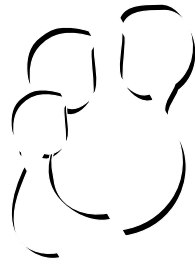
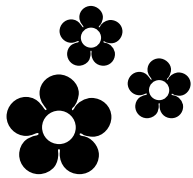


Partners in Faith ministry is equipping people for passing on the faith and supporting discipleship in a home and congregation partnership.

Partners in Faith ministry grows out of the baptismal covenant in which we are made children of God.

We support and participate in God's covenant through the promises that congregation, parents and sponsors make to teach, nurture, guide and care for the baptized.

Partners in Faith ministry is expressed through all aspects of the congregation's program and activity, bringing the generations together for nurture and support in the faith and for community in Christ's name.



Families are

"people living in relationships of love, nurture, mutual care and support."

"the family of God gathered into congregations."

Family Relationships are

"formed through marriage, birth or adoption."

"developed in the mutual care and support we practise because of our kinship in Christ Jesus."



Our Vision

- ✿ That congregations will equip God's children of all ages to grow in the covenant of their baptism;
- ✿ That parents, grandparents and other adults will nurture faith and wholeness in children and youth; and
- ✿ That homes and congregations will be partners in worship, learning, witness and service in Christ's name.

History



1997 - ELCIC convention called for family ministries to be developed.

1998 - Working Group on Discipleship formed a Steering Committee for Family Ministry with representation from all synods.

1999 - Four facilitators from each synod were trained in a process to help congregations support families in their desire to live more faithful lives in home, community and church.

2000 - "*Partners in Faith Sundays*"

Every congregation was encouraged to use a prepared worship resource on four consecutive Sundays in May to learn about and model *Partners in Faith* ministry.

2000-2002 - National Committee members identified congregations in each synod to become Partner Congregations.

Oct. 2002 - A handbook is available for congregations to use to learn, teach and practise ministry that encourages homes and congregations to partner together in nurturing faith.

June 2003 - Responsibility for *Partners in Faith* ministry move to the Synods.

The ELCIC is grateful to Dr Richard Hardel and the Youth and Family Institute for their encouragement and support and to the Evangelical Lutheran Women for the generous financial support for this emphasis.

Congregational leaders are encouraged to request information and assistance from Synod Facilitators, Partner Congregations or National Coordinators.

Synod Facilitators are trained to provide workshops, teach a model for congregational use, and to consult about ways congregations can adopt a *Partners in Faith* emphasis.

Partner Congregations are ready to share a library of resources, sponsor workshops and tell stories of their own ministry. Call your Synod Office for these contact numbers.

For comments, or for more information, contact:

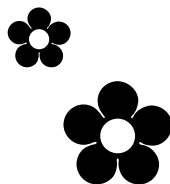
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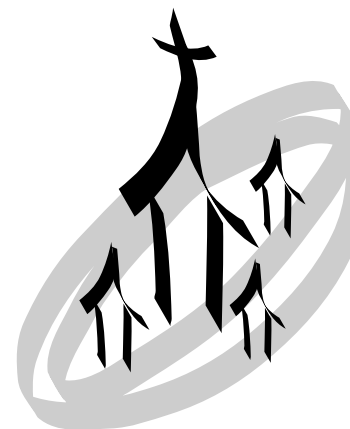
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07/2003



Partners in Faith

Home and
Congregation
Nurturing Faith
Together

