



Florida-Bahamas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

What Does Your Synod Do?

Your congregation's mission support allows the Florida-Bahamas Synod to share the love of Jesus.

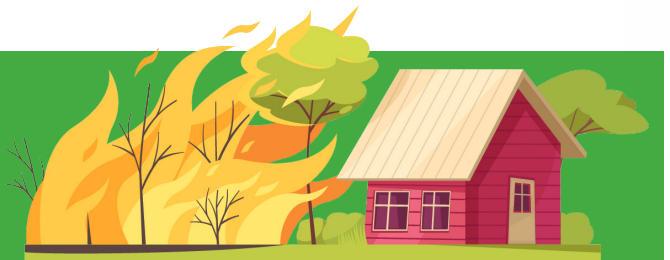
Pastoral Care & Support

- Ongoing formation & support of pastors and conference deans
- Guidance & direction in the call process for pastors & ELCA deacons
- Presence at anniversaries, ordinations & installations of rostered ministers, synod parish deacon commissionings, pastor's last Sunday, memorial/funeral services
- Walk alongside our congregations and rostered leaders



Disaster Relief

- Responds to disasters such as fire and hurricane
- to ensure the continuity of a congregation
- God's work, Our hands
- Congregation preparedness



Advocacy & Social Justice

- Supports & funds local justice and mercy ministry agencies (e.g., Council of Churches, Lutheran Services of Florida, etc.)
- Sharing Christ's love for all our neighbors



Leadership Development

- Equips and supports the formation of strong lay leaders through diakonia and Synod Parish Deacon programs
- Oversees the Candidacy and Assignment process – raising up new rostered ministers
- Trains, equips and sends interim pastors
- Offers youth and young adult leadership opportunities (e.g., campus ministry, National Youth Convention, Bishop's school, etc.)



Visioning & Major Events

- Discerns a vision for the entire synod
- Has a leadership team with varied backgrounds to serve as decision makers
- Coordinates the annual synod-wide events like the Synod Assembly, Conference on Ministry, Boundaries Training for Rostered Ministers, etc.



Financial Support

- Assists churches with budgeting & accounting concerns
- Gives grants to support food ministry, technology, etc.
- Provides financial support to start new missions and redevelop struggling congregations



Resource to Local Churches/Congregations

- Informs congregations on local church news, synod updates, the ELCA and worldwide church affairs
- Offers countless opportunities for training and formation to church members
- Works with new and dying congregations
- Accompanies congregations in ministry
- Provides pastoral, ministerial, administrative and strategic support
- Helps congregations stay relevant in their communities
- Provides resources for worship planning
- Accompanies congregations through the transition process
- Serves as a point of connection for the local church
- Offers congregational health and wellness support through the Listening Team, Post Call Retreats and other resources
- Participates in congregation conflict resolution
- Brings vitality and outreach ideas to help expand local church outreach
- Unites the work of congregations within their areas
- Serves as the 'public voice' for the congregations it serves
- Provides tools for stewardship, congregation growth, and governance



Relationship Building

- Builds ecumenical and interfaith relationships
- Coordinates with other synods for calling pastors from around the country
- Strengthens the relationship between synod leaders and the churchwide office



Ministry Support

- Supports and funds outdoor ministry and campus ministry
- Provides opportunities for youth through the camps and young adults in global mission to serve the church
- Works with new mission starts to formulate and implement an ELCA presence in new areas

