



NWOS
Year End Ask
2023

Office of the Bishop
www.nwos-elca.org

Dear Friends in Christ,

Wednesday nights are Jase's favorite time of the week, his mother Amanda will tell you. Jase is one of several Crim Elementary students who participate in St. Mark's Lutheran Afterschool Homework Club. Each Wednesday students from Crim Elementary enthusiastically walk from their classrooms and into the doors of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, where tutors from Bowling Green State University await them with smiles and snacks. Together they play games and decompress from school before working on homework. After the homework help, many students walk down the hall and meet their families for a free community meal. The warm and supportive environment, filled with caring adults and fun for the whole family is why many students like Jase look forward to Wednesday nights all week long.

Jase's story is just one of many made possible through the Northwestern Ohio Synod's **Imagining Renewal Microgrants**. Microgrants are designed to support disciples who recognize the needs of their community and respond with creativity and passion. We are convinced that across Northwestern Ohio are faithful people who have big dreams of how to serve their community, they just need a little seed money to get started. In three years the microgrants have awarded more than \$140,000 to over 95 projects that have made a difference in communities across Northwestern Ohio.

We need your help to continue this important ministry. As 2023 comes to a close, our Year End Ask will be focused on making the next round of microgrants possible. Would you and your congregation consider joining us in giving toward the growing impact of this ministry? Together we are working to raise \$100,000 to fund microgrants. Your donation will impact communities across Northwestern Ohio, inspiring leaders who have dreams for their communities and long to join what God is already up to in the world. This Year End Ask will begin October 1st and will extend through the end of the year.

Giving is simple. To give electronically, text NWOS to 73256 or visit our Year End Ask site: <https://nwos-elca.church/microgrants>. If sending a check, please include **Imagining Renewal Microgrants** in the memo line, and send to 1701 Tiffin Ave. Findlay, OH 45840.

Our theme for 2023 is The Year of Story. We are encouraged by the story of God's creative and boundless grace through Jesus. We are also convinced that all across Northwestern Ohio there are people like Jase and his family, waiting to be loved by the people of God in Northwestern Ohio. Please help us bring those stories to life by supporting the Imagining Renewal Microgrants. Thank you again for your generosity and commitment to sharing the love of Jesus.

Joining you in generosity,

Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin

Pastor Sarah Schaaf, Director of Community Engagement

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" Isaiah 43:19