

## *Signing of Partnership Agreement*

*Bishop Terry Kee attended the Southeastern Synod Assembly Meeting of ELCA--  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in Birmingham, Al, USA and signed the  
Partnership Agreement between the ELCA Southeastern Synod and the Lutheran  
Church in Singapore on 28 May 2016.*

纪木和会督于2016年5月28日代表新加坡信义会出席美国福音信义会位于阿拉巴马州，伯明翰市的东南教区议会并签署了双边合作协议。





Partnership Agreement between:  
**The Lutheran Church in Singapore  
 and  
 The Southeastern Synod**



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**HISTORY**

The relationship between the Southeastern Synod of the ELCA and the Lutheran Church in Malaysia and Singapore began in the 1950's when the Southeastern Synod's predecessor body, the United Lutheran Church in America sent missionaries and pastors into the fertile field of Malaysia. These missionaries were sent to spread the gospel and to train leaders in Malaysia and Singapore. The missionaries planted seeds of faith within the people of Malaysia and Singapore which have now grown into two independent, thriving Lutheran Church bodies. The Lutheran Church in Malaysia and the Lutheran Church in Singapore formally separated in 1997, and Southeastern Synod has maintained independent relationships with these two church bodies since that time.

**VISION AND MISSION**

This companion synod relationship exists for the purpose of strengthening each other for life and mission within the body of Christ. It offers us the privilege of participating in the life of another church through prayer, study, communication, and exchange of people and resources. It opens our eyes to the global challenge that we are presented today, and calls us to deepen our commitment and discipleship as individual Christians and as a community of faith.

In this companion synod relationship, through the methodology of accompaniment, our two churches express our intention to walk together by encouraging one another in our ministries and in our mission.

**EXPRESSIONS**

- To share and empower youth and young adults and to promote leadership opportunities within our churches and to participate in each other's ministries as opportunities arise.
- To learn about outreach and evangelism within each other's context and how this sharing can strengthen our common mission and ministry.
- To learn from each other's rich worship experiences and to share liturgies with one another.

- To show gracious and radical hospitality to one another and to those in our surrounding communities as a way of showing the love of God in our neighborhoods.
- To pray once a year specifically for our companion church and their leadership, and to pray for the continual growth of our partnership.
- To be attentive to the current context in which our companion church gives witnesses to the gospel and to learn of the challenges in that church's wider culture that have implications on the partner church and its members.
- To write and share each other's devotions and bible studies through electronic media and communications.
- To share with one another our methods for enhancing spiritual life, pastoral care, and community building.
- To participate in frequent exchanges and visits with one another so as not to exceed a two year period without visits.
- To learn about the hopes and dreams of each church and of the members of that church, and
- To be respectful of each other's unique heritage.

This Partnership Agreement shall be reviewed every 4 years by the bishop of each church and the relevant committees and staff members. The partnership agreement can be changed and ratified by a consensus vote of both church partners as needed.

**This Partnership Agreement takes effect on 28 May 2016 when it is signed by both parties at the ELCA Southeastern Synod Assembly meeting in Birmingham, AL, USA, and will serve as the guiding document between the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and the Lutheran Church in Singapore.**

*H Julian Gordy*

The Reverend H. Julian Gordy  
 Bishop, ELCA Southeastern Synod

*Terry Kee*

The Reverend Terry Kee  
 Bishop, Lutheran Church in Singapore

*Ruth E. Hamilton*

The Reverend Ruth Hamilton  
 Secretary, ELCA Southeastern Synod

*Fredric Lee*

The Reverend Fredric Lee  
 Secretary, Lutheran Church in Singapore