



Companion Synod Sunday Pentecost Sunday

The Upstate NY Synod is in a Companion Synod relationship with two international Lutheran bodies:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (ELCZ)

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia (ELCZa)

Answers to FAQs

- All synods within the ELCA have one or more international partners.
- Relationships focus on accompaniment or walking together.
- The values of accompaniment are: Mutuality, Inclusivity, Vulnerability, Empowerment, and Sustainability
- Some congregations have a twin congregation in Zimbabwe with whom they communicate.
- Pastors and lay people participate in exchanges between the UNYS and Zimbabwe.

For more information about our Companion Synod relationship, contact Beth Walker, UNYS Global Mission Chair, at

rbowsend@rochester.rr.com



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More Information!

Zimbabwe (ELCZ)

- Located just north of South Africa
- Vision - “To be a spiritually vibrant, self-sustaining and self-propagating church that preaches reconciliation of all human beings to God in Jesus Christ.”
- Three Dioceses – Eastern, Central, Western
- Three bishops with rotating responsibility as head bishop
- Sunday School, Youth, Luther League Seniors’ Fellowship, Women and Men’s Fellowships
- NY Congregation to Parish twinnings
- Pastoral and lay exchanges: We currently celebrate the presence of Zimbabwe intern Mbongeni Dube at Good Shepherd, Glenville
- www.elcz.co.zw

Zambia (ELCZa)

- Located north of Zimbabwe and Mozambique
- Smaller church body with Senior Pastor instead of a bishop
- Current focus on building church structures to allow year-round shelter for worship

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