

Companion Synod Covenant
between
Central Diocese,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa
and
Metropolitan Chicago Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Vision

The Companion Synod relationship exists for the purpose of strengthening one another for life and mission within the body of Christ. It offers us the privilege of participating in the life of another church through prayer, study, communication, and exchange of persons and resources. It opens our eyes to the global challenge that Christ offers us today and calls us to deepen our commitment and discipleship as individual persons and as a community of faith.

Mission

Through the Companion Synod relationship, we will

- be a part of the vision, life, and mission goals of one another;
- be renewed and empowered in faith and commitment to mission by one another's witness to Christ
- be educated and challenged by encounters with one another's problems and possibilities; and
- encourage one another to participate in each other's ministries through prayer, communication, and exchange of resources and persons.

Expressions

- pray regularly for one another
- exchange communications and other materials such as correspondence, publications, photographs, audio and video tapes;
- receive and send delegations to further the personal aspect of the relationship and to exchange ideas on common concerns; and
- develop awareness of the Companion Synod relationship through the Central Diocese and Metropolitan Chicago Synod, such as articles, bulletin inserts, an annual Companion Synod Sunday, educational displays at diocesan and synodical meetings.

Signed the thirteenth day of June, nineteen hundred and ninety seven.

The Reverend Manas Buthelezi
Bishop, Central Diocese, ELCSA

The Reverend Kenneth Olsen
Bishop, Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA