

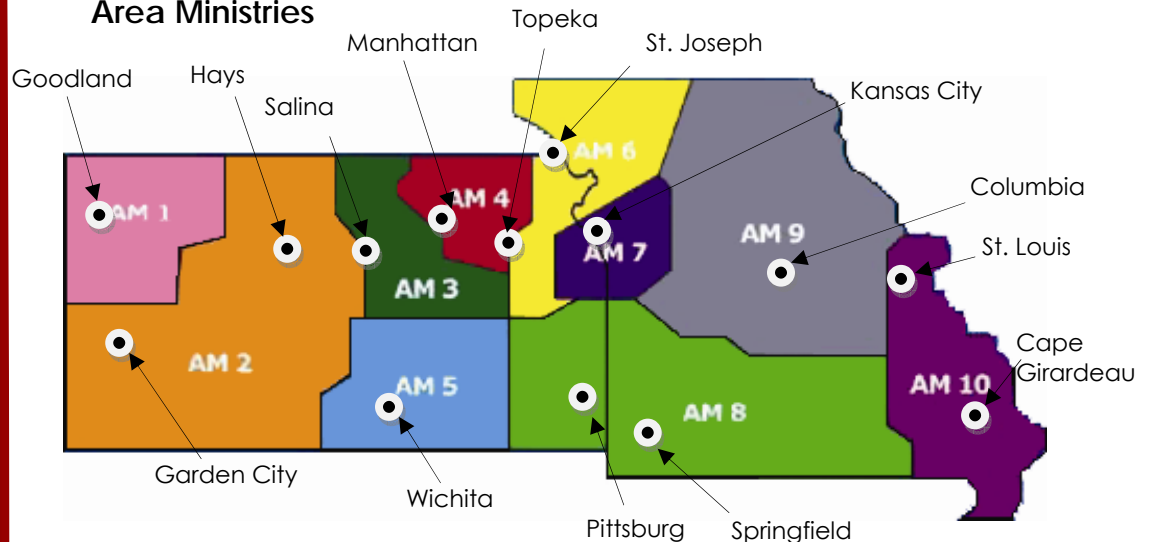
WHO ARE WE? THE CENTRAL STATES SYNOD

Since the beginning of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 1987, this church has been one body organized in three expressions: congregations, synods and the churchwide organization. Each expression has its particular function but all three **share a common mission: to enable God's people to grow in faith and to put faith into action.**

- Central States Synod is one of 65 synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
- Central States Synod's territory includes the states of Kansas and Missouri divided into 10 Area Ministries
- Central States Synod has 63,000 baptized members
- Central States Synod has 205 congregations and two Synodically Authorized Worshipping Communities
- Central States Synod has more than 400 ordained and lay rostered ministers
- Central States Synod has more than 100 certified Parish Ministry Associates
- Central States Synod has more than 35 candidates for ordained and rostered lay ministry
- Central States Synod has two Companion Synods: Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea-Kate District; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Russia and Other States



Area Ministries



These area ministries are represented by deans and connected through the Central States Synod Council with the purpose to:

- 1) Strengthen each congregation's mission in its setting.
- 2) Encourage cooperation among congregations within each Area, especially in witness and service to persons who have no church connection.
- 3) Strengthen the care and nurture of rostered persons and their families.
- 4) Connect congregations, synod ministries, and churchwide resources to one another in order to equip laity and rostered persons for ministry.
- 5) Encourage each congregation to elect a youth voting member to the Synod Assembly.



SHAPING
THE
CHURCH
FOR
GOD'S
MISSION

ELCA NATIONAL & WORLDWIDE MINISTRIES

Fifty-two cents of every dollar contributed to the Central States Synod through congregational benevolence is sent to the ELCA for Churchwide ministry.

- Missionaries and church ministries in more than 90 countries
- Eight seminaries
- 27 colleges and universities
- 50 lifelong learning programs
- 296 elementary schools and 14 high schools
- 180 campus ministries at colleges and universities
- 145 camp and retreat centers
- Largest nonprofit social ministry network in the U.S.
- Lutheran World Federation
- World Hunger Appeal



CENTRAL STATES SYNOD MINISTRIES

Forty-eight cents of every dollar contributed to the Central States Synod through congregational benevolence stays within the synod for ministry.

Reaching out

- Lutheran Disaster Response
- Social ministry partnerships
- Ethnic specific ministries
- Ecumenical relationships
- Companion Synod Program

Renewing congregations

- Partnership for Missional Church – clustering congregations for discerning God's purposes in their context
- Call process/ministers
- Intentional interim pastors
- Administrative support services
- Stewardship education

New congregation starts

Campus ministries

- Kansas State University
- University of Kansas
- St. Louis Campus Ministry

Outdoor ministries

- Camp Tomah Shinga
- Hollis Renewal Center

Bethany College

Seminary support

- Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC)
- Wartburg Theological Seminary; Dubuque, Iowa

Preparing candidates

- Pastors
- Diaconal Ministers
- Associates in Ministry
- Parish Ministry Associates



Students from Bethany College assist with disaster relief in Greensburg, Kan.



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