

Sister Congregation Initiative 2020



Today, as ever, the unity we enjoy in Christ is crucial for our mission in and to the world. We believe the Spirit gathers the church. To celebrate our unity, the C/SIS Council is launching a Sister Congregation program. Beginning on Pentecost, May 31st, 2020, each congregation will be randomly assigned a sister congregation for one year. Each year, new pairings will be generated.

These relationships will take different forms. And the various forms will depend upon each congregation's gifts, circumstances, and context.

We urge every congregation in the C/SIS to find some rich ways to connect.

We urge each congregation to, at least:

- identify an individual to serve as a liaison with your sister congregation (appointed by the congregational council)
- pray for one another in worship, at meetings, and at other times

A few things you might try:

Note: many of these work under stay-at-home orders, or can easily be adapted for such circumstances.

- worship together in-person or online
- create a video greeting for one another
- join one another's FaceBook page or other social media
- participate in Dwelling in the Word together—small groups, committees, etc.
- send care cards to one another's homebound members
- organize pen pals (for example, between certain Sunday School classes)
- get ministry groups together to share ideas, support & pray for one another
- host a social event or mission project/appeal together
- invite officers or councils to share wisdom and best practices
- find ways to learn about your sister congregation's history & community
- exchange tools of worship for a period of time
(i.e. communion ware, processional cross, banners, etc.)
- plan dinner with voting members at the 2021 Synod Assembly
- Be creative!

Share your ideas!

We'd love to hear what you and your sister congregation are doing. Submit ideas using the online form found on the Synod website. These ideas will be shared throughout the Synod.