



**Northern Illinois Synod  
“Gifts for Mission”  
Generosity Sunday  
Pentecost, May 20, 2018**



Dear Friends in Christ,

Exciting things are happening in the Northern Illinois Synod! Because of your congregation and the other 147 congregations of the Northern Illinois

Synod, the gospel is being boldly proclaimed and countless lives of people are being touched with the love of Christ.

As we look ahead to ministry as the Northern Illinois Synod and continued response to the Great Commission of Jesus to go and make disciples, we are embarking upon a synod-wide initiative that will help us grow our ministry of proclamation. This initiative is called **“Gifts for Mission”** Generosity Sunday and it will take place on Pentecost Sunday, **May 20, 2018**.

The purpose of **“Gifts for Mission”** Generosity Sunday is to receive **one-time gifts** from our 148 congregations and members totaling \$200,000 for our Northern Illinois Synod Mission Fund.

The Northern Illinois Synod Mission Fund, which is a designated fund totally separate from the ongoing ministry fund of the synod, is instrumental in providing grants, in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to begin new congregations and support redeveloping congregations in our synod. Our Synod Mission Fund also provides, on occasion, grants to congregations for a specific outreach ministry. The gifts received on **“Gifts for Mission”** Generosity Sunday will help to replenish the Northern Illinois Synod Mission Fund so that it may continue to be a resource and blessing to our new and redeveloping congregations while enhancing the ministry of outreach we have as a synod. As these blessings are received, we will be tithing undesignated **“Gifts for Mission”** gifts for the Northern Illinois Synod Nursing School Project in Tanzania. Your gifts are all about touching lives with the love of Jesus Christ. Please mark your calendars and be present in worship for this important mission opportunity. And please, prayerfully consider a generous gift for **“Gifts for Mission”**.

You can help with **“Gifts for Mission”** in a number of ways:

- Share information about this important event with others in your congregation.
- Pray for the Northern Illinois Synod **“Gifts for Mission”** Generosity Sunday.
- Pray for the ministry of your congregation.
- Pray for the ministry we share together as the Northern Illinois Synod.
- Generously share a gift on **“Gifts for Mission”** Generosity Sunday on May 20, 2018.

Please be watching for more information concerning the Northern Illinois Synod **“Gifts for Mission”** Generosity Sunday on May 20, 2018. Thank you for all that you do in sharing the love of Christ!

A Partner in Ministry,

Pastor Kurt Nordby, Assistant to the Bishop for Stewardship and Development