

Step by Step/Hatua Kwa Hatua
COMPANION CONGREGATION COVENANT

Between
and

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania

“That they may all be One” *John 17:21a*

VISION

The Companion Congregation relationship between churches of the Western Iowa Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Southern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania exists to deepen the companion synod relationship whose purpose is 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, communications, and exchange of persons and resources. It opens our eyes to the global challenge that Christ offers us today through and involvement with a church of another culture and calls us to deepen our commitment and discipleship as individual persons and as a community of faith.

MISSION

Through our Companion Congregation program, we will:

1. Be renewed and empowered in faith and commitment to mission by the witness of Christians.
2. Share in the vision, life and mission of the family of Christ.
3. Be educated and challenged by this encounter which will reflect an awareness of problems and possibilities as we share our life in Christ.
4. Recognize our own gifts and resources for participation in the Companion Congregation mission for Christ.

GOALS & COMMITMENTS

1. Encouragement of regular corporate and individual prayer support for one another and communication with one another.
2. When possible, facilitate the exchange of people and resources through partnering in mutually-agreed upon projects that forward the mission of Christ.
3. Foster a sense of mutual walk in the journey of Christian faith
4. Celebrate the relationship annually on Companion Synod Sunday set for the 1st Sunday of each June.
5. Work through the respective synod/diocese office to engage with and maintain a companion synod/congregation relationship that is mindful of the various pillars of our companion synod projects and takes into account the principles of accompaniment, sustainability, transparency, and accountability.

This Covenant is signed in agreement on _____, 20____ by:

Congregation Pastor
(WIS-ELCA)

Congregation Pastor
(ELCT-SD)

Companion Congregation Advocate
(WIS-ELCA)

Companion Congregation Advocate
(ELCT-SD)