



FEBRUARY 2023 Mission Support Memo

STORYTELLING ENGAGEMENT

Cookies Abound

A story from our La Crosse Area Synod

As you read this story, what is inspiring? How might you share this with others in your congregation?

Wednesday may be a slump day for some, but at the La Crosse LuMin Lutheran Campus it's all about grace through *free cookie Wednesday*. Want a cookie? Take a cookie! They just give out cookies to make folks' day better — no strings attached.

As he's giving out the cookies, it's not unusual for Pastor Ben Morris to be asked, "Where do the cookies come from?" The answer is Lutheran grandmas up in the bluffs and hills made them with real butter and real love. Each week congregations throughout the La Crosse Area Synod drop off 500 cookies to be given away. Pastor Ben says, "It's like manna in the wilderness; there always seems to be enough," and these cookies taste better.



LuMin La Crosse is a place to gather in worship, connect to study, grab a cup of coffee, share a family style meal, sit in prayer, make bread for the women's shelter, take walks together and explore places afar in service to others. They advocate for others, share space with multicultural student groups, proudly display the pride flag and mostly reconnect with humanity and each other. Oh, and give out cookies!

Like all ELCA LuMin campus ministry sites across our synods, this ministry happens because congregations share food — yes, cookies — and also through Mission Support that is shared with our synods and churchwide organization to support these vital, transformative, grace-filled ministries with students. Mission Support is just one way campus ministry is funded, so learn more, pray for local campus ministry by checking out luminelca.org/.