

GLOBAL CHURCH TOGETHER

Building lasting connections with our companion synod partners in ministry

YOUR GIFTS. YOUR SYNOD. CONNECTING THE GLOBAL CHURCH

As members of the global Lutheran family, we are called to accompany our siblings in faith.

The Northeastern Iowa Synod's companion relationships with Namibia, Angola and Hungary create bonds of friendship, mutual learning, and shared ministry that enrich both our communities and our faith.

Through the synod's Global Church Together Network, your gifts support people-to-people connections that build understanding across cultures and strengthen the witness of the Lutheran church worldwide.

HOW WE CONNECT

Educational Partnerships

In the 1990s, Luther College and Wartburg College joined an ELCA-wide initiative that provided full scholarships for 100 Namibian students who returned home as leaders in church, government, and society. Today, both colleges continue to welcome African students with scholarship support, lead educational classes in Namibia, and send music groups throughout Southern Africa.

Camp Ministry Exchange

Nearly 50 Namibians have served as international counselors at Camp EWALU, creating deep personal relationships between young adults from our regions. In August 2025, we welcomed Namibian and Hungarian counselors.

Theological Education

Wartburg Seminary serves as our primary partner in theological education, a relationship that traces back to women's groups in the 1970s who first envisioned this companionship.



People-to-People Ministry

Through direct congregational relationships, we practice accompaniment ministry—mutual support, shared learning, and common witness to the gospel. Join our next visit to Namibia and Angola.

LUTHERANS IN NAMIBIA & ANGOLA

This synod's relationship with Namibia dates back to the 1980s. Lutherans comprise nearly half of Namibia's population, with more than 700,000 members. The Lutheran church became a prophetic voice for justice during Namibia's independence struggle. In 1971, an open letter from Namibian pastors condemned apartheid, marking a turning point in the liberation movement.

In Angola, Lutherans are rebuilding congregations and communities following decades of civil war, focusing on education, healthcare, and rural development while sharing the gospel of peace and reconciliation.

Today, the church in both countries operates schools, hospitals, and development programs while addressing social issues including HIV/AIDS, poverty, gender justice, and economic inequality.



HOW YOUR GIFTS ARE USED

Your gifts to the Global Church Together Network support shared ministry interests where both regions have expertise and passion:

- Educational scholarships and exchange programs
- Outdoor ministry and youth leadership
- Agricultural ministry and rural life
- Young adult leadership development
- Theological education and seminary partnerships
- Justice and reconciliation work
- Relationship building

GET CONNECTED

Contact the Global Church Together Network team at neiasynod.org/contact.

Learn more about companion synod relationships and events with our global siblings in Christ at neiasynod.org/about/networks.

Join us today in supporting these life-giving relationships that strengthen the global body of Christ!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

YES! Make a one-time tax-deductible gift of \$_____ to support the Global Church Together Network in the Northeastern Iowa Synod.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

You can give through your congregation, or mail your check directly to: *Northeastern Iowa Synod, 201 20th St. SW, P.O. Box 804, Waverly, IA 50677-0804.*

Please indicate "Global Church Network" on the check's memo line and make the check out to: *Northeastern Iowa Synod.*

DONATE ONLINE!

Use the QR code below or donate online at www.neiasynod.org/give.

