

AN AUDACIOUS ENDEAVOR



**Lutheran
University
Nigeria**
DEMSA

VISION

To be a world-class conventional university which provides up-to-date knowledge and skills in the disciplines-on-offer using modern technology and undergirded by Christian beliefs.

EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK

"We have before us an opportunity that few will ever experience. We've been invited to partner with our companion synod in establishing the Lutheran University Nigeria." -- Bishop Ann Svenningsen



Stepping out in faith to meet an urgent national need, the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN), is poised to launch the Lutheran University Nigeria (LUN). Long engaged in providing excellent primary, secondary, and seminary education, LCCN is now addressing the critical need to provide university education.

THE NEED

- Today, Nigeria has university openings for fewer than 40% of the eligible population.
- Regional universities give priority to local students. Qualified students in northeastern Nigeria – where LCCN is primarily located – do not easily gain access to universities in the south, where there are many more schools.
- Access to professional programs in public universities is limited. Depending upon who is in power in the government, both Christians and Muslims may experience discrimination in higher education.
- There aren't enough university spots available for gifted graduates. The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria prepares excellent high school graduates for post-secondary studies through its vast network of primary and secondary schools. Students consistently graduate with superior marks.
- Currently there is no private, church-related university in northeastern Nigeria. The Lutheran University would be the first – and would claim an almost immediate impact because of LCCN's positive reputation for excellent primary and secondary schools.
- The Lutheran University would provide educational opportunities and tangible hope in a region of the country that has suffered from violence and civil unrest for well over a decade.

For nearly 200 years, Lutherans in the U.S. have established and developed colleges and universities. It's just something Lutherans do, believing higher education is vital in preparing people for lives of purpose, service to the neighbor, and community building.

WHAT'S BEEN DONE SO FAR

In courage and faith, the Lutheran Church in Nigeria has already met significant milestones in its vision to establish a university:

- Acquired nearly 500 acres of prime real estate adjacent to the LCCN hospital in Demsa; completed the geophysical survey and environmental impact assessment;
- Submitted comprehensive plans (Master, Business, Academic, and Legal) to the Nigeria National Universities Commission, prepared by a Task Force of stellar LCCN university professors and administrators;
- Raised more than \$73,000 to achieve these milestones; and
- Asked every LCCN congregation to designate the entirety of one Sunday's offering in November for the Lutheran University in Nigeria.



OUR CALL TO ACTION

To ensure commitment, preparedness, and fiscal stability, the National Universities Commission requires that \$500,000 be reserved in a university account before they will authorize the launch of the Lutheran University in Nigeria.

This is where we come in. Our Synod Council has authorized a synod-wide campaign to commence immediately. The goal is to raise the needed \$500,000 by the end of 2021!

We recognize the audacity of such an endeavor in the next 3 months. Yet we are confident that this Synod is deeply committed to accompanying the LCCN in this amazing endeavor and has the capacity to reach this goal.

Like the LCCN, we are asking every congregation to focus their response through a Thank Offering on Sunday, November 21. The synod will make an online worship service available to congregations on that Sunday with Archbishop Musa Filibus preaching.

This is a moment when the people of God in the LCCN are on the threshold of establishing a vibrant Lutheran university for the next generation of leaders in Nigeria. Thank you for prayerfully considering our invitation, and for your ongoing commitment to the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria.

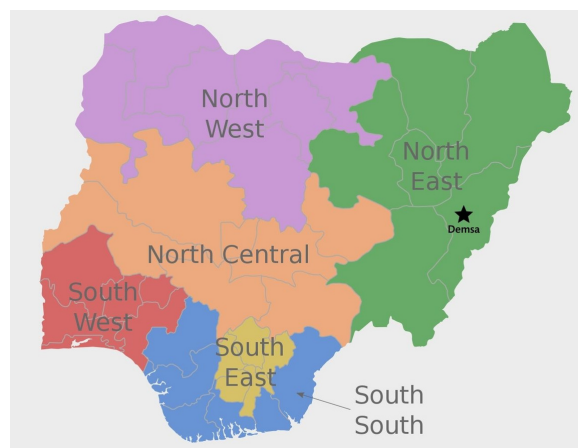
A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN



Minneapolis Area Synod
of the ELCA

MISSION

To produce knowledgeable and competent men and women who will catalyse the transformation of society towards self-reliance and Godliness.



Bishop Ann Svennungsen and Archbishop Musa Filibus standing at the site of the future Lutheran University Nigeria in Demsa. There are currently no universities in the North East region of Nigeria.

DONATE

There are several ways you can donate through the Minneapolis Area Synod:

- Cash or check
- [Tinyurl.com/j6j9v9rp](https://tinyurl.com/j6j9v9rp)
- Scan the QR code



GET UPDATES

Stay up-to-date by visiting the page on the Minneapolis Area Synod website.

[**MPLS-SYNOD.ORG**](https://mpls-synod.org)

CONTACT

612-870-3610
e.howard@mpls-synod.org
#LUNigeria



@mplssynod



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