



COMPANION CONGREGATION PARTNERSHIP COVENANT

What is a partnership?

The partnership is made by two churches, one church from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in the United States and one church from the Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala. In this case, the Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador of the ILAG is renewing a partnership with Our Saviors Lutheran Church of the ELCA, St. Paul Area Synod.

The partnership is a relationship based in the love of Christ. Communication and understanding of each other are important parts of the relationship.

The most important part of the partnership between the two churches is Christ, who calls us into relationships of mutual love and respect. The members of the two churches must love each other. "For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another." (Galatians 5:14-15)

This means that the members of the two churches should:

- *Have mutual respect: Our Saviors Lutheran Church cannot ask or obligate the Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador to do something that the members of the church cannot do or do not wish to do.
And the Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador cannot ask or obligate Our Saviors Lutheran Church to do something that the members of that church cannot do or do not wish to do.*
- *Strive for mutual understanding: The two congregations need to recognize that their partners are from different countries and have different cultures and customs.*
- *Communicate frequently: The two congregations should strive to get to know each other and develop a relationship based in God, sharing their joys, their sorrows, and the activities of each church.*
- *Be willing to understand one another in order to create a relationship of friendship in Christ that is long lasting.*

The partnership is a relationship of commitment that the two churches involved in the partnership make.

Our Saviors Lutheran Church commit to:

- Accompany the Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador in the walk of Christ. This means that:
 - ✘ The members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church will pray for all the members of the ILA San Isidro Labrador every Sunday.
 - ✘ The members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church will visit *every other year*, if possible, the members of the church in their community
 - ✘ The members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church will support the members of the church and the church in a material way to the best of their ability, with the condition that the aid will be for the common benefit.
 - ✘ The members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church will write to the members of the ILA San Isidro Labrador a letter at least every three months.

- This commitment of the partnership is realized for a period of three (3) years
 - ✘ The partnership can be renewed after three (3) years depending on the capability of Our Saviors Lutheran Church of sending people in order to visit the members of the Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador
 - ✘ The partnership can be terminated before the three (3) years have been completed depending of the behavior of the members of the ILA San Isidro Labrador.
 - ✘ The partnership can be terminated by Our Saviors Lutheran Church after the three years of commitment have been accomplished.

The Iglesia Luterana San Isidro Labrador commits to:

- Accompany Our Saviors Lutheran Church in the walk of Christ. This means that:
 - ✘ They will pray for all the members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church every Sunday
 - ✘ They will attend to the members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church to the best of their ability when they visit their community
 - ✘ They will write to the members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church at least one letter every three months
 - ✘ They will not think of the members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church or the churches themselves as a bank, a loan institution or a beneficiary institution because this is a partnership of relationship based in Christ

- This commitment of partnership is made for a period of three (3) years
 - ✘ The partnership can be renewed after three (3) years
 - ✘ The partnership can be also terminated before the three years depending on the behavior of the members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church
 - ✘ The partnership can be terminated when the three-year commitment is ended at church's discretion

The churches, Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador, and Our Saviors Lutheran Church commit to:

- ✘ Send their communications through the members of the Pastoral Team of the Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala. This will ensure that the communication and translation of the communication is delivered to both churches in an exact and clear way. This is also in order to keep a file of the communications and to have a history of the partnership from its beginning and a documentation of how the relationship has grown with the help of God.
- ✘ The members of these Lutheran Churches commit to treat the members of the Lutheran Churches as equals, as their brothers and sisters in Christ and to not denigrate them or treat them poorly.
- ✘ The members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church cannot force the community in need to accept a project they do not need. Our Saviors Lutheran Church need to respect the needs of the community. But if the community has a need for a project that Our Saviors Lutheran Church support, can ask that the project is completed within a certain period of time.
- ✘ In the same way, if the Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador takes on any project, it cannot obligate or demand more resources than what they have been given; instead they have to respect and accept the help that is provided to them.
- ✘ In the management of funds, the Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador commits to be transparent and to turn in a report of how funds have been managed and to use the provided resources correctly. They commit to use the funds for the purpose for which the funds have been designated.

WE SIGN THIS COVENANT AS A COMMITMENT TO THIS PARTNERSHIP, TRUSTING THAT GOD WILL GUIDE US IN THIS MINISTRY AND THIS JOURNEY IN CHRIST WHICH HE HAS COMMENDED INTO OUR HANDS.

SIGNATURES OF THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH LUTHERAN CHURCH (Iglesia Luterana Agustina San Isidro Labrador, and Our Saviors Lutheran Church) AND ANY OTHER MEMBERS WHO WISH TO SIGN.

May 21st, of 2023.

Dwight D. Beroy
 Jeff M. Fitz
 Marianne Erleen
 P. David Whight
 P. Susie Madison
 Herman Groll

Nancy Baylenson
 Marlene Malm
 Juli Amos
 Bernice DeMatteis
 Donna Emley
 Patrice Sahlman
 Linda Peters
 Erba Polak

Maurer Lorenan
 Donna Juron
 Christine d
 Brady Evans
 Marten Remus

Pats Kern

Garnett Kern

Paul Kern

Caryn Kern

Bob Hilgare

Roberta Dale

Helen Paul

Ann Bee

David Bee

Sara Kern

Pat Kern

Paul Carpenter

James M. Jensen

Wm. Jensen

Jo Ann Fermensch

Eileen Dordick

Bell Fermensch

Marge Otte

Wayne Boike

Sonda Boike

Russ & Cindy Ellenwood

Larry D. Swensen

Mundey Peterson

Leah Jensen

Dawn Haas

Abigail Ranner

Carmen Gustafson

Dario Farias

Mark B.

[Signature]

Auxken

Deb Morris

ER ♡

Jeanne Zask

Robert Zask

[Signature]

Pat. Line

Gay Lynn Christensen