic Hunger Grants help fund a homeless shelter ministry, community meals, and com-

- munity and church gardens to grow food for food shelves, food banks and community meals.
- Funds help support the Little Free Pantries food project and the collection and distribution of flood recovery buckets.
- Support for Barnabas Uplift provides job training for the unemployed.
- Funding for Lutheran Services in Iowa supports the care of children, families, the elderly, and people with special needs.

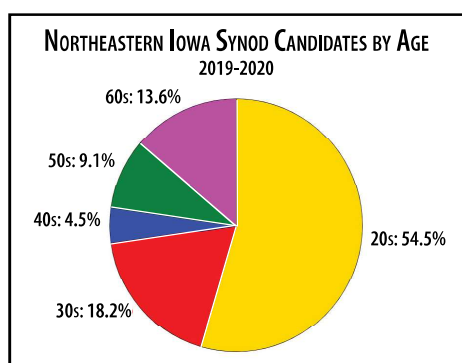
We give thanks for all those people and congregations who give to support the wider church and for all the ministries these gifts make possible.

— *Pastor Mark A. Anderson*
Assistant to the Bishop



To download this article and other stewardship resources, visit www.neiasynod.org/stewardship.

Candidacy affirms and guides the call to rostered ministry
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step. For those who do navigate the paperwork and make their way to the entrance interview with the full committee, Kuenzel promises it’s not as bad as people might imagine.

“To walk into a room with a dozen or so people sitting around a u-shape table looking back at you for an hour-long interview, asking questions about your application,

essay and background, can be an intimidating part of the candidacy process, but it sounds worse than it is,” Kuenzel says. “I’ve only seen one person cry, and that’s because he was so happy.”

Anyone interested in learning more about candidacy should contact Pastor Steve Brackett, assistant to the Bishop for Leadership, at 319-352-1414.