

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
22 North Second Street
Waterville, OH 43566

August 14, 2023

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Waterville's Zion Lutheran Endowment Fund Awards \$158,500 to Nonprofits in 2023

The Mission Endowment Fund of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waterville is celebrating its 19th annual series of grants by awarding a total of \$158,500 to 20 nonprofit organizations.

Local grants include \$13,000 to the Anthony Wayne Community Food Ministry in support of a program for students who face food scarcity on the weekends and over the summer. Cherry Street Mission Ministries received \$11,000 to purchase new mattresses for its shelter. The Haskins Community Church was granted \$7,500 to send area youth to summer camp. Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity will use \$4,000 for its 2023 Faith Build.

Other grants in Northwest Ohio include \$11,000 to Luther Home of Mercy in Williston for residents' bedroom furniture and \$8,500 to Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission for lead paint remediation. A grant of \$9,250 to Nightingales Harvest will fund a freezer and high-protein food for cancer patients in Toledo. Nuestra Gente Community Projects received \$4,500 for its food pantry in South Toledo. Funding of \$8,250 will help Compassion Health Toledo repurpose the former Mott Library into a community health clinic. Spirit of Faith Adoptions received a grant of \$5,000 for its Fireweed retreats for birth mothers in Northwest Ohio. Monarch Grief Center in Perrysburg was granted \$4,000 to help with the cost of bereavement counseling. Youth mentoring and leadership programs at the East Toledo Family Center will benefit from a \$5,000 grant. Butterflies 15 will use \$3,000 to help with its recovery-centered life skills, job and housing services.

The Northwestern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America received two grants of \$10,000 each. One will support the Camino de Vida ministry in Fremont, Ohio, that focuses on discipleship, feeding the hungry and ministering to seasonal farmworkers in the area. The other will pay for lay leader training, including travel costs, throughout Northwest Ohio.

Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University in Columbus received a grant of \$5,000 to improve accessibility and upgrade technology in its worship center. Trinity also will receive \$10,000 in scholarship funding for a member of Zion who plans to attend Trinity.

Lutheran World Relief received \$15,000 to be used for humanitarian relief in war-torn Ukraine and in Turkey which suffered a devastating earthquake. SewHope is focused on improving health and education in Guatemala. Funding of \$9,000 will be used for clean-burning stoves, water filters, solar lights and supplies for at-home gardening. Have Faith Haiti Mission is a U.S. organization that supports an orphanage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. A grant of \$5,500 will go toward a nursery and the creation of an early childhood development program at the orphanage.

Zion's Mission Endowment Fund has awarded grants annually beginning in 2005 that total \$2,154,300 to date. Applicants are sponsored by Zion's members. Recipients include a broad range of regional, national and global nonprofit organizations that share the Fund's goal of "Bringing Mission to Life."