



"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

Matthew 13:31-32

In 2018, Siebert Lutheran Foundation was blessed to play a role in the fruition of a variety of ideas that were planted by God and nurtured by His faithful followers. The 2018 Community Impact Report shares stories of growth and abundance and shines a light on what is possible with faith, creativity, and hard work. The stories in this report are a sample of the 106 organizations and ministries to whom Siebert granted \$4.3 million in 2018.

Siebert continuously seeks ways to steward the Foundation's resources and relationships and foster partnerships to enable the Lutheran Christian community to be more effective, collaborative, and innovative. This led to internal growth in 2018 when we welcomed Charlotte John-Gómez as the new President and Chief Operating Officer in July. Charlotte has assumed oversight of Siebert's grant portfolio and daily operations, allowing Chief Executive Officer Brenda Skelton to focus more heavily on increasing Siebert's impact through implementing strategic priorities.

God has graciously cultivated relationships, talents, and resources among His disciples, whom Siebert is called to partner with to Grow, Educate, and Serve in Wisconsin. The leaders of Siebert's funded ministries never cease to amaze as they relentlessly share the love of Jesus Christ with their communities. Our Board of Directors is grateful for the opportunity to tend to their growth and prosperity in service to the Kingdom.

In Christ,

Kurt Bechthold Chair, Board of Directors

\$93.5 million

Total assets as of Dec. 31, 2018

Brenda Skelton
Chief Executive Officer

\$131 million

Granted since 1976

\$4.3 million

Granted in 2018

### Who We Are

- A private, independent foundation governed by an independent Board of Directors and incorporated in the state of Wisconsin.
- Pan-Lutheran in nature, funding requests are accepted from ministry programs associated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.
- The Foundation has no formal affiliation with any administrative church body.

### **Vision**

People, families, and communities filled with the peace that passes all understanding that comes from Christ.

### **Mission**

The Siebert Lutheran Foundation stewards its resources and relationships and fosters partnerships to enable the Lutheran Christian community to be more effective, collaborative and innovative. Our funded partners share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, while educating children and youth in Christ-filled environments, and/or serving the needs of our neighbors. Our geographic focus is Wisconsin, especially Milwaukee, Waukesha, Racine, and Kenosha counties.

### **Principles Underlying Our Work**

These principles are foundational to our work, guide our funding decisions and, we believe, lead to effective outcomes in funded programs:

- We fund only Lutheran-affiliated ministries and programs to honor our founder's legacy.
- We believe effective ministries require strong leaders, therefore, we invest in programs that grow and sustain leaders.
- We believe intentional focus is required to overcome the barriers faced by the "least of our brothers and sisters."
- We believe business and financial models need to be sustainable.
- We encourage use of data, best practices, continuous improvement, and/or innovation in program design and delivery.
- We encourage collaboration and partnering among funded ministries and programs.

### **Our Founder**

Albert F. Siebert, son and brother of Lutheran pastors, had a deep love for the Lutheran church. Mr. Siebert left a lasting legacy when he established Siebert Lutheran Foundation in 1952, originally under the auspices of Milwaukee Electic Tool Company, which he founded.





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### 2018 Grants Paid • \$4,271,313



**\$1,685,129** Growing the Body of Christ by investing in Lutheran leaders, ministries, and evangelism.



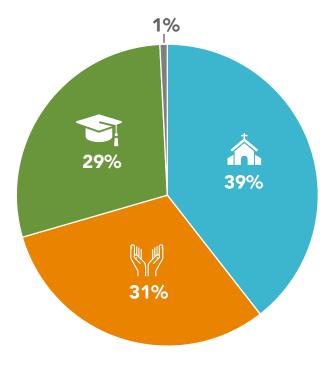
**\$1,326,414** Serving as the Hands and Feet of Christ by supporting effective strategies at Lutheran churches and church-affiliated organizations to meet the basic short-term needs of disadvantaged people, and to create pathways toward greater self-sufficiency and empowerment for all people.



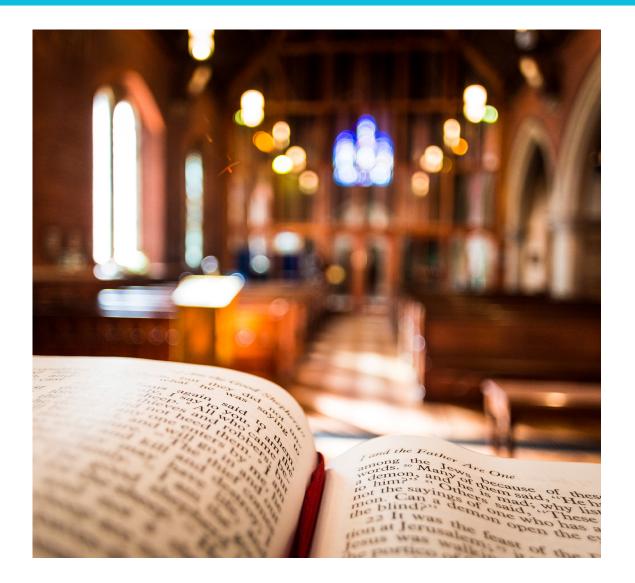
**\$1,226,000** Educating while Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ by funding high-performing Lutheran-affiliated schools and other education programs that provide children and youth in socioeconomically disadvantaged communities a path to Christ-centered academic success, empowerment, and hope for themselves and future generations.



\$33,770 Foundation Governance & Other



# GROWING the body of Christ



LIVING WATER LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Using technology to build community and share resources

Church is more than a building. Reverend Ned Lenhart from Living Water Lutheran Church in Cameron, Wis., says church is about people. It is about having a family you can lean on and learn from. It is people near and far who are united in Christ. Rev. Ned is making it his mission to spread the Gospel in northwestern Wisconsin. Using the foundation of Christ's Word, he is connecting remotely with others using modern technology.

"Living Water grew up in a small community and we care very deeply about other small communities," says Rev. Ned. "We are watching the rural churches' slow demise over the years and have been called to breathe new life into those congregations."

Part of the appeal of rural living is the great expanses of land. But, the travel distances and small communities also make it challenging for each congregation to afford its own full-time pastor. Streaming technology allows worship resources to be shared and that is how Rev. Ned and Living Water are building a network of connected congregations to build community and leverage resources more effectively.

Implementing new technology into rural congregations was a big hurdle. Siebert Lutheran Foundation provided a grant to help Living Water bring the streaming services to other congregations near and far. Each of the connected locations provides music and other worship resources, while the Gospel message and weekly sermon by Rev. Ned is streamed live.

Some congregants are understandably apprehensive about the Message being streamed, but Rev. Ned sees opportunities to reach young generations and to energize the worship experience through use of this new technology. He is confident the fresh approach will be embraced as more and more

people see its potential to allow for shared resources.

"While the new approach is unfamiliar, the foundation of church as community remains the same," says Rev. Ned. "We provide more than a message. It's the greetings, conversations and connections. We are a community of brothers and sisters, praising and celebrating together."

Occasionally Rev. Ned travels to other church locations to share the message in person while it live streams back to Living Water. He says the congregations near and far are his family and he is truly invested in their lives.

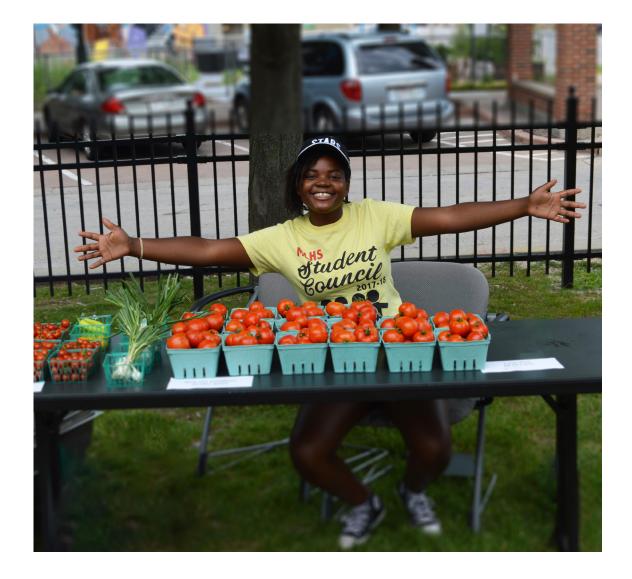
"More
people are
coming to accept that
it's increasingly difficult
for small congregations
to survive. Live streaming a
Gospel message makes these
communities possible."

Andrew Anderson, Church Council
President at First Lutheran
Church, Exeland, Wis.



# SERVING

as the hands and feet of Christ



**MOUNT CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH** 

## A ripple effect of goodness

In August 2016, Milwaukee's Sherman Park faced significant turmoil: riots broke out following a police-involved shooting. This was a clarion call for the healing and love that only Christ can provide. Located in Sherman Park, Mount Calvary Lutheran Church dispatched a community minister who touches the hearts, minds and souls of people in the neighborhood.

With the support of Siebert Lutheran Foundation, Mount Calvary had called Ben Piering to serve as its Community Minister and Director of Youth just a week before the riots broke out. Ben immediately sprang into action organizing clean-up and other positive action. "He has this incredible ability to connect and develop authentic relationships," says Reverend Dan Czaplewski, pastor at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church. "Not just adults, but our youth as well."

While growing the congregation is a goal, the greater goal is to reach people in a personal way. Humans want to forge relationships and that is where Ben is gifted. Rev. Dan says that Ben, a trauma-informed care workshop leader, is sincere about his care and concern for people. As a result, people gravitate towards him.

"The kids want to come to church, to do Bible study and stay after," says Rev. Dan. "Some don't have transportation or parents pushing them to attend, yet they are getting themselves out of bed to come to church on Sunday morning."

Reaching area youth before they are pulled by the steets down a dangerous path is vital. By giving them responsibility, youth develop purpose while making a difference in their neighborhood. That is how Mount Calvary's urban farm started.

Youth interns tend to the farm and sell the harvests throughout the season. Much of the fresh produce is sold at farmers' markets or used by nearby St. Joseph Hospital in its food preparation. Currently, a greenhouse is being developed to enhance the farm operation. In upcoming seasons, produce will be distributed to other health care facilities. Doctors will even prescribe a voucher for fresh produce to their patients!

"We are working to create an app that allows users to customize their box of produce. The app sends notifications when and where our interns are providing boxes," says Rev. Dan. "We are reaching our youth and they are truly impacting the people of Sherman Park."

"I'm really proud to be doing this for our community. This is an example of action, not talk."

> Keith, Student Intern, Farm to Hospital and Community program

# EDUCATING while sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ



KINGDOM PREP LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

## Raising men of strong faith

More than ever, young men are growing up without fathers. In fact, the U.S. Census Bureau reports that one in four children have absent fathers. The impact on society and sometimes on the children themselves is alarming – increasing the incidence of poverty, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, and incarceration, especially for boys of color. To change this dismal trend, a group of dedicated Lutheran leaders in Milwaukee, including mission developer and educator Kevin Festering, developed a vision to offer a different education model: a high school focused on serving the needs of these young men.

In 2018, this group opened a new all male Lutheran high school with the help of Siebert Lutheran Foundation and other generous donors. Kevin gathered a powerhouse of passionate educators and his team got to work recruiting the founding 58 freshman students who would, literally, help build, create, and grow Kingdom Prep Lutheran High School.

The school's focus is on supporting young men into adulthood — men who understand what it takes to be good fathers, husbands, friends and servants of Christ. With the right foundation and purpose, Kevin believes these students can help break the cycle of fatherless homes.

The founding group of young men spent the summer renovating the school, establishing their brand, and building their brotherhood. Kevin says that the young men are the ones running the school — and it is working.

"When they have a voice, they start acting like men," Kevin explains. "The Kingdom Prep brotherhood depends on healthy, thoughtful choices. They hold each other accountable because they want a

Each day, time is set aside for the students to work on uncovering their purpose. In the process, they are thinking critically, asking difficult questions, seeking answers, and translating problems and challenges into opportunities.

strong brotherhood just as much as the staff."

"The Kingdom Prep brotherhood is a growing pack. We are working to strengthen families and discover purpose," says Kevin. "When we seek the God-given talents of these young men, they find purpose and our families and communities benefit."

"My son has
grown so much since
the beginning of the
school year. I've seen great
changes in his confidence and
leadership abilities."

Rachenia, a Kingdom Prep Founding Mother

### 2018 Grants Paid • \$4,271,313

### **A** GROWING • \$1,685,129

\$304,550	Student Financial Aid at Lutheran Seminaries
\$139,402	Vibrant Faith Ministries - Leading Well, Cheshire, CT - Pastoral Leadership Development
\$132,000	Cross Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Bread of Healing Empowerment Ministry, Board-designated Grant, and Schaller-designated Grant
\$84,360	Grace in Action - Ministry Leadership Institute, Fridley, MN - Pastoral Leadership Development
\$80,000	St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church, De Pere, WI - Millennial Outreach
\$75,000	Chaplains in School, Inc., Milwaukee, WI - Building Mission Advancement Capacity
\$61,017	Pastoral Leadership Institute, Wheaton, IL - Pastoral Leadership Development
\$55,000	ELCA South-Central Synod, Madison, WI - Parroquia Santa Maria and Building Financial Wellness Among First Call Pastors in the Six Synods
\$50,000	ELCA Northwest Synod, Chetek, WI - Six Synod Initiative: Adaptive Learning Communities
\$50,000	Lutheran Hour Ministries, St. Louis, MO - Equipping Laity in Rural Contexts and Evangelism in a Digital Age
\$50,000	Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, IL - Enhancements to Advancement Database
\$46,000	ELCA Greater Milwaukee Synod, Milwaukee, WI - Building Capacity for Community Engagement, Stewardship for All Seasons, and Leadership Development for the Bishop
\$40,000	International Lutheran Church of Zion, Milwaukee, WI - French African Mission Start-up in Appleton
\$40,000	Time of Grace Ministry, Milwaukee, WI - Mobile Ministry App Development
\$40,000	Wisconsin Inmate Education Association, Brookfield, WI - Lutheran Inmate Bible Studies College Program
\$38,800	Hephatha Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Neighborhood Minister, Youth Program, Board-designated Grant and Schaller-designated Grant
\$34,000	ELCA Lutheran Campus Ministry, Milwaukee, WI - Peer Ministers and Board-designated Grant
\$32,500	Lakes Area Christian Fellowship, Nekoosa, WI - Capital Project and Board-designated Grant
\$28,000	All Peoples Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Cross-generational Ministry, Stabilization Funding, Change or Die Conference Honorarium, and Schaller-designated Grant
\$25,000	Camp Luther, Inc., Three Lakes, WI - Junior Counselor Leadership Program
\$25,000	Living Water Lutheran Church, Cameron, WI - Satellite Worship Pilot Project for Rural Congregations
\$23,000	South Wisconsin District - LC-MS, Milwaukee, WI - Hispanic Outreach Ministry and Annual Retired Pastors Retreat
\$20,000	ELCA East Central Synod, Appleton, WI - Leadership Capacity for Stewardship and Missional Relevance
\$20,000	Resurrection Lutheran Church, Verona, WI - Mission Start-up
\$20,000	Victory of the Lamb Lutheran Church, Franklin, WI - Building Staff Capacity
\$18,000	Breaking the Chains Congregation, Milwaukee, WI - Mission Start-up and Schaller-designated Grant
\$15,000	St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI - Coffee House Ministry
\$12,000	Luther Memorial Chapel, Shorewood, WI - International Student Ministry
\$10,000	Divine Word Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Mission Start-up with UW-Stevens Point Campus Ministry
\$10,000	Emaus Lutheran Church, Racine, WI - Mission Start-up

10,000	Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW-Madison, Madison, WI - Faith & Vocation Fellows
10,000	St. Philip's Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Board-designated Grant
10,000	The Table Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Mission Start-up
10,000	Wisconsin Lutheran Chapel, Madison, WI - Board-designated Grant
\$7,500	Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Menomonee Falls, WI - Board-designated Grant
\$7,500	Wartburg College, Waverly, IA - Campus Ministry Reimagination
\$7,000	ELCA Dallas Lutheran Church, Dallas, WI - Board-designated Grant
\$6,500	Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Urban Retreat Center Capital Improvements
\$5,000	Association of Lutheran Development Executives, Verona, WI - Board-designated Grant
\$5,000	Frank Zeidler Center for Public Discussion, Milwaukee, WI - Supporting Transformative Change i Lutheran Congregations
\$5,000	Mount Carmel Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Schaller-designated Grant
\$5,000	Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, New Berlin, WI - Board-designated Grant
\$3,500	ELCA Fund For Leaders, Merrifield, VA - Board-designated Grant
\$3,500	ELCA World Hunger, Merrifield, VA - Board-designated Grant
\$3,500	Redeemer Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Change or Die Conference Honorarium and Schaller-designated Grant
\$2,500	Trinity Lutheran Church of Freistadt, Mequon, WI - Board-designated Grant
\$1,500	St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Schaller-designated Grant for GoMKE
\$1,000	First Immanuel Lutheran Church, Cedarburg, WI - Change or Die Conference Honorarium
\$1,000	Redeemer Lutheran Church, Park Ridge, IL - Change or Die Conference Honorarium
\$1,000	Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Pewaukee, WI - Change or Die Conference Honorarium
\$500	Incarnation Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Change or Die Conference Honorarium
	<b>₹</b> GOVERNANCE & OTHER • \$33,770
23,600	Wisconsin Philanthropy Network, Brookfield, WI - Membership and Leadership Development for

\$23,600	Wisconsin Philanthropy Network, Brookfield, WI - Membership and Leadership Development for Grantee Leaders
\$3,000	Data You Can Use, Milwaukee, WI - Capacity Building Grant awarded to Cross Lutheran Church
\$1,920	Grantmakers for Effective Organizations, Washington, D.C Membership Grant
\$1,000	Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff, Flagstaff, AZ - Honorarium
\$1,000	Benedict Center, Milwaukee, WI - Sponsorship Grant
\$1,000	Exponent Philanthropy, Washington, D.C Membership Grant
\$1,000	Wauwatosa Public Library Foundation, Wauwatosa, WI - Schaller-designated Grant
\$1,000	WUWM Public Radio, Milwaukee, WI - Schaller-designated Grant
\$250	We Raise Foundation Itasca II Lutheran Foundations Convening



\$167,000	Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI - Lutheran Food Panty Support & Capacity Building for Solving Hunger Program
\$114,008	Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Milwaukee, WI - Operating, Year-round Youth Program, and Neighborhood Ministry
\$93,000	Milwaukee JobsWork, Milwaukee, WI - Operating Support and Capacity Building, Board-designated Grant, and Schaller-designated Grant
\$91,000	Lighthouse Youth Center, Inc., Milwaukee, WI - Vicars and Student Interns to Mentor Youth
\$85,000	Emaus Lutheran Church, Racine, WI - Neighborhood Minister, Year-round Youth Outreach, and Summer Youth Program
\$78,700	Just One More Ministry, Wauwatosa, WI - Program Support and Capacity Building
\$67,500	Ascension Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Benedict Center: Sisters Program-South and Summer Youth Program
\$67,000	Project RETURN, Milwaukee, WI - Ex-offender Employment Program, Board-designated Grant, and Schaller-designated Grant
\$65,906	Central City Churches, Inc., Milwaukee, WI - Stabilization and Operating Support
\$60,000	Serenity Inns, Inc., Milwaukee, WI - Operating Support
\$55,000	ELCA Outreach Center, Kenosha, WI - Helping Citizens Toward Self-sufficiency
\$50,000	Redeemer Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Noon Run Meal, Bee the Change Discipleship Program, and Board-designated Grant
\$44,000	Bread of Healing Clinic, Milwaukee, WI - Health and Wellness Services and Schaller-designated Grant
\$32,500	Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan, Inc., West Allis, WI - Chaplaincy and Faith Development Programs at Homme Youth Center and Schaller-designated Grant
\$30,000	Unity in Motion, Milwaukee, WI - Summer Youth Program at All Peoples Lutheran Church
\$29,000	Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Neighborhood Minister and Year-round Youth Program
\$25,000	Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Urban Farm Youth Program and Neighborhood Minister
\$25,000	New Threads of Hope, Wauwatosa, WI - Lutheran Church Clothing Pantries
\$20,000	Faith/Santa Fe Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Neighborhood Minister and Camp Transportation
\$19,000	Unity Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Neighborhood Minister
\$17,500	Incarnation Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Summer Youth Program
\$16,000	All Peoples Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Neighborhood Minister
\$15,000	Cross Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Year-round Youth Program
\$13,000	Lutherdale Ministries, Elkhorn, WI - Summer Bible Camp for Faith/Santa Fe Youth and Board-directed Grant
\$12,000	New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers, Milwaukee, WI - Educational Assistance Fund for Mothers
\$10,000	Hope Lutheran Church, Oconomowoc, WI - Student Ministry
\$7,800	Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI - Summer Youth Program

- \$7,000 The Lutheran Home, Wauwatosa, WI Board-designated Grant
  \$3,000 Outreach for Hope, Inc., Milwaukee, WI Board-designated Grant
  \$2,500 Nehemiah Project, Inc., Milwaukee, WI Schaller-designated Grant
- \$2,000 Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI Summer Youth Program
- **\$1,000** Camp Albrecht Acres, Sherrill, IA Schaller-designated Grant
- \$1,000 Camp Arcadia, Arcadia, MI Change or Die Conference Honorarium

### **S** EDUCATING • \$1,226,000

\$201,000	St. Marcus Lutheran School, Milwaukee, WI - Building Capital Campaign and Schaller-designated Grant
\$150,000	Center for Urban Teaching, Milwaukee, WI - Urban Teacher Training Program
\$138,000	Wisconsin Lutheran High School, Milwaukee, WI - Building Capital Campaign, Tuition Assistance, and Board-designated Grant
\$125,000	Kingdom Prep Lutheran High School, Wauwatosa, WI - New High School Start-up
\$115,000	Lutheran Special School & Education Services, Hales Corners, WI - Mosaics Curriculum, Chapel Renovation, and Board-designated Grant
\$91,000	Milwaukee Lutheran High School, Milwaukee, WI - ACT Prep & Testing Program and Tuition Assistance

- \$90,000 PAVE + Schools That Can Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI Lutheran Urban School Governance &
- Leadership Initiative
  \$64,700 Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, WI INVEST Teacher Pipeline and Closing the Achievement
- Gap Consortium \$50,000 Atonement Lutheran School, Milwaukee, WI - School Addition & New Early Childhood Education Center
- 650,000 Carthage College, Kenosha, WI Urban Teacher Prep Program
- 50,000 Lutheran Urban Mission Initiative, Inc. (LUMIN), Milwaukee, WI Creating Mission Advancement Capacity
- \$30,000 College Possible Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI Expansion to Milwaukee Lutheran High Schools
- \$21,000 Martin Luther High School, Greendale, WI Tuition Assistance
- \$20,000 Lutheran Counseling & Family Services, Wauwatosa, WI Urban School Counseling
- \$17,000 Racine Lutheran High School, Racine, WI Tuition Assistance and Board-designated Grant
- \$9,300 Shoreland Lutheran High School, Somers, WI Tuition Assistance
- \$3,000 Prevent Blindness Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI Board-designated Grant for Vision Screening for Lutheran Schools
- \$1,000 Concordia College New York, Bronxville, NY Change or Die Conference Honorarium

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

As quoted in the last will and testament of A.F. Siebert

### SIEBERT LUTHERAN FOUNDATION

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