



**Report to the Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana
Synod Assembly 26-27, 2019
Rev. Irma Banales: Director for Evangelical Mission**

Acts 4:33-34 All the believers were agreed in heart and mind. They didn't claim that anything they had was their own. Instead, they shared everything they owned. ³³With great power the apostles continued their teaching. They were telling people that the Lord Jesus had risen from the dead. And God's grace was working powerfully in all of them.

NTNL Congregational Vitality Team:

“Communities of Jesus that nurture life changing relationships with God, one another, and the world.”

Stewardship Table

•Sandra Gass, Rocio Alarcon, Nicholaus Chove and Janice Heidlberger

New Starts Table

•Revs. Ernie Hinojosa, Neil White, Jeff Bergeron and Linda Anderson-Little

Renewal Table

•Revs. Jeff Borgwardt, Yvonne Kiebler, Alicia Thompson-Summers, Doris D Harris, Joan Ikes, SAWL- Angel Villalobos and PLM- Madeline Richard

The Stewardship Team will be focusing in three areas:

- 1) Recruitment and training for Mission Interpreters in our synod
- 2) Generosity Project: Growing in God's Grace from Generation to Generation. Offers teaching fundamentals about discipleship, stewardship and building relationships across generations. Through an Introductory workshop, five sessions in the household, a community workshop and Live it out. Resources participants develop a deeper faith, stronger relationships and a spirit of generosity.
- 3) Evangelism & Stewardship workshops. Invites you into a learning journey to consider God's mission, the church's mission, and our ministry of evangelism and stewardship, as well as how we can discern together God's call for our life and ministry through Bible study, reflection, and discussion

New Start Table members are committed to:

- 1) Support and work together with the new ministries
- 2) Meet regularly with one or two mission developers
- 3) Assist with the Ministry Review process
- 4) Identifying potential geographical areas for new ministries

Renewal Table:

- 1) We will build trust among the table and with the NTNL congregations.
- 2) We will nurture life changing to the NTNL congregations.
- 3) We will strive to support, encourage and reflect the diversity of our synod.

Potential New Starts:

- Beautiful Savior, Amarillo= Latino Ministry
- Santa Maria, Holy Trinity Irving and Our Redeemer, Grand Prairie.
3 churches uniting to start an Exploration Latino Ministry Nuestro Redentor
- Good Shepherd, Marshal TX: Conversation- exploring Latino Ministry
- First, Longview: Homeless/Prison Ministry

NTNL Congregations Revitalizing & Learning Adaptive changes

Bishop Gronberg, Rev Totzke and I have been in conversations with several churches and conferences about the present and the future of the churches in our synod. The NTNL tables are focusing on support the churches that are reflecting and exploring different opportunities to revitalize their ministries in their churches. Some of the questions we hear...

what would be the future of the church? What is God calling us to do next? What is going to happen? How can we grow? How can we do Evangelism? Etc..

I am inviting you to think, reflect and pray about what opportunities are there for your congregation to **REVITALIZE** according to your context and the gifts that already exist among you.

We have models and resources that could be able to help you discern what is the next journey your congregation would like to follow....

- + You could be a mission partner by praying, and supporting the new ministries, seminarians serving these new ministries.
- + You could become an Anchor church: assist struggling congregations with high potential for regaining a vibrant ministry as well as to launch new mission sites with a higher degree of success and impact
- + You could be a Church starting Churches/2 site ministry
- + Blending of Ministry: Merger or Consolidate

Cooperative Ministries

- + Shared Ministry – congregations sharing a building and a Pastor.
- + Share staff Model: two or more congregations share the services of a pastor and staff

Innovating Events and Trainings:

- Conversations with Renewal Congregations
- African American Gatherings
- Latino Conference: LGBTQ+ workshops
- English and Spanish Coaching Level I
- Congregational Vitality Trainings: New and Renewal Ministries and Developers
- Anchor Churches Event
- NTNL Stewardship Team: Introduction to the Generosity Project: English and Spanish
- NTNL Stewardship Team: received two grants to help us to fulfill our goal.
- NTNL Received a Holy Innovation Grant from the ELCA. Secondary School of Theological Education for Latino Leaders

Gratitude & Thank you:

I want to thank the mission partners for your generous contribution to support the ministries of our New starts and mission developers. Thank you to Mission Endowment fund and to ELCA Domestic Mission Unit. Your ongoing financial gifts and spiritual support make a difference in the lives of many people and help our church reach them with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We are "In Mission Together!"

NTNL Synod Existing New Start Ministries

1. Iglesia Luterana Adviento, Arlington TX
Worshiping at Advent, Arlington TX. Pastor Edy Santos
2. Umoja International Church, Ft Worth TX
Worshiping at King of Glory, Ft Worth TX. SAWL Nicholas Chove
3. Church of the Damascus Road, Weatherford TX.
Prison Ministry at Jacksboro TX. SAWL Dan Lund
4. Kyrie Mission Pub Church, Pastor Phil Heinze
Worshiping at Shaw's Patio Bar & Grill, Ft Worth
5. Umoja International Church, Dallas
Worshiping at King of Glory, Dallas SAWL Absalom Nasuwa
6. Serenity Worship Hour: (Identifying new location) SAWL Dan Lund
7. Nuestro Redentor, Grand Prairie. Exploration Ministry
SAWL Jose F Salvador