



Central States Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's Work. Our hands.

HISTORY AND STRUCTURE

The Central States Synod Mission Endowment Fund was established in 1999 by action of the Synod Assembly. The purpose of the Fund is to enhance the mission outreach of the Central States Synod. No portion of the Fund shall be used for the annual operation budget of the synod.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (from Mission Endowment Fund Bylaws)

- Christian stewardship involves the faithful management of all gifts God has given to humankind: the created work, the gospel, life, time, abilities, and especially accumulated inherited and appreciated resources.
- The scriptural principle of proportionate giving, to return to the Lord a portion of the gifts God has given to God's beloved children, is both a privilege and an appropriate response in all times and circumstances.
- In addition to proportionate giving, Christians can give to the work of the church through bequests in wills, assignments of life insurance, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder and other trusts, assignment of certificates of deposit, and transfers of property such as cash, stocks, bonds and real estate.
- It is the desire of the Central States Synod to encourage, receive and administer these gifts in a manner consistent with the loyalty and devotion to our Lord expressed by the donors and in accord with the policies of this synod.

GOVERNANCE OF THE FUND

The Mission Endowment Fund Committee is the custodian of the fund. This committee is charged with the administration and management of the fund.

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

The Committee consists of five voting members, one of which is the Synod Treasurer. The synod bishop and vice president are ex-officio members. The Committee consults with synod staff and the ELCA Lutheran Planned Giving Regional Gift Planner/Director and as needed, other advisors.