

What next?

2013 East Central Synod of Wisconsin Trip to Western Diocese of South Africa June 18-July 10, 2013

The 2013 Synod Trip ends this week - what's next?

There are three main goals of this year's trip:

1. **Enliven our companion relationship in every Conference** of our Synod and every Circuit in the Western Diocese. This was met by having a representative of every ECSW Conference visiting every Circuit of the Western Diocese.
2. **Develop a model for visits** - pray for this as each visitor debriefs their trip with the leaders of the parish and circuit they visited and with Bishop Dithale on July 8-9. Particular attention will be given to what helped grow the relationship, e.g. the immersion in parish life and the number that came as well as the details of the applications, letters of invitation, preparation, orientation, transportation, arrangements and communication.
3. **Consider the next steps in mutual conversation** - sitting face-to-face is the best time to consider and decide our next steps: How often shall each visit the other? Who is important to include in visits? How do we keep up the communication? What might we do to encourage each other in faith, witness, worship, and service? Pray for God's Holy Spirit to bless and guide us!

What will they bring back?

This experience is very different from tourism or even a mission trip. While the group will return with memories and souvenirs, that will be quite secondary, relationships are the goal. It will not be what the group brings back and what they did - all past tense. Rather this trip is about ongoing relationships and new ways of thinking - present AND future tenses. This trip is intended to continue to influence our synod, conferences and congregations for years to come. The group will have experienced "accompaniment". "Mutual", "inclusive", "vulnerable and empowering", and "intentional commitment" are some of the words to describe the mission they will bring back to use locally and everywhere.

Please pray for this experience never ends

Wisconsin River Valley Conference - *visiting Madikwe Circuit*

- **Grace Lutheran, Tomahawk** - *visiting Lekubu Parish:*
Mike & daughter, Michaela Galganski
Chase Hilgendorf
Brent Kelley
Marlee Kiander
Bob & Jackie, Aaron, Abrina Leonhard
Jack & Sandy (Maley) Sonnentag
Anna, Rachel, & Sarah Sudbury
Jean Schaefer
Marie Stark
Karen Torkelson
Margie, Nicole & Stephanie Welke
Mary Wilke
Pastor Mark Ziemer
- **Calvary, Antigo** - *visiting Mahanaim Parish:*
Julie Barger
Karen Hegrans
Glenn & Joann Schmidt
- **Mt. Calvary, Rothschild** - *visiting Dinokana Parish:*
Pastor Rich & Sandy & Kathryn Block
- **St. Paul, Aniwa** - *visiting Ikageleng Parish:*
Betty Wyatt
- **St. John's, Wausau** - *visiting Rietpan Parish:*
John Marquardt
- **St. Peter, Wausau** - *visiting Immanuel Parish:*
Salley Stubbe

Appleton Conference - *visiting Tlhabane Circuit*

Grace Van Eyck & Sabrina Greene from Zion, *visiting Thabang Parish*
Ed Benedict from Prince of Peace, *visiting Kopano Parish*

Green Bay Conference - *visiting Odi Circuit*

Pastor Scott Adams from Incarnation, *visiting Maboloka Parish*

Oshkosh Conference - *visiting Borwa I & II Circuits*

Ayse Timmerman from First English *visiting Wolmaransstad Parish*
Sarah Stansfield from Grace, Ripon *visiting Naauwpoort Parish*

Shawano Conference - *visiting Moretele Circuit*

Pastor Karla Kirkeby *visiting the Dean & parishes of Moretele Circuit*

Tomorrow River Conference - *visiting Kgeteleng Circuit*

Eric Ecklund *visiting Melorane Parish*

Terry Nellis *visiting Saron Parish*