



Nurturing Children Through Worship & Prayer Initiative

2025

In March 2025, Lilly Endowment approved 47 grants to organizations across the United States through the latest round of its Nurturing Children Through Worship and Prayer Initiative. The aim of the initiative is to help Christian congregations more fully and intentionally engage children in intergenerational corporate and prayer practices. The grants will fund programs at a variety of organizations, including denominational agencies, faith-based resource agencies, church-related colleges and universities, theological schools, Christian publishing houses and congregations. The Endowment made a \$2,609,655 grant to Indiana Wesleyan University, which is leading a coordination program for grantees in the initiative.

In addition to the grants listed below, the Endowment approved grants to 91 organizations in 2024 and grants to 32 organizations in 2023 through earlier rounds of the Nurturing Children initiative.

Organization	Location	Amount
Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes	Akron, OH	\$1,230,785
Aquinas Institute of Theology	St. Louis, MO	\$1,250,000
Auburn Theological Seminary	New York City, NY	\$1,250,000
Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church	Fulton, MD	\$1,250,000
Bethel University	Mishawaka, IN	\$1,245,748
Calvin Theological Seminary	Grand Rapids, MI	\$1,250,000
Catholic Diocese of El Paso	El Paso, TX	\$1,250,000
Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend	Fort Wayne, IN	\$1,250,000
The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd	Scottsdale, AZ	\$768,900

Catholic Extension (Catholic Church Extension Society of the United States of America)	Chicago, IL	\$1,250,000
Center for Contemplative Justice	Nashville, TN	\$1,249,673
Christian Church in Kentucky (Christian Church Disciples of Christ in Kentucky)	Lexington, KY	\$1,250,000
Concordia Publishing House	St. Louis, MO	\$1,250,000
Dillard University	New Orleans, LA	\$1,250,000
Episcopal Church in Minnesota (Episcopal Diocese in Minnesota)	Minneapolis, MN	\$1,247,368
Gate of Hope Ministries International	Louisville, KY	\$1,250,000
Godly Play Foundation	Ashland, KS	\$1,250,000
Grace Presbytery	Irving, TX	\$1,250,000
Great Commission Publications	Suwanee, GA	\$1,250,000
Heartland Church	Fishers, IN	\$1,250,000
Hispanic Bible School	Chicago, IL	\$1,250,000
Holy Family Institute	Pittsburgh, PA	\$1,250,000
International Pentecostal Holiness Church	Oklahoma City, OK	\$1,250,000
Live Church	St. Louis, MO	\$1,249,011
Luther Seminary	St. Paul, MN	\$1,196,800
Mel Trotter Ministries	Grand Rapids, MI	\$1,250,000

Mennonite Health Services	Goshen, IN	\$1,249,800
Mercer University (The Corporation of Mercer University)	Macon, GA	\$1,250,000
Methodist Theological School in Ohio	Delaware, OH	\$1,250,000
Michigan Conference United Church of Christ	Grand Rapids, MI	\$1,250,000
National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (National Community of Catechetical Leadership)	Cheshire, CT	\$1,250,000
National Sunday School & Holiness Youth Ministries Congress of the Church of Christ Holiness USA	Covington, LA	\$789,655
Nelson University (Southwestern Assemblies of God College)	Waxahachie, TX	\$1,249,050
Orthodox Youth Ministries	Washington D.C.	\$1,250,000
Passport, Inc.	Birmingham, AL	\$1,250,000
Presbytery of Grand Canyon	Phoenix, AZ	\$1,248,994
Princeton Theological Seminary	Princeton, NJ	\$1,250,000
Salvation Army (Salvation Army National Corporation)	Alexandria, VA	\$1,250,000
St. John's Lutheran Church of Atlanta	Atlanta, GA	\$1,250,000
St. Joseph's Society of the Sacred Heart - The Josephites	Baltimore, MD	\$1,250,000
St. Paul Community Baptist Church	Brooklyn, NY	\$1,250,000
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church	Council Bluffs, IA	\$750,000
Transitional Leadership Council of the Global Methodist Church	Fredericksburg, VA	\$1,250,000

United Pentecostal Church International	Weldon Springs, MO	\$1,175,000
Vanguard University of Southern California	Costa Mesa, CA	\$1,250,000
Vibrant Faith Ministries	Ellendale, MN	\$1,250,000
YouthFront	Kansas City, KS	\$1,249,999
