



Here We Stand

O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and gray hair, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

Psalm 71:17-18

HAVE QUESTIONS or need to meet to discuss participation? Would you like to have a presentation at your church? Call Ray or Linda at 888.225.2111.



Michigan District, LCMS
3773 Geddes Rd
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

888.225.2111
www.michigandistrict.org

Here We Stand Campaign ... How is Your Congregational Participation Plan Going?

The number of Michigan District congregations participating in *Here We Stand* (HWS) continues to increase steadily. As of this publication, we had participation from 111 congregations (30% of Michigan District congregations). Please know that we are deeply grateful to each congregation that has already reached a decision to be involved. This has helped the campaign grow to \$5 million in gifts and commitments, half way to our goal of \$10 million.

We remain encouraged that the number of participating congregations will continue to increase steadily as HWS continues to advance in 2018, and because approximately 93% of the delegates at the 2015 Michigan District Convention voted favorably in support of doing a District-wide campaign as part of the celebration and commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation.

If you have not yet made that decision, how is your plan to participate coming along? Participation by a congregation is defined as making a multi-year pledge, setting a congregational multi-year goal, or making cash contributions. We encourage congregations to choose a method of participation that is right for them and creates interest and excitement for all.

Congregational participation in HWS has been done in many ways; some are very traditional approaches and several are quite innovative.

If you are interested in being involved in more creative or innovative ways, you may wish to do one, or more, of the following:

- Ask each member family to donate \$1 for the cumulative age of their family, i.e. a 40-year old father, a 38-year old mother, and two children ages 10 and 8 would gift a total of \$96 for that year. This could be

done multiple years;

- Participate in the 2018 Reformation 500 Walk, Bike, Run Challenge as a congregation or as individuals within your congregation;
- Participate in the 2018 HWS Here We Ride bike event this coming summer;
- Design and distribute banks to collect donations for HWS, and collect quarterly;
- Have a congregational rummage sale, and split the proceeds with HWS;
- Host a congregational/community dinner, or maybe a talent show;
- Have a bike, walk, run, or bowl-a-thon;
- Hold a congregational auction.
- Collect receipts from Spartan Stores and receive \$1,000 for every \$150,000 in eligible receipts from the SpartanNash Foundation.

Each of the ideas mentioned above has been done by some congregations in the Michigan District as a means to participate in HWS. There are certainly many more ways to participate, so be creative and have fun while helping to advance the goals of HWS and the ministries of your congregations.

Let us know how we can help you plan or come up with participation ideas. We look forward to see how you will approach HWS campaign participation, all for the purpose of growing Christ's Kingdom.

For more information, contact Ray Zavada Here We Stand Campaign Director at ray.zavada@michigandistrict.org or 734.904.2773.

Campaign Progress

Over \$5.12 million in gifts, pledges, and congregational goals to date.

Congregation Highlights

We would like to thank Community, Flat Rock; Good Shepherd, Lansing; St. Paul, Lapeer; St. Peter, Macomb; St. Paul, New Boston; and Christ Our Shepherd, Newport for their most recent gifts to the campaign.

We would like to thank Hope, Warren for its recent pledge to the campaign.