



WHO WE ARE

The WELS Church Extension Fund, Inc. (WELS CEF) is a self-supporting, not for profit, wholly owned subsidiary corporation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

OUR MISSION

WELS CEF exists to provide loans and grants to qualified WELS Mission and mission minded self-supporting congregations so they can acquire land and build or renovate ministry facilities to be used as tools for gospel outreach.

For information on how you, your congregation, or an organization can invest with WELS CEF or make a gift, please contact us toll-free at 1-866-511-7793 or by e-mail at: cef@wels.net. Visit our website at: wels.net/cef.

“So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.”

Acts 16:5



The purchase of WELS CEF securities is subject to risks, which are described in our Offering Circular. This is not an offer to sell, nor the solicitation to buy our securities. We will offer and sell our securities only in states where authorized. WELS CEF certificates are unsecured general debt obligations. WELS CEF is not a bank or regulated financial institution. This offering is made solely by the Offering Circular, available on our website: wels.net/cef.

*Not FDIC Insured *Not a bank deposit *No Synod guarantee

Build your future.

Build your church.



HOW YOU AND WELS CEF WORK TOGETHER

The money WELS CEF uses to provide loans and grants comes from three sources—investments, gifts/donations, and net operating earnings. Individual WELS members, WELS congregations and schools, along with WELS affiliated organizations have the opportunity to invest in a WELS CEF certificate. These investments provide funding for our Loan Program. In addition—gifts, donations, and bequests made directly to WELS CEF are earmarked for our Grant Program. WELS CEF net operating earnings also provide funding for grants.

LOAN PROGRAM

WELS CEF provides financing so churches can be built. Most loans, after down payments and applicable grants, are in the \$1-\$2 million range. Typically, this is what it costs to buy an existing worship facility or to buy land and build an appropriate worship facility. Over 200 WELS congregations have loans with WELS CEF—totaling over \$145 million. WELS CEF offers competitive interest rates which are generally lower than what a qualified borrower would find at another lender.

GRANT PROGRAM

Mission congregations can qualify for a matching grant from WELS CEF if they raise a specified amount of money for a land purchase or a building project. The grant, along with their down payment, help keep the amount they need to borrow to a more manageable level. During the past five years, WELS CEF has averaged over \$1.8 million in grants disbursed per year and over \$31 million in grants have been disbursed to mission congregations since the program began. In addition to the matching grant program, WELS CEF also provides grants to the Board for Home Missions (BHM). These grants, totaling \$4.1 million over the past 7 years, have allowed the BHM to fund more mission start-ups than they otherwise would have been able to start.

A LOOK AHEAD

It takes a number of years from the time the Board for Home Missions (BHM) approves the start up of a new mission congregation until that congregation is ready to move into a worship facility and work to become self-supporting. We encourage individual WELS members and congregations to consider investing in WELS CEF certificates to help support our loan

program. Individuals can also invest in Retirement/IRA certificates—providing another option for supporting our mission.

Because of the generosity of WELS members in the form of gifts and bequests to WELS CEF, we've been able to provide much needed grants to mission congregations.

In order to sustain our current grant program it is important that WELS members continue to support WELS CEF with their gifts and bequests. Members who currently hold WELS CEF certificates are encouraged to consider naming WELS CEF, or any other WELS organization, as a full or partial beneficiary of that investment.

