



Facts and Figures of Northern Illinois Synod Ministries

If you would like to become involved in one of these ministries, please call the synod office at (815) 964-9934.

Congregational Life Committee

Supports and equips congregations to carry out their ministries and provides leadership through the following events and subcommittees:

- Congregational Resourcing Event
- Congregational grants
- Stewardship
- Worship
- Youth Ministries

Global Mission

Encourage and strengthen local connections to the global body of Christ, especially

- Companionship with North Central (formerly “Arusha”) Diocese, ELCT
- Companionship with Arcot Lutheran Church, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu, India

Ministry Support Committee

Oversees certification and preparation of candidates for ordained ministry, provides support and care for professional leaders, and promotes theological and continuing education.

- Professional Leaders’ Conference
- Developing and providing salary guidelines for rostered leaders working in NIS
- Supports candidates through the process of call and affirmation seeking to respond to the Spirit’s vocational direction for service in the rostered ministries of this church (*Candidacy Subcommittee*).
- First Call Theological Education Program

Outreach Committee

Committed to finding ways to both live and share the abundant life we have been promised.

- We work in partnership to support, equip, and encourage both existing and new starts in mission and ministry.
- Award grants to a number of congregations in an effort to support outreach efforts in their own communities.
- Provide evangelism resources

Social Ministry Committee

Works to care for those in need, serve our neighbors, and seek justice and righteousness for all people.

- In-Kind Offering for Synod Assembly is gathered and disbursed through the committee.
- Extend Social Ministry Grants.
- Research and makes recommendations to the ELCA on Domestic Hunger Grant Applications.
- Serve through many subcommittees:
 - *World Hunger* encourages congregations to contribute to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal and educates people about world hunger issues at synod events.
 - *Racial Justice and Multicultural Ministries* raises cultural awareness and provides forums in congregations to encourage healing conversation and to help equip leaders to recognize and eradicate institutional racism.

- *Small Congregation Ministries* encourages, connects and supports small congregations to develop strategies for faithfulness in difficult times.
- *Green Team* representatives are available to provide energy audits on your church property to discover money- and energy-saving tips, as well as offer resources for potential grants from outside sources.
- *Climate Change Task Force* began in 2016 to further study the issue of climate change and to discern the Church’s response. Educational materials and presentations are offered and a determination of the future of this subcommittee is underway.
- *Advocacy* maintains synod contact with Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, organizes the annual Lutheran Day in Springfield, and encourages support of services for our

Plus additional ministry support to:

- **ELCA Mission Support** – responds to ministry opportunities here and around the world to further the mission of this church.
- **Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI)** – the Social Agency of three Illinois Synods and Churchwide.
- **Seminaries** – Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa.

- **Colleges** – 12 Lutheran Colleges in Regions 3 and 5
- **Campus Ministries** – 10 different campus ministry sites.
- **Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (LOMC)**, Oregon, Illinois – year-round programs giving leadership to summer camps, retreats, confirmation camps, and outdoor education.
- **Illinois Conference of Churches** – Interchurch cooperative effort between delegates of the member churches.
- **Regional Ministries** – Region 5 encompasses 12 synods of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Upper Michigan.

By the Numbers

143 Congregations
66,912 Baptized Members

Congregations by average weekly worship

Attendance:

98 Family Size (100 or less on Sunday)
34 Pastoral Size (100-200 on Sunday)
8 Program Size (200-350 on Sunday)
7 Corporate Size (350 or more on Sunday)
7 Two-Point Parishes
2 Three-Point Parishes

3 Congregations Under Development/Redevelopment
20 Congregations in the vitality project
120 Ministers of Word & Sacrament (Pastors) Serving Congregations
12 Chaplains and Others in Specialized Ministry
11 Ministers of Word & Service (Deacons)
121 Retired Rostered Ministers

Churchwide Numbers

65 Synods in the ELCA
400+ Current Congregations Under Development
141 Adult Mission Personnel Overseas
79 Young Adults in Global Mission

Companion with North Central (previously “Arusha”) Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania

Bishop Solomon Massangwa

Companion with Arcot Lutheran Church, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu, India

Rt. Rev. Samuel Kennady, Bishop

Partners in Ministry

Synod

Lower Susquehanna Synod, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Bishop James S. Dunlop

Agencies

- diakonia™
- Jenny Lind Chapel, Andover, Illinois
- Lutheran Social Services of Illinois
- Mission Investment Fund
- Mosaic (formerly Martin Lutheran Home Society & Bethphage)
- Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries, Rockford, Illinois
- Unity Point Health – Trinity, Rock Island, Illinois

Camps

- Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center, Oregon, Illinois
- Lutherdale Ministries, Elkhorn, Wisconsin

Colleges

- Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois
- Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Lutheran Campus Ministries

- Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois
- Lutheran Campus Ministry of Illinois

Seminaries

- Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
- Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa

Synodical Groups

- Lutheran Men in Mission
- Lutheran Youth Organization
- Northern Illinois Synod Women’s Organization

Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Bishop Jeffrey Clements

103 West State Street, Rockford, IL 61101-1105
Telephone: (815) 964-9934 * Fax: (815) 964-2295

E-mail: welcome@nisynod.org

Web Page: <http://nisynod.org/>