



Southeastern Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Report for January 2019 Synod Council Meeting

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Title: Directors for Evangelical Mission (DEM)

We said goodbye to Ron Bonner as our half time DEM on October 31, 2018. Ron took a call at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer-Atlanta, GA. We wish him great success in his new ministry. Effective November 1st, 2018, John Mocko is our Interim half time DEM. John was a long time DEM in the North Carolina Synod and brings a wealth of knowledge in the DEM area. Needless to say, he has hit the ground running and we are blessed by his service. *The UNITED TM 2.0* Program will continue with the third educational session in February 2019 for the five churches in the Atlanta Cluster and with the four churches in the Memphis Cluster. This is a two-year commitment, but it gives congregations hope of a path other than decline. It's about cultural change so it's demanding work. Pastor Tiffany Chaney, who is a member of the MORC, had a renewal vision for our African Descent congregations/ministries which is called Umoyo. This will be a separate item in the Agenda. The Bishop and the DEMs will be partners with her in making this three-year program a success. The Domestic Mission Unit of the ELCA has approved a grant of \$80,000.

New Starts

With the new financial year starting February 1st, the DEMs are consumed in doing the paperwork necessary to received funding from the ELCA. The view point towards New Starts in 2019 is to be very selective.

Renewing Congregations

The ELCA is discontinuing individual redevelopments but will provide funding for a few years if necessary. For 2019, our redevelopments include Holy Trinity-Daphne, AL., St. Paul-Decatur, GA., Christ-Prattville, AL. Both Faith Lutheran and Holy Spirit Lutheran will conclude their formal Redevelopment Programs at the end of the 2018 fiscal year.

Multicultural, Ethnic, and Poverty Ministries

Finding true Mission Developers and Redevelopers is the number one problem. This is especially true of Latino pastors. Our congregation in Doraville, GA. has not had a pastor in years and there is no one in sight. Our Latino congregation in Oakwood, GA. no longer has a pastor so they

now will be struggling. We continue to work with the Candidacy Committee to identify future developers.

Conclusion

The needs are many but the resources few.

Synodically Authorized Worshipping Communities (SAWCs)

- 1. Die Deutsche Kirchengemeinde in Atlanta*
- 2. St. Barnabas, Jefferson City, TN.*
- 3. Lutheran/Episcopal Church of the Annunciation, Lumberton, MS.*
- 4. Kiswahili Lutheran Mission, Nashville (2 locations)*
- 5. Hope International, Doraville, GA.*
- 6. Atlanta Beer & Hymns and Bar Church, Atlanta, GA.*
- 7. North Metro Atlanta Latino Mission*
- 8. All Welcome, Tifton, GA.*
- 9. Good Samaritan Ministry, Stone Mountain, GA.*
- 10. Resurrection Mission, Tucker, GA.*

Congregations under Development and Alternative Worshipping Communities

- 11. Inglesia Luterana de Cristo, Oakwood, GA.*
- 12. Inglesia Luterana Sagrada Familia, Doraville, GA.*
- 13. Atlanta Telegu Lutheran Mission, Peachtree Corners, GA.*
- 14. DongHang Korean Mission, Suwanee, GA.*
- 15. Grovetown Episcopal-Lutheran Mission, Grovetown, GA.*
- 16. Gathered by Grace-Montgomery, AL.*

Official Redevelopments Receiving ELCA Partnership Support

- 17. Christ Lutheran Church, Prattville, AL. 2019 \$8,000*
- 18. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Daphne, AL. 2019 \$18,000*
- 19. St. Paul Lutheran Church, Decatur, GA. 2019 \$20,000*