



SCSW Pastors gather during a recent cultural immersion experience in Puerto Rico with Bishop Idalia Negron of our partner, ELCA Caribbean Synod

WE ARE CHURCH TOGETHER!

Your Synod Assembly Offering 2020

This year's synod assembly offering will be divided between the synod's **Latino worshipping communities: Parroquia San Jose' in Beloit and Parroquia Santa Maria in Fitchburg** and beyond to our partner, the **ELCA Caribbean Synod**.

As a synod, we have been working on reaching out to the Latino community, developing worshipping communities and raising up leaders to tell the Jesus story for the next generation. These life-giving ministries are meeting people where they are and providing a community to gather in prayer, worship, and fellowship. The ministries host:

- Worship services
- Quincenieras
- Posadas
- Annual Latino gatherings
- Education Events
- And many more events.

Raising Leaders

There is a great need for leaders in these communities. The SCSW works with congregational leadership to raise leaders to grow these ministries and plant new ones in the future. Workshops, retreats, and continuing education events are held for both lay and rostered leaders throughout the synod. Most recently, 7 pastors from our synod participated in a cultural immersion experience in Puerto Rico where we met with the ELCA Caribbean synod leadership.

Raising Funds

The other need we have is a need for funds. Our current ministries are not self-sufficient and are subsidized from a variety of sources. We are focusing on Faith Formation and Stewardship Development, but are still in need of partners to support these ministries. If you, or your congregation, would like to make more than a one-time offering in support of these ministries, or learn more about them, please talk to our Director for Evangelical Mission.

Rev. Walter Baires
Director for Evangelical Mission
walterb@scsw-elca.org

Offerings to the **ELCA Caribbean Synod** will help them continue their recovery efforts from the devastation experienced from hurricanes and will support their programming for their children and adult ministries.

Offerings can be made in the following ways:

- At Synod Assembly
- Online through event registration site:
<https://bit.ly/SCSWAssembly2020>
- Mailed to the synod office with "Assembly Offering" in the memo: South-Central Synod of Wisconsin/ 6401 Odana Road/Suite 20/ Madison, WI 53719
- Text **GIVE** to: (608) 571-1576
 or give here: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/387616

Thank you for prayerfully considering an offering for these important ways we are church together!



South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

LATINO MINISTRIES & ELCA Caribbean Synod

About the Speaker



REV. ANDREA DE-GROOT NESDAHL

We are delighted to welcome the Rev. Andrea Degroot-Nesdaahl as our keynote speaker this year.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women, it is fitting to be addressed by someone who is considered to have paved the way for many female clergy in our church.

Elected as the second woman to serve as bishop in the ELCA, Rev. DeGroot-Nesdaahl graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary in 1977, seven years after the ordination of women was approved. She spent some time in small town ministry in Wisconsin and served as assistant to the bishop of the ELCA's Western North Dakota Synod.

It is said that Andrea brought a caring heart, background in chaplaincy and a love for the church to her role as Bishop of the ELCA South Dakota Synod from 1995 to 2007. Her 12 years as bishop included a focus on intergenerational ministry, faith formation, and lifting up leaders for rostered ministry. She is also thought to be an inspiring preacher.

Many of us know her through her fine work with the ELCA Malaria Campaign. After the successful completion of that campaign, she moved to an awareness program for HIV/AIDS.

We look forward to this rare opportunity to hear her reflections of her time as pastor of this church, showing people of all ages the inclusivity of God's church and what it means to be Church Together for the sake of the world.

