

ILEP—TLGC Companion Synod **CONGREGATION TO CONGREGATION MINISTRY**

The following guidelines are intended to strengthen the existing relationship between the Peruvian Evangelical Lutheran Church (ILEP) and the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast (TLGC) Synod when it is expressed on a congregation to congregation level.

It is understood that TLGC congregations desiring to have a companion congregation will complete the attached request form so that ILEP has some information as they prayerfully consider the needs, gifts and mission of their congregations in this partnership. ILEP will make the congregation to congregation assignment as they understand the priorities and needs of their congregations. This relationship is an on-going commitment unless either party choose to end this partnership. If a TLGC congregation has a special request regarding the assignment process, this request can be written to the ILEP Council for their consideration.

Congregation to Congregation Ministry is centered on the shared understanding that:

- Congregation level relationships are one expression of the calling the Peruvian Evangelical Lutheran Church (ILEP) and the TLGC Synod have identified to be companions in mission.
- We are members of the global Lutheran Christian communion.
- We can live out our calling to work for justice and peace more effectively in partnership.
- We can grow in our faith in Jesus Christ as we pray, worship and share life together.
- We all have stories and gifts to offer each other in Peru and the United States.

We agree that we will share in this relationship with mutual respect by:

- Praying weekly for each other in worship
- Sharing faith, including the joys and pains of ministry
- Advocating for people who live in poverty in both countries
- Visiting each other regularly (At least once every two years is recommended)
- Sharing stories and cultural practices as well as life's pains and joys for authentic relationships
- Entering into projects with mutual agreement within the guidelines of the Companion Synod Relationship
- Projects may or may not involve TLGC congregation-level financial contributions

Guidelines of Companion Synod Relationships that impact the Congregation to Congregation

Ministry includes:

- Communications involving financial contributions or planning a visit with Peruvian Congregations from TLGC congregations should include ILEP and TLGC.
- Funding from TLGC or Texas—Louisiana Congregations and individuals should move from TLGC to ILEP for distribution, transparency and accountability.
- A minimum annual financial commitment of \$500 (\$200 for ILEP & \$300 for the congregation)
- An ILEP congregation can receive up to \$15,000 annually from their Companion Congregation. Gifts above this amount will be allocated to other congregations by ILEP.
- Projects that include funding partnerships should be communicated with ILEP & TLGC. Examples include funding pastors' or leaders' salaries, building projects, children's programs, etc. These funds, as noted above will also move from TLGC to ILEP to the congregation and/or the project.
- Notification to ILEP when a congregation visits Peru is appropriate and requested.
- Trips should include more than the companion congregation visit to gain a wider view of the church.

**TLGC CONGREGATION REQUEST FOR
CONGREGATION TO CONGREGATION MINISTRY**

Name of Congregation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone #: _____

Pastor: _____ Email: _____

Other Primary Leaders (indicate with an * if they speak Spanish!)

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Description of Congregation:

Average weekly worship attendance: _____ Average age of members: _____

Strengths in: (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Music/ Choir	<input type="checkbox"/> Outreach / Evangelism	Other strengths: (Please list) _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Children	<input type="checkbox"/> Children's neighborhood outreach	
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth neighborhood outreach	
<input type="checkbox"/> Women's Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Justice / Advocacy	
<input type="checkbox"/> Men's Ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> International Travel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Bible Study		

Please enclose the following with this request:

1. A brief explanation of why your congregation is interested in a congregation to congregation relationship and any experience you have with Global Mission.
2. A few photographs of your ministry (your choice!)
3. Questions you have for your potential partner congregation.
4. Optional: thoughts and concerns about the assignment process that should be considered by ILEP.

PETICION DE ILEP PARA **MINISTERIO ENTRE CONGREGACIONES**

Nombre de la Congregacion: _____

Direccion: _____

E-mail: _____ Telefono: _____

Pastor: _____ E-mail: _____

Otros Lideres: (Indique con un * si hablan Español!)

Nombre: _____ E-mail: _____

Nombre: _____ E-mail: _____

Descripcion de la Congregacion:

Atendencia promedio semanal de la misa: _____ Edad promedio de los miembros: _____

Fortalezas: (Marque todas las que aplican)

<input type="checkbox"/> Musica/ Coro	<input type="checkbox"/> Evangelismo/Alcance	Otros puntos fuertes: (Porfavor liste) _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Niños	<input type="checkbox"/> Alcance de niños en el vecindario	
<input type="checkbox"/> Jovenes	<input type="checkbox"/> Alcance de jovenes en el vecindario	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerio de Mujeres	<input type="checkbox"/> Justicia Social	
<input type="checkbox"/> Min. de Hombres	<input type="checkbox"/> Viajes Internacionales	
<input type="checkbox"/> Estudio biblico de adultos		

Porfavor adjunte los siguientes documentos con esta peticion:

1. Una explicacion breve de el por que su congregacion esta interesada en una relacion de congregacion con congregacion y cualquier experiencia que tenga con mision global.
2. Unas cuantas fotografias de su ministerio (de su preferencia!)
3. Preguntas que tenga para su congregacion compañera.
4. Opcional: Pensamientos y preocupaciones acerca de el proceso de seleccion que deberian de ser consideradas por ILEP.

Congregation to Congregation—Financial Contributions

When making a financial contribution to an ILEP congregation, using the coupon below will insure that your contribution is recorded accurately in both the Gulf Coast Synod office and in Peru. Please fill out the information requested below and enclose this form with your check payable to TLGCS. Mail to:

Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, ELCA
12941 I-45 NORTH FWY STE 210
HOUSTON TX 77060-1243

A scanned image of the coupon will be transmitted electronically to ILEP along with the details of the wire transfer. If you have any questions, please contact Sally at sally@gulfcoastsynod.org Thank you!

When considering a financial contribution, please remember the following guidelines:

- Communications involving financial contributions or planning a visit with Peruvian Congregations from TLGC congregations should include ILEP and TLGC.
- Funding from TLGC or Texas—Louisiana Congregations and individuals should move from TLGC to ILEP for distribution, transparency and accountability.
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Iglesia Luterana Evangélica Peruana

Companion Synods

Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, ELCA

From: _____
(Contributing Congregation Name, City and State)

Congregation Contact: _____ Email Address: _____

Designation: (enter name of ILEP Congregation, Ministry or Special Appeal)

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

Message: _____

A scanned copy of this form will be sent to the Peruvian synod office electronically, along with notice of wire transfer

